

St. Patrick's Boys & Girls AFC

Child Safeguarding Statement

St. Patrick's Boys AFC in accordance with the FAI Rulebook, FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy, other FAI policies, procedures and our legislative requirements have agreed this Child Safeguarding Statement which is binding on all members. St. Patrick's Boys AFC is a *soccer club* operating on a *local* scale providing sporting activities and opportunities for children, young people and adults through participation in clubs. The *Club* offers sporting activities to children, young people and adults, from the age of 3 to over 35 years of age. St. Patrick's Boys AFC is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our Safeguarding Policies and procedures, our volunteers, coaches and members working with our children and young people. Throughout the Club and Association, seeking to create a safe and fun environment for children and young people to participate in soccer.

Principles to Safeguard Children from Harm



This statement recognises that in accordance with legislation and the requirements of FAI Rulebook, FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy, other FAI policies and procedures that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. St. Patrick's Boys AFC is established on a number of core principles:

- the needs of the Child,
- providing an environment that fosters integrity and respect,
- equality,
- fair play,
- welfare and safety in football.

These underlying principles underpin our rules, policies and procedures to ensure that when Children participating in our activities, they do so, as far as is practicable, in a safe and enjoyable environment.



Risk Assessment

In preparing this statement St. Patrick's Boys AFC have completed a Risk Assessment of the potential risk of harm to children when they are participating in any of our games and attending our activities. The risks were reviewed under the following headings; Club and Coaching Practices; Complaints & Discipline; Reporting Procedures; Use of Facilities; Recruitment; Communications; and General Risk of Harm. The Risk Assessment was undertaken on the 12/06/2020. The table below lists the area of Risk identified and the list of procedures and policies for managing these risks

Risk Identified	Procedures/Policies in place	QR Code shortcut
Risk of harm including assault, ill treatment or neglect of a child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child's health, development or welfare or sexual abuse of child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy • FAI Concern-Complaint policy • FAI Rulebook • Safeguarding training • Code of Conduct, St. Patricks Boys AFC (www.stpatscarlow.ie) 	1.FAI Child Welfare & Safeguarding Policy 
Risk of harm of abuse when hosting an activity and or an away trip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy • FAI Concern-Complaint policy • Safeguarding training • Code of Conduct, St. Patricks Boys AFC (www.stpatscarlow.ie) 	2. FAI Concern-Complaint Policy 

St. Patrick's Boys & Girls AFC

Child Safeguarding Statement

Risk of harm of online abuse through social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy FAI Social Media policy 	3. FAI Social Media Policy 
Bullying of a child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAI Child Welfare and Safeguarding policy FAI Concern-Complaint policy FAI Social Media policy Code of Conduct & Anti-Bullying Policy, St. Patricks Boys AFC (www.stpatscarlow.ie) 	4. FAI Rulebook 

<p>St. Patrick's Boys AFC 'Child Safeguarding Statement' has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, (the Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017), and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice).</p>	<p>St. Patrick's Boys AFC has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff or volunteers against a child availing of our activities; Procedures for the safe recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers to work with children in our activities; Procedures for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm; Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities; Procedures for maintaining a list of the persons in the relevant service who are mandated; Procedure for appointing a relevant person.
<p>All procedures/policies listed are available on request. FAI Policies and the FAI Rulebook are available on www.fai.ie/domestic</p>	
<p>The mandated person for St. Patrick's Boys AFC is the Child Welfare Officer</p>	
<p>St. Patrick's Boys AFC recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our Club is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the accompanying child welfare and safeguarding policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while participating in our activities. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed ever two years or as soon as practicable, after there has been material change in any matter to which the statement refers.</p> <p>This statement has been published on the Clubs website, www.stpatscarlow.ie and will displayed in a prominent place on the premises.</p> <p>It has been provided to all, volunteers and any other persons involved with the service. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and members of the public if requested.</p>	

St. Patrick's Boys & Girls AFC

Child Safeguarding Statement

Signed: _____ Date: 20 / 05 / 2023

Position: Child Welfare Officer

(On behalf of St. Patrick's Boys AFC)

Signed: _____ Date: 20 / 05 / 2023

Position: Juvenile Secretary

(On behalf of St. Patrick's Boys AFC)

Signed: _____ Date: 20 / 05 / 2023

Position: Chairman

(On behalf of St. Patrick's Boys AFC)

For further information on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact the Child Welfare Officer of St. Patrick's Boys AFC details of which are available on the Clubs web site or any other committee members, whose contact details are also on the Clubs web site.

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