

## **Child Safeguarding & Welfare Statement**

Located in north east inner city Dublin, Fire Station Artists' Studios was established in 1993 to provide support for professional visual artists. FSAS provides subsidised combined living and working studios for Irish and international artists, large scale sculpture workshop facilities and training opportunities for artists. Fire Station Artists' Studios training programme has expanded to include digital and film training and we continue to host technical training and master classes which incorporate critical reflection.

Fire Station Artists' Studios is committed to a child-centred approach in any of our work with children and young people. We undertake to provide a safe environment and experience, where the welfare of the child/young person is paramount.

We adhere to the recommendations of the Children First Act (2015), Children First: National Guidelines for the protection and Welfare of Children, published by the Department of Health and Children in accordance with the Children First Act 2015 (2017), and Tulsa: Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice. We consider the definition of a child to be any person under age 18 who is not married, and has not previously been married as defined in the Child Care Act 1991.

Fire Station Artists' Studios is a residential place for artists, and engages with children and young people through programme activities such as workshops, events open to the public and festivals. The programme is developed by our permanent staff and is delivered by free-lance artists and educators. We have carried out a risk assessment of any potential harm to children coming in contact with FSAS premises and programme.

In addition to the procedures highlighted in our Risk Assessment, we will update our Child protection Policy and Procedure to reflect the following policies and procedures:

- Code of Behaviour
- Garda Vetting for relevant staff, volunteers and contractors coming in contact with children or equivalent for all staff, volunteers and contractors who come into contact with children
- Confidentiality
- Safe Recruitment process
- Management and supervision of staff

- Mandatory reporting of suspected abuse and neglect
- Appropriate management of allegations of misconduct or abuse by staff/volunteers/contractors
- Complaints and comments procedure
- Incidents and accidents procedure

Our Child Safeguarding and Welfare policy applies to all paid staff, volunteers, committee/ board members, interns and students on work placement within our organisation. All committee board members, staff, volunteers and students must sign up to and abide by the policies, procedures and guidance encompassed by this policy declaration and our child safeguarding policy and accompanying procedures.

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our child safeguarding statement and accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures will be reviewed every 2 years or sooner if necessary, due to service issues or changes in legislation or national policy.

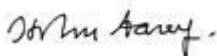
Our Relevant Person is Helen Carey, Director of Fire Station Artists' Studios.

The Designated Liaison Person dealing with child protection is Julia Moustacchi Programme and Operations Manager at Fire Station Artists' Studios. Her email address is: [programme@firestation.ie](mailto:programme@firestation.ie) and she can be contacted on 01 855 6735

Florence Magee is Deputy Designated Liaison Person and may be contacted on 01 8069010 or [artadmin@firestation.ie](mailto:artadmin@firestation.ie)

Dated: 12/01/2023

Signed:



**Helen Carey**  
Director