



MONAGHAN WALDORF SCHOOL CLG

# PROCEDURE FOR WORKING WITH TUSLA: COOPERATION IN CHILD WELFARE MATTERS

## **Commitment to child welfare**

Monaghan Waldorf School is committed to the safety, welfare, and protection of all children in our care. We acknowledge our statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and adhere to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children.

## **Designated liaison person (DLP) and relevant person**

- The school appoints a Designated Liaison Person (DLP) responsible for receiving and reporting child welfare concerns to Tusla.
- The Relevant Person, who may also be the DLP, serves as the first point of contact for matters related to the school's Child Safeguarding Statement.
- The DLP is supported by a Deputy DLP in their duties.

## **Recognising and reporting child protection concerns**

- Colleagues and volunteers must be vigilant for signs of abuse or neglect and follow the reporting procedures outlined in the school's Child Safeguarding Statement.
- Any concerns must be reported to the DLP, who will assess and decide on the necessity of a report to Tusla.
- If a concern meets the threshold for a reasonable concern, the DLP will submit a Child Protection and Welfare Report Form to Tusla.
- In cases of immediate danger, emergency services (Gardaí) will be contacted.

## **Mandated reporting**

- Under the Children First Act 2015, mandated persons (e.g., registered teachers) are legally required to report knowledge, belief, or reasonable suspicion of harm to a child directly to Tusla.
- Mandated reports are made via Tusla's online portal or using the official reporting form.
- Mandated persons must inform the DLP of any report made.

## **Cooperation with Tusla investigations**

- Monaghan Waldorf School will cooperate fully with Tusla in any child welfare assessments or investigations.
- Including providing records and relevant information as required (in compliance with GDPR and child protection laws).
- Allowing access to the school premises for interviews or assessments where necessary.
- Supporting affected children through pastoral care and ensuring minimal disruption to their education.

## **Confidentiality and record keeping**

- All reports and child protection concerns are recorded and stored securely.
- Confidentiality is maintained in line with legal and ethical obligations, sharing information only with those who need to know.

## **Training and awareness**

- All colleagues and volunteers receive Children First training to ensure they understand their responsibilities in child protection.
- Regular briefings and updates are provided to ensure compliance with Tusla's procedures.

## **Review and monitoring**

- The school's child safeguarding policies and procedures are reviewed annually or in response to any legislative updates.
- Feedback from Tusla or other agencies is considered in policy updates to enhance child protection measures.

For further guidance, colleagues should refer to the Monaghan Waldorf School Child Safeguarding Statement and contact the DLP with any concerns.

This procedure will be reviewed annually or after any incident that necessitates its use. The review will ensure the procedure remains in compliance with legislative requirements and best practices.

This policy was adopted by Monaghan Waldorf School CLG on this 15th day of February 2025.

Persons responsible: Jamie Macleod-Elliott

Designation: Director & Company Secretary

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 15/02/2025

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