

Shannon Swimming & Leisure Centre

Child Safeguarding Statement

Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm

Shannon Swimming & Leisure Centre (SLC) provides sporting facilities and activities for the town of Shannon and the surrounding area. SLC welcomes children of all ages and takes our commitment of ensuring the safety, health, and wellbeing of these children very seriously.

Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of the areas of risks identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
1	Pool Changing Rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open plan design for ease of monitoring.• Policy of staff being accompanied by another staff or adult on entering.• Policy of pool activity not starting until all kids are out on deck and accounted for.• Privatisation of changing rooms for school swimming lessons• All staff wearing clearly distinguishable SLC uniforms• Only persons using pool side facilities may enter these changing rooms
2	Dry Side Changing Rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restricted access to over 16yrs+• Policy of checking in at reception before use
3	Swimming Pool	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All lifeguards trained to Pool Lifeguard standard• Lifesaving qualification in date• Staff training attended• Clearly set out and enforced pool rules• Clear line of communication to DLP if any suspicions are made• Policy on no photos/videos of pool area.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Signs in place in upstairs and pool spectator areas as well as outside baby pool windows.• Policy of no phones on pool deck<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Sign in place at seating area
4	Halls	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Halls must be pre-booked and contact details taken

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to halls is not allowed unless you are a member or have them booked.
5	Café	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitored by CCTV • Open for kids to use and meet. • Misbehaviour of any nature will not be tolerated. People will be asked to leave if found in breach of this rule. • Customer Code of Conduct sign displayed in cafe
6	Playground/Skate park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCTV Cameras in operation • Signs up about age limit for playground (12yrs) and rules • Spot checks by staff. • Locked prior to building closure
7	Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 referees required for all new staff to be contacted by manager • All new staff are Garda Vetted • All existing staff are Garda Vetted every 3 years • All staff issued a copy of SLC Child Protection Policy • All staff attend Safeguarding Children training every 3 years
8	Camps/School Tours/Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff meetings prior to events/activities to remind about Safeguarding Children policy and best practice • Band system in place for children going to the toilet • Policy of kids using café toilets only • First aid is performed in full view of others in reception/café area • Staff notice board in place in staff only area to communicate relevant information to the rest of the team • Section on booking form for any medical requirements • Section on booking form about use of photography/images • Walkie talkies in use for communication between staff

Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance*, and Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children

- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to TUSLA
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons who are mandated persons
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person

All procedures listed are available upon request.

Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Relevant persons

Designated Liaison Person: Karl Fogarty

Deputy Designated Liaison Person: Rory Ryan

To discuss or report a concern: Tusla Child and Family Agency, Unit 3, St. Camillus Hospital, Shelbourne Road, Limerick 061 588688

Signed: _____ (Karl Fogarty)
(Manager)

C/O Shannon Swimming & Leisure Centre
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Implemented January 2018

(Revision 3: Oct 2023)

Document Control & Version Updates

Version	Reason for Change	Changes By	Date of Change
Original Version			January 2018
Revision 1	Appointment of New CWO & DDLP	Karl Fogarty	3 rd May 2018
Revision 2	<p>Change to privitisation of changing rooms for school.</p> <p>Addition of no phones on deck policy</p> <p>Change of garda vetting for existing staff to every 3 years</p> <p>Addition of walkie talkie system for school tours and camps</p> <p>Addition of customer code of conduct sign in café</p> <p>Removal of Karen Sheehan DDLP</p>	Karl Fogarty	9 th January 2020
Revision 3	DDLD Update	Karl Fogarty	19 th October 2023