



# CHEEVERSTOWN

TOWARDS A FUTURE WHICH RESPECTS THE CONTRIBUTION & INCLUSION  
OF PEOPLE WITH AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

## Cheeverstown House Child Safeguarding Statement

Cheeverstown House provides a Respite service for children with intellectual disabilities aged between 6 and 18 years. Cheeverstown also supports a special school for children with severe and profound intellectual disabilities, through the Department of Education. Cheeverstown has an obligation to provide children with the highest possible standard of care in order to promote their wellbeing and safeguard them from abuse. Therefore it is the responsibility of all staff, including agency staff, trainees and volunteers to safeguard and protect children. Cheeverstown operates a zero tolerance approach towards any forms of abuse.

Name	Service Provided:	Relevant Person and contact details	Does service require a subsidiary CSS
Cheeverstown School	Department of Education School for Children with Severe and Profound Intellectual Disability	School Principal 01 4993749	Yes
Children's Respite Services	Short-term respite breaks.	Person-in-Charge Respite 0871497038 Respite Co-ordinator 0871405154	No

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015 and **Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017)**. In addition to the procedures outlined in the risk assessment, the following policies and procedures support our intention to safeguard children availing of services and supports in Cheeverstown House

- HSE Child Protection and Welfare Policy 2019
- Cheeverstown Child Protection and Welfare Policy 2021
- Cheeverstown Respite - Local Child Protection Procedures.
- Recruitment policies to ensure the selection and recruitment of staff who are suitable to work with children, including Garda vetting policy
- Trust in Care policy and related procedures to investigate an allegation made against a staff member
- "An Introduction to Children First" mandatory eLearning training for staff
- Requirement to appoint a relevant person to oversee the assessment of risk and to develop service specific Child Safeguarding Statements as required
- Integrated Risk Management Policy to assess and manage any risk of harm
- Safety Incident Management policy to inform HSE management of any incident where a child has been harmed whilst availing of the service and the HSE National Open Disclosures Policy

**Declaration of compliance:** A risk assessment was undertaken to assess any potential for harm to occur to a child whilst availing of and/or attending the services listed above. Following this risk assessment Cheeverstown House confirm that no further risks or mitigating procedures have been identified as required beyond those listed below

Relevant services listed above with service specific risks have been identified and, as indicated above, are required to complete a subsidiary Child Safeguarding Statement(s) for their individual services to address these risks.

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
1.	Risk of harm to a child from a member of staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-employment checks</li> <li>• Professional standards for healthcare staff</li> <li>• Professional registration for healthcare professionals</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour for staff</li> <li>• Trust in Care Policy</li> <li>• HSE Child Protection and Welfare Policy</li> <li>• Cheeverstown Child Protection and Welfare Policy</li> <li>• Cheeverstown local reporting procedures.</li> <li>• Policies, protocols, procedures and guidelines regarding safe practice and service delivery</li> <li>• National Consent Policy</li> </ul>
2.	Risk of harm to a child from a service user (adult or child), visitor or member of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervision/accompaniment/admission/public access policies as relevant to service provision</li> <li>• Staff supervision and training</li> <li>• Local Reporting procedure</li> <li>• Cheeverstown Respite – Local Child Protection Procedures</li> </ul>
3.	Risk of harm to a child due to Child Protection or Welfare Concern not being recognised or reported by Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff information, supervision and training</li> <li>• Reporting procedure</li> <li>• Legal and administrative consequences for non-reporting</li> <li>• "An Introduction to Children First" mandatory eLearning training for all HSE and HSE funded staff.</li> <li>• Further training and support for <b>Mandated Persons</b> available as necessary from the Social Work Department. Materials to support this training will be available from the HSE in 2020.</li> <li>• Consultation with service users (talking with and listening to the child);</li> </ul>
4.	Risk of harm to a child due to Child Protection or Welfare Concern not being recognised or reported by a Child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to the vulnerability of the children using Cheeverstown services, all staff have the responsibility to reflect the voice of the child in recognising and reporting child abuse at the earliest opportunity.</li> <li>• "An Introduction to Children First" mandatory eLearning training for all Cheeverstown staff.</li> <li>• Further training and support for <b>Mandated Persons</b> available as necessary from the Social Work Department.</li> </ul>
5.	Risk of Non-Compliance with Children First Act and National Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children First Governance Structure</li> <li>• HSE Controls assurance process</li> <li>• Children First compliance checklist for Section 38 and 39 funded and contracted services</li> <li>• Compliance monitoring and audit of HSE funded services.</li> </ul>

### Implementation

Staff and management in Cheeverstown House have an ongoing responsibility to ensure that the relevant policies and procedures are operating effectively in our services. Any new risks identified/that arise should be managed in accordance with the HSE Integrated Risk Management Policy. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be formally reviewed as per the requirements of the Children First Act (2015), and the HSE, every 2 years. Next Review date: October 2023.

**For further information or queries in relation to this Child Safeguarding Statement contact:**

**Designated Liaison Person** (01 4993700 Ext 846/793)

Signed by: T.J. Duggan (CEO) Date: 14 October 2021