



Konfident Kidz Child Safe Guarding Statement

25th April 2021

Office Address

Konfident Kidz

Gurteenomahon

Bandon

Cork

Number of staff: 2

Venues: 0

Online Classes: 20

- 1. Name of Service:** Konfident Kidz
- 2. Nature of Service and safeguarding commitment**

Konfident Kidz recognises and upholds the dignity and rights of all children and young people and is committed to their protection and support in a way that promotes their human dignity and integrity. Konfident Kidz values and encourages the participation of children and young people in activities that enhance their physical, emotional and social development.

In keeping with this, we undertake to do all in our power to create a safe environment for children and young people so as to ensure their protection from physical, sexual and emotional abuse. We recognise the right of children to be protected from harm, treated with respect, listened to and have their views taken into consideration in matters that affect them.

We are committed to child-centred practice in all our work with children and full compliance with Children First. Konfident Kidz is committed to putting procedures in place to ensure the welfare and protection of children and young people together with the welfare of those who work with them. We recognise that safeguarding children and the welfare of children is a skilled and delicate task which requires knowledge, expertise and sensitivity. We are committed to a coordinated approach to ensuring that the welfare of children and young people is paramount in all we do.

The fundamental purpose of Konfident Kidz activities involving children and youth is to:

- Provide classes in speech and drama, communication and social skills where children can make friends, learn new skills and enjoy a non-competitive environment.
- Promote self confidence and develop self esteem in all of our pupils through active participation in classes, camps, productions , events and also through constant encouragement and praise.
- We have an open door policy which means every child is welcome at Konfident Kidz.

Activities include: drama games, improvisation, puppet theatre, art, dressing up, poems, scripted drama, prose reading, and mime.

Speech and Drama Classes are for children aged 4 to 14yrs and Social skills classes are for children aged 5 to 12.

3. 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.

Relevant Activities/ Situation	Procedure in place to manage identified risk
Non arrival or non collection of child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrivals and Departure policy • Missing Child Procedure
Risk of harm to a child by a member of staff/ volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Recruitment Policy • Code of Behaviour • All staff appropriately Garda Vetted. • All staff made aware of safeguarding policies
Risk of harm to a child by a visitor to the service;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor Report Form. • Children are never left unattended with a visitor.
Risk of harm of a child on outings by a member of staff/volunteer/stranger/peer;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Konfident Kidz does not facilitate outings

Risk of harm of a child through the use of unauthorised photography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Media Policy
Risk of harm to the psychological welfare of the child bearing in mind the impact of the environment they live in such as the impact of the behaviour of their peers e.g. violent behaviour, drug abuse etc;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff training on hidden harms • Staff training on Anxiety, Depression , PTSD, cPTSD • Procedures for responding to a child protection and welfare concern
Risk of harm of bullying of a child by a member of staff/volunteer/peer or older child;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-bullying Policy • Code of Behaviour • Procedures for responding to a child protection and welfare concern
Risk of harm of online abuse through social media or access to the internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils do not access internet or social media at Konfident Kidz.
Risk of harm to child walking home unattended from class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrivals and Departure policy
Risk of harm to children using toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buddy system

4. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, 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 reporting harm or abuse or allegations of these to Tusla by the provider or a member of staff of the provider
- 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 maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person
- Procedure for selection or recruitment of any person as a member of staff of the provider with regard to that person's suitability to work with children;

All procedures listed are available upon request.

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing 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. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 25th April 2023, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: Evaleen Whelton

For queries, please contact Evaleen Whelton, evaleen@konfidentkidz.ie, 087 2945977
Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.