



*Our policies and procedures are informed by the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, and the HSE Child Protection and Welfare Policy.*

## Child Safeguarding Statement 2026

2 – 4 Claremont Road, Sandymount, Dublin 4

**Nature of Service:** We provide community based wellbeing supports for neurodivergent children aged 4–18, including group OT-led play sessions, STEM and Art groups, OT assessment and therapeutic supports. We are a charity committed to the inclusion of neurodivergent children in everyday life, providing leisure and social opportunities currently lacking, with additional support from OT and additional needs assistants.

### Commitment to Safeguarding Children

Neurodiversity Ireland is committed to safeguarding the children in our care and to providing a safe environment where they are protected from harm. We believe that:

- The safety and welfare of children is paramount.
- All children are treated equally and with respect.
- Our staff and volunteers have a duty of care to safeguard children and promote their wellbeing.

### Risk Assessment

We have carried out a written assessment of potential risks to children when they engage with our services. **Identified risks include:**

1. **Inappropriate behaviour** by staff, volunteers, or service users.
2. **Risk of harm** during onetoone work with children.
3. **Insufficient supervision** (risk of injury, dysregulation or elopement).
4. **Lack of staff training** in child protection and reporting.
5. **Online/remote service delivery risks**, including data privacy breaches

### Controls in place:

- Garda vetting of all relevant staff and volunteers.
- Adherence to HSE and Children First reporting procedures.
- Code of behaviour for all staff and volunteers.
- Safe recruitment and induction practices.
- Mandatory safeguarding training.
- Parental consent for all services involving children.
- Secure systems for data protection.

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## Procedures and Policies

We follow written policies and procedures to ensure compliance with Children First legislation. These include:

1. **Child Protection and Welfare Reporting Procedure**
2. **Code of Behaviour for Staff and Volunteers**
3. **Garda Vetting Policy**
4. **Data Protection and InformationSharing Policy**
5. **Complaints Procedure**
6. **Procedure for Working in OnetoOne and Remote Settings**

Copies of all policies are available upon request.

<b>Designated Liaison Person</b>	<b>Grace McRandal</b>	<a href="mailto:grace@neurodiversityireland.com">grace@neurodiversityireland.com</a>
<b>Relevant Person</b>	<b>Nessa Hill</b>	<b>Nessa@neurodiversityireland.com</b>

## Training and Support for Staff

All staff and volunteers complete **Tusla Children First eLearning** and HSE safeguarding training. Additional rolespecific training is provided where required. Staff receive supervision and support to ensure safe practice.

## Implementation and Review

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be **displayed publicly** in our service and **reviewed annually** or as soon as practicable after a material change.

**Date of completion:** January 2026

**Date of next review:** June 2026

Signed: *Nessa Hill*

CEO