

SAFETY STATEMENT

This safety statement outlines the commitment of the school to ensuring the safety, health, and welfare of all employees, pupils, parents, visitors, volunteers and contractors who may be affected by our activities. It is prepared in compliance with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 and other relevant legislation.

We aim to maintain a safe and healthy environment, appropriate to the nature of our Waldorf curriculum and practices, promoting holistic education and well-being.

Our school policy on health and safety affirms that we are committed to:

- Providing a safe, healthy, and supportive environment for children and staff.
- Identifying hazards and implementing appropriate control measures.
- Ensuring that all activities are conducted safely, incl. those related to the unique nature of our curriculum.
- Maintaining facilities and equipment to the highest standards.
- Providing ongoing safety training to staff.
- Consulting with staff and parents regarding health and safety issues.
- Reviewing this safety statement regularly to ensure it remains effective.

Our responsibilities & accountability

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for health and safety within the school.

Day-to-day responsibility for ensuring this policy is put into practice lies with the Person in Charge and the Registered Provider, who are supported by all staff members.

The Board of Directors will:

- Ensure that adequate resources are made available for health and safety purposes.
 - Implement a system of safety audits, risk assessments, and periodic reviews.
 - Appoint a Safety Officer to oversee health and safety matters.

The Safety Officer Will:

- Identify potential hazards, assess risks, and take steps to mitigate them.
- Ensure that all accidents, incidents, and near misses are reported and investigated.
 - Ensure first aid facilities are available and maintained.
 - Oversee fire safety measures and drills.
 - Keep records of health and safety training and updates.

All Employees Will:

- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others.
 - Co-operate with the school on health and safety matters.
- Report any health and safety concerns to the Person in Charge or the Registered Provider or Safety Officer.

Risk assessments and hazard control

Risk assessments are regularly conducted for all activities and areas within the school to identify hazards and implement control measures.

The following are key areas where specific attention is given:

- Classrooms and play areas: Ensuring safe layouts, non-slip surfaces, appropriate ventilation, and suitable furniture for children.
- Outdoor play and learning areas: Regular inspection of play equipment, safe storage of tools/materials used in craft work, and supervised outdoor activities.
- Specialist activities (crafts, music, etc.): Safety training and supervision during activities involving tools, instruments, or materials that could pose a risk.
- Fire safety: Regular fire drills, clearly marked fire exits, and appropriately placed fire extinguishers.
- Health and hygiene: Ensuring that the premises are kept clean, adequate sanitation facilities are available, and hygiene practices are observed.

Emergency procedures

We have established procedures for dealing with emergencies, including fire, medical emergencies, and accidents, as outlined below:

- Fire drills: Fire drills are conducted at least once per month.
- First aid: First aid kits are available in key locations, and a colleague trained in first aid is always present onsite.

Training

The school is committed to providing ongoing health and safety training for all colleagues, including first aid, fire safety, and risk management. Training records will be maintained and updated regularly.

Review and update of safety statement

This safety statement will be reviewed annually or more frequently if significant changes occur in our activities or premises. Any revisions will be communicated to all stakeholders.

We recognize the importance of consultation with staff and parents regarding health and safety. Regular meetings will be held to address any concerns and ensure that safety procedures are understood and followed.

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

Version: 001

