



Child Safeguarding Statement 2018

The mission of the Royal Dublin Society (RDS) is to see Ireland thrive culturally and economically. Funded by its commercial operations and external supporters, the RDS fulfills its mission through agriculture, the arts, enterprise, equestrianism, science & technology and a Library. Throughout the year, a large number of children participate in or visit projects or events organised by the RDS. While recognising that the primary responsibility for children rests with parents, guardians or supervising adults (e.g. teachers), the RDS is committed to safeguarding children and young people who participate in or visit projects and events organised by the Society. The Trustees of Council and RDS staff seek to create a safe environment for these children and young people, as their welfare and safety is very important to us.

The RDS has completed a Safeguarding Risk Assessment that indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process documents required to alleviate these risks.

The following procedures are in place as part of the RDS Safeguarding Code in addition to our Risk Assessment outlined above:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by RDS staff, RDS voluntary officers and RDS volunteers against a child participating in projects and events organised by the RDS.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of RDS staff to work with children participating in projects and events organised by the RDS.
- Procedures for 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 the Statutory Authorities.
- Appointing RDS Children's Officers who are the point of contact in respect of Safeguarding for the relevant body and for this statement.

The RDS Mandated Person, who under the Children First Act 2015 has a legal obligation to report harm of children is Jill McMorro

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The RDS recognises that implementation is an ongoing process. We are committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while participating in our projects and events.

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been prepared in accordance with the legislature requirements contained in the Children First Act 2015 and the Children (NI) Order 1995 and as required by our organisation.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed every 2 years.

Children Officer Signature

Chief Executive Signature

Date 9 March 2018