



## **Euro Languages College Child Safeguarding Statement**

**Name of service being provided:** Euro Languages College runs summer language courses for secondary school students across Ireland.

### **Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm.**

Euro Languages College provides fully immersive courses in French, German, and Spanish for secondary school students each summer in venues across Ireland. Euro Languages College staff members have a variety of levels of contact with children and young people. This ranges from minimal contact in our Head Office to working directly with young people each day in our summer courses through lessons and activities. We also employ staff aged 16 years and over.

Euro Languages College agrees that:

- The protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations.
- We will fully comply with our obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children.
- We will fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child safeguarding matters.
- We actively promote safe practices to minimize the possibility of harm happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect.
- We will fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

Euro Languages College believes that the safety and welfare of children is everyone's responsibility, and we aim to ensure that through all our interactions the best interest of the child is paramount. Euro Languages College is committed to the safeguarding of children through the following processes:

- Comprehensive recruitment and national garda vetting processes for all staff and volunteers.
- Comprehensive training programs which all staff are required to attend and partake in advance 'Children's First: E-Learning Programme' plus on-site training.
- Safety management policies are in place and all staff are briefed on any change in them. These include but are not limited to:
  1. Child safeguarding policy and training, including code of conduct for staff.
  2. Incident reporting and reviewing process.

## Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services including the area of online safety when accessing the internet. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

	<b>Risk identified</b>	<b>Procedure in place to manage identified risk</b>
1	Child may be subject to harm from other children while attending our courses.	Staff ratio, clearly defined boundaries for all children attending our courses, clear communication with parents / guardians. Support plans to reflect needs of children involved
2	Child may be subject to harm from a staff member.	Comprehensive recruitment and vetting process in place. Code of conduct for all staff.
3	Children in our courses may be subject to harm from visitors / contractors to the service.	Adequate staffing, visitors / contractors sign in and supervision procedures. Customer complaints & incident reporting procedures and review mechanisms

## Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017), 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 (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

## Implementation

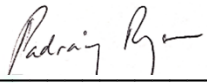
We recognize that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.

All members of the ELC staff are considered Mandated Persons, meaning they have a responsibility to bring a concern directly to Tusla and the course manager who is the mandated person on site, all concerns will be reported to the DLP and DDLP

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on an annual basis, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the manager and all members of staff on duty at each Euro Languages Colleges residential course.

Designated Liaison Person (DLP) of ELC

Signed:   
Padraig Ryan, Director

Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) of ELC

Signed:   
Marion Guilloux, General Manager

This Child safeguarding statement was adopted on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, 2024