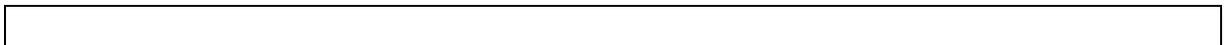




GRACE PARK MONTESSORI

*Ensuring Quality and Excellence in
Pre-School Education*

CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT



This statement is made by Grace Park Montessori in compliance with the *Children First Act 2015* and *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, 2017*

Checklist

Child Safeguarding Statement	Complete
Risk Assessment Conducted	
Details of the service provided and management structure	
Principles recorded to protect children from harm	
Relevant Person Appointed	
Mandated Person Identified	
All required policies and procedures are in place	
Child protection and welfare reporting procedures have been amended and now include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Appointment of a Relevant Person</i> • <i>Information on Mandated Persons and how they report</i> • <i>Information from Children First, National Guidance, 2017</i> 	
All staff have been provided with information about their responsibilities under the <i>Children First Act, 2015</i>	

Child Safeguarding Statement

1. GRACE PARK MONTESSORI PRE-SCHOOL AND ACTIVITIES PROVIDED

Details of service. Activities provided, to whom and management structure.

Grace Park Montessori is a registered pre-school providing early educational services for children aged 2.5 to 5 years in North Dublin city.

The management structure consists of the Directress, Ms Józefa Chrobak, an educator with over 30 years experience in the field of early childhood education and one support teacher.

2. COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN FROM HARM

- Grace Park Montessori is committed to safeguarding the children in our care and to providing a safe environment in which they can play, learn and develop.
- We believe that the welfare of the children attending our service is paramount. We are committed to child-centred practice in all our work with children.
- We are committed to upholding the rights of every child who attends our service, including, the rights to be kept safe and protected from harm, listened to, and heard.
- Our policy and procedures to safeguard children reflect national policy and legislation and are underpinned by *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children*, DCYA, 2017, *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Practice and Procedure*, Túsla, 2018, and the *Children First Act, 2015*.
- Our policy declaration applies to all paid staff, volunteers and students on work placement within our service. All 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 review our child safeguarding statement and accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures every 2 years or sooner, if necessary, to ensure ongoing compliance with legislation and national policy.
- Our Designated Liaison Person (DLP) for Child Protection is the Directress.

DLP: Ms Józefa Chrobak <i>74 Grace Park Heights</i> <i>Dublin 9</i>	Deputy: Ms Kate Walsh <i>C/O 74 Grace Park Heights</i>
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3. RISK ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the *Child Care Act, 1991* (Early Years Regulations 2016) and *Children First Act, 2015* Grace Park Montessori has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the service or participating in service activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the service procedures for managing those risks is summarised below:

Risk Identified	Policies and/or Procedures to Manage Risk
Children climbing on garden wall	Risk identified verbally and in writing. Parents' duty to supervise their children at all times confirmed in policies.
Corners on outdoor building in back Garden and pillars in front garden.	Risk identified and safety measures implemented to Ensure soft padding covers the corners.

4. CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

As required by the *Children First Act 2015* and *Children First National Guidance for Protection and Welfare of Children, 2017* the following safeguarding policies/procedures/measures are in place

- A Procedure to maintain a list of 'Mandated Persons' under the *Children First Act, 2015*
- A Relevant Person has been appointed

- A Designated Liaison Person and Deputy have been appointed
- Child Protection and Welfare Reporting Procedures are in place
- A Policy for Dealing with Complaints is in place
- A Procedure for Recording Issues of Child Protection is in place
- A Recruitment Policy operates within the service.
- A Garda Vetting Policy operates in respect of all persons who may be in contact with the children.
- A Policy for Managing Behaviour operates within the school
- Staff have completed the Túsła eLearning module – *Introduction to Children First* and staff have attended Always Children First Child Protection Training.
- Staff have access to regular Supervision and Support.
- A Policy for Managing Outings operates
- A Policy for Managing Accidents and Incidents is in place
- A Policy for Use of Internet and Photographic and Recording Devices is in place.

5. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

- We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures that exist to keep children safe from harm while in the care of Grace Park Montessori.
- This Statement is reviewed every 2 years or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.
- This statement is displayed in the service. It has been brought to the attention of all staff, 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 if requested.

This Statement was last reviewed on the 14th day of January 2023.

Jozefa Chrobak

Ms Jozefa Chrobak

Directress

Grace Park Montessori

74 Grace Park Heights

Dublin 9

Tel: 01 8368301

For further information on this Statement, please contact Jo Chrobak, who is the 'Relevant Person' for the purposes of Child Safeguarding and Protection.

