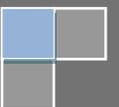


2013

Irish Rule of Law International Child Protection Policy

IRLI, and all its members and volunteers, undertake to do all in our power to create a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults. IRLI is committed to acting at, all times, in the best interests of children and vulnerable adults, seeing these interests as paramount.

September



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1. Introduction

- 1.1** This document is the Child Protection Policy for Irish Rule of Law International (IRLI) and will be followed by all members/volunteers of the organisation. Further, it will be followed and promoted by all those in leadership positions within the organisation.
- 1.2** IRLI has undertaken to implement this policy in relation to any member (including staff and volunteers) working either here at home in Ireland or overseas who come into contact with children¹ or vulnerable adults² in the course of their work. IRLI does not seek to impose its policy in its entirety on its implementing partners but it does expect them to have in place, and actively implement, a child protection policy consistent with its own and with the law of the country in which they work.
- 1.3** IRLI is a registered charity (CHY 18941) governed by a Board of Directors comprising representatives of the Law Society of Ireland and the Bar Council of Ireland. It is a project-orientated non-profit rule of law initiative, which was originally founded in 2007 by both the Law Society and the Bar Council. Over the years, the charity has collaborated with academics, judges, legal practitioners, policymakers and civil society around the world to advance collective knowledge of the relationship between rule of law, democracy, sustained economic development and human rights. IRLI seeks to harness the skills of Irish lawyers in using the law as a means of tackling global injustice and empowering all people to live in a society free from inequality, corruption and conflict. IRLI is aware that many of its partners often work directly with vulnerable children and families but it cannot be responsible for the actions of all its partners. However, IRLI will seek to ensure that its own staff, volunteers and board members are the most suitable people to work within vulnerable communities.
- 1.4** IRLI aims to safeguard children from abuse and exploitation in all that it does, in line with Article 19 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.³ IRLI strives to promote and create positive environments in which children can grow up amidst respect, hope and social justice.
- 1.5** Recognising the inherent worth of each child, IRLI accepts its responsibilities to protect children from harm, to promote children's rights and to ensure the healthy development of children. IRLI is committed to promoting a culture which empowers adults and children with knowledge of their rights, to know what is acceptable and unacceptable and to know what to do when there are problems. At the center of this child protection policy is IRLI's commitment and assurance that its representatives⁴, both in Ireland and abroad, will ensure that the Code of Conduct (see Appendix I) is applied and adhered to.

¹ Children are defined as persons under 18 years of age as defined by UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

² A 'vulnerable adult' is a person aged 18 or older who, by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness, is, or may be, unable to take care of him or herself or unable to protect him or herself against 'significant harm' or 'exploitation'.

³ United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

⁴ Representative means any person coming into contact with a child/ vulnerable adult while acting on IRLI's behalf. This includes staff, volunteers and board members.

2. Policy Statement

Every person who is involved in working with children has a fundamental duty of care towards them. In this regard, this policy will seek to ensure that every child IRLI comes into contact with, either directly or indirectly through its work, will be treated with respect and dignity and will be protected from harm, neglect or abuse. IRLI, together with its members and volunteers, undertakes to do all in its power to create a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults and, where possible, to prevent their physical, sexual or emotional abuse. IRLI is committed to acting, at all times, in the best interests of children and vulnerable adults, seeing these interests as paramount.

3. Guiding Principles:

3.1 The purpose of this policy is to make sure that the actions of all members and volunteers of IRLI, in the context of the work carried out by the charity, are transparent and serve to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults at all times.

3.2 The overall goal of this policy is to protect children from abuse of all kinds in the delivery of IRLI's projects and activities. It outlines practical steps to increase IRLI's capacity to manage and reduce the risks of child abuse associated with delivering project activities. While it is not possible to eliminate risk entirely, much can be done to reduce the potential for child abuse.

3.3 The following general principles form the basis upon which child protection standards are developed and adhered to by IRLI. They provide a framework for managing and reducing the risk of child abuse by persons engaged in delivering programme activities.

- Ireland ratified the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1992. IRLI is fully committed to upholding the principles and commitments inherent in this binding international treaty.
- IRLI ensures that all of its staff and board members are properly trained and inducted in the implementation of this child protection policy and that all staff and board members are fully aware of their duties to report abuse as set out in "Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2011" (Department of Health and Children).
- IRLI is committed to employing safe recruitment and vetting practices which seek to prevent those who pose a known risk to children from gaining employment or becoming members of the organisation.
- IRLI ensures that any allegations of abuse involving a staff member or volunteer are promptly and properly dealt with, victims supported and perpetrators held to account. All allegations of abuse will be reported to the relevant statutory bodies.

- 3.4 Zero tolerance of child abuse:** Child abuse is not tolerated by IRLI, nor is possession of or access to child pornography. IRLI will not knowingly engage, directly or indirectly, anyone who poses an unacceptable risk to children, nor fund any individual or implementing partner that does not meet IRLI's child protection compliance standards in their operations and activities.
- 3.5 Sharing responsibility for child protection:** To effectively manage risks to children, IRLI requires the active support and cooperation of its staff and volunteers, in addition to its implementing partners.
- 3.6 Increase awareness of child protection issues:** A key step in reducing the risk of abuse to children, while delivering project activities, is to increase awareness of risks and how to manage them. IRLI members and volunteers receive training on child protection issues and on their obligations under the policy, including mandatory reporting of concerns or allegations of child abuse. Training is compulsory for volunteers going on overseas postings for durations longer than one month. Further, IRLI encourages each of its partners to be aware of child protection issues, to put in place a framework which seeks to reduce the risk of abuse and to actively implement their own child protection policy.
- 3.7 Strong internal recruitment and screening processes:** IRLI's internal recruitment process employs stringent screening measures to ensure that inappropriate persons or those of questionable character are not recruited by the charity. These measures consist of rigorous background checks on all successful candidates before they begin work including criminal record checks and making contact with both professional and personal associates.
- 3.8 Enhanced internal procedures for handling complaints related to child abuse:** IRLI has developed internal procedures for handling complaints related to child abuse, including the appointment of an IRLI Child Protection Officer. The procedures outline obligations and responsibilities for reporting and managing concerns about inappropriate behaviour. It is mandatory for IRLI staff to immediately report any concerns relating to child abuse and/or child pornography involving anyone covered by this policy (see Appendices II -V).
- 3.9 Ensure appropriate use of images and messaging:** IRLI's Child Protection Policy also includes a Code of Conduct on the Use of Images and Messaging (Appendix V).
- 3.10 Enhanced codes of conduct:** Whether working in Ireland or overseas, all IRLI members and volunteers must comply with the IRLI Code of Conduct (Appendix I). Members and volunteers travelling overseas on long-term projects or short-term activities must also abide by Comhlamh's Volunteer Charter⁵ which sets standards for personal behaviour.

⁵ <http://comhlamh.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Volunteer-Charter.pdf>

4. Definition of Abuse

- 4.1 According to the World Health Organisation, “child abuse” or “maltreatment” constitutes “all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child’s health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power”⁶.

There are four main forms of maltreatment:

- **Physical abuse** is actual or likely physical injury to a child or vulnerable adult, such as hitting, kicking or shaking, where there is definite knowledge, or reasonable suspicion, that the injury was inflicted or knowingly not prevented.
- **Emotional abuse** is harm done by persistent or severe emotional ill-treatment or rejection, such as degrading punishments, threats, not giving care and affection and bullying, humiliation or denial of their worth and rights as human beings, resulting in adverse effects on the behaviour and emotional development of a child or young person or vulnerable adult.
- **Neglect** occurs when basic needs such as food, warmth and medical care are not met, or when there is failure to protect a child or vulnerable adult from exposure to any kind of danger, resulting in serious impairment to their health or development.
- **Sexual abuse** includes the direct or indirect sexual exploitation or corruption of a child, young person or vulnerable adult by involving them (or threatening to involve them) in inappropriate sexual activities. It may also include non-contact activities such as showing pornography or internet based activity. Sexual abuse may involve siblings or other family members, or persons outside the family.

- 4.2 There are some groups of children and young people who are particularly vulnerable; children with disabilities are among these in addition to children from ethnic minority communities, especially if their communities suffer from discrimination. Children who are refugees or asylum seekers and children living in residential care are also among those who are particularly vulnerable. Abuse can also take place in families in which there is alcohol or drug abuse, domestic violence or mental health problems.
- 4.3 IRLI recognises that vulnerable adults may also be in need of particular protection, but that the needs and concerns of this group may be different from those of children. Consequently, IRLI extends this policy to include specific commitments relevant to this group. IRLI intends that its child protection procedures will ensure a safe and protected environment for vulnerable adults in regard to IRLI’s work and activities.

⁶ pp. 13-17, *Report of the Consultation on Child Abuse Prevention, Geneva, 29-31 March 1999, World Health Organization, Social Change and Mental Health, Violence and Injury Prevention.*

5. Procedures and Systems

5.1 Recruitment of Members, Staff and Volunteers

- 5.1.1 Where applicable, candidates will be asked to describe their previous experience of working with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults and to provide a referee who can comment on their work in this context.
- 5.1.2 Job offers made in relation to assignments will be subject to satisfactory verification of qualifications and the candidate's CV.
- 5.1.3 Candidates (whether IRLI members or volunteers) will sign a declaration stating that there is no reason why they might be deemed unsuitable for working with children or vulnerable adults and being in their company.
- 5.1.4 Garda vetting will be undertaken for all members taking up an assignment with IRLI.

5.2 Ensuring Awareness and Prevention of Abuse

- 5.2.1 IRLI's commitment to child protection will be stated in appropriate corporate documents and on its website. IRLI will make its policy and procedures available to anyone who requests them.
- 5.2.2 IRLI will ensure that all staff and members are aware of the Child Protection Policy and have access to a copy. The policy will also form part of our training programme for prospective members and volunteers.
- 5.2.3 All members and volunteers of IRLI are required to sign the IRLI Code of Conduct. This contains some simple rules and procedures that will minimise the risk of an incident occurring or being alleged. It is important that staff and members specifically check that procedures are being implemented particularly in any event which involves children, young people or vulnerable adults.
- 5.2.4 IRLI expects all members and volunteers to follow the Code of Conduct. IRLI members and volunteers should make every effort to avoid situations in which they are lone adults working with one or more children. If urgent or practical circumstances result in such a situation occurring, staff and members should notify their managers immediately and resolve the matter as soon as possible. In any IRLI activity involving children or vulnerable adults, a parent, teacher or other relevant responsible adults should be present at all times, where at all possible.
- 5.2.5 Any IRLI member or volunteer planning events should ensure that child protection issues are considered as part of the risk analysis and/or health and safety arrangements.

5.3 Dealing with Disclosures and Suspicion

- 5.3.1 IRLI recognises that disclosures (i.e. when a specific allegation of abuse is made against a named individual) and suspicion (i.e. when concern is

expressed about abuse that may have taken place or be in prospect) should always be reported to the relevant statutory authorities who have sole responsibility for investigating complaints. While the matter is being investigated by the statutory authorities the IRLI member or volunteer will be asked to step aside from the activities of the charity. Any information offered in confidence should be received on the basis that it will be shared with the relevant people in authority. Parents or carers will also be informed where appropriate. Apart from this, careful confidentiality will be observed.

- 5.3.2 All decisions must be guided by the best interests of the child. In situations where difficult decisions need to be made, the reporting and reaction protocols must remain child-focused at all times, above and beyond the demands of bureaucracy.
- 5.3.3 If a concern involves immediate harm to a child, IRLI members and volunteers are expected to act without delay, as inaction may place the child in further danger.
- 5.3.4 The responsibility for investigating allegations of child abuse rests with the gardaí and the Department of Social and Family Affairs (the Department). IRLI's Child Protection Officer may seek legal advice, the advice of the Department or the gardaí in deciding whether a formal referral to the authorities is necessary. If it is decided that external reporting should not take place then there must be a clear rationale for that decision which must be recorded.
- 5.3.5 A written report in the form set out in Appendix III must be completed as soon as an incident is reported and filed in a secure location. The content of the report should not be disclosed to anyone other than the Board of Directors of IRLI, the designated Child Protection Office (and appropriate authorities where necessary).
- 5.3.6 Appendix II outlines the Child Protection Procedure and Guidelines on Reporting while Appendix IV addresses the Child Protection Officer's duties and responsibilities.

6. IRLI Responsibilities and Actions

- 6.1** If a member of staff of IRLI is the subject of an allegation of child abuse, that individual will be asked to take leave from their duties on full pay until an investigation has been completed. If an IRLI member/volunteer (on assignment overseas or in Ireland) is the subject of an allegation of child abuse, that member/volunteer will also be asked to withdraw from their work until an investigation has been completed. In all cases, it will be made clear that suspension does not imply guilt but rather protects all parties whilst an investigation is undertaken.
- 6.2** IRLI will see that the relevant statutory authorities are informed if a disclosure of abuse takes place in which the alleged abuser is a member of IRLI, or the incident has taken place on IRLI premises or in connection with IRLI activities. If a disclosure of abuse takes place overseas, all reporting to

the statutory authorities will be done in conjunction with our overseas partner(s).

6.3 If an allegation of child abuse is made involving IRLI staff or a member/volunteer, this allegation, together with a record of the investigation undertaken and the outcome, will be recorded in their personnel files. Confidentiality regarding these records will be scrupulously maintained and information will only be released to those in positions of authority.

6.4 If a member of IRLI's staff or anyone closely associated with the work of IRLI is found to have committed acts in relation to children which are criminal or which contravene, in a serious way, the principles and standards set out in this policy, IRLI will take disciplinary action and/or any other action which may be appropriate in the circumstances, which may include the immediate termination of their membership.

7. Communicating IRLI's Child Protection Policy

7.1 It is the policy of IRLI to make all members, volunteers, partners, children and families which the organisation comes into contact with aware of its child protection policy.

7.2 IRLI will do this by:

- requesting that all staff and board members sign up to the Child Protection Policy and agree to uphold all of the principles and procedures inherent therein;
- requesting that all volunteers sign up to the Child Protection Policy and agree to uphold all of the principles and procedures inherent therein;
- displaying in a prominent position on IRLI's website a copy of the Child Protection Policy for the public to view;
- disseminating the IRLI Child Protection Policy on all appropriate occasions; and
- developing good professional links with the statutory and voluntary organisations that are involved in the area of child protection. This will facilitate good working relationships as well as identifying services to which IRLI can refer children or adults should they seek further support.

8. Implementing and Monitoring the Child Protection Policy and Code of Conduct

8.1 It is the responsibility of the Charity Coordinator to ensure that the implementation of the IRLI Child Protection Policy is monitored and evaluated. The Charity Coordinator will also ensure that the policy is regularly reviewed, on a needs basis, and that new practices or processes will be incorporated as required. In particular, the Charity Coordinator will ensure that this policy is reviewed, at the very least, every two years.

8.2 This review and evaluation process will indicate any specific training needs of staff, board members and volunteers in relation to the full and proper implementation of this child protection policy.

- 8.3** The Charity Coordinator will ensure that an annual report on all matters relating to child protection, as they pertain to the work of IRLI and which come within this policy, is put before the Board of Directors, including any incidents, allegations and/or suspicions of child abuse.
- 8.4** A database of all incidents, allegations and/or suspicions of abuse will be recorded by the Charity Coordinator at the end of each year and stored in a secure and confidential location.

Appendix I

IRLI Child Protection Policy Code of Conduct

I, [**insert name**], engaged by Irish Rule of Law International agree that while implementing Irish Rule of Law International activities, I will:

- treat all children with respect and dignity;
- treat all children equally;
- model positive, appropriate behaviour to all children and vulnerable adults with whom I come into contact;
- be aware of the IRLI Child Protection Policy;
- challenge and report potentially abusive behaviour;
- develop a culture of openness, honesty and safety within projects;
- develop a culture where children have permission to tell and talk about any concerns or worries that they may have;
- respect each child's boundaries and support them to develop their own sense of rights;
- be aware of situations which may present risks and manage them;
- recognise that caution is required in all one-to-one situations;
- wherever possible, ensure that another adult is present when working in the proximity of children;
- provide access for children, young people and vulnerable adults to talk to others about any concerns they have;
- remember that someone else may misinterpret my actions, no matter how well intentioned.

I will never:

- hit or otherwise physically assault or physically abuse children;
- develop sexual relationships with children;
- develop relationships with children that could in any way be deemed exploitative or abusive;
- act in any way that may be abusive or may place a child at risk of abuse;
- use language, make suggestions or offer advice which is inappropriate, offensive or abusive;
- condone or participate in behaviour that is illegal, unsafe or abusive;
- act in any way that is intended to shame, humiliate, belittle or degrade, discriminate against, show different treatment or favour particular children to the exclusion of others;
- invite unaccompanied children into my home, unless they are at immediate risk of injury or in physical danger;
- trivialise or exaggerate child abuse issues;
- believe "it could never happen to me".

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Appendix II

IRLI Child Protection Procedure

If a child, young person or vulnerable adult tells you they are being, or have been, abused:

- listen to and accept what they are saying;
- do not investigate and do not inform, question or confront the alleged abuser;
- take the alleged abuse seriously;
- reassure the child, young person or vulnerable adult that they have done the right thing by telling you;
- let them know you need to tell someone else. Do not promise total confidentiality;
- let the child, young person or vulnerable adult speak freely but do not press for information;
- let the child, young person or vulnerable adult know what you are going to do next and that you will let them know what happens; and
- record carefully (on the form below) what you have heard whilst it is still fresh in your mind. Include the date and time of your conversation and all details of any incident disclosed.

If any staff, member or volunteer suspects abuse or if a child, young person or vulnerable adult makes a disclosure or if a person external to IRLI reports a suspicion or allegation relating to IRLI staff, members, volunteers or activities, the following steps should be taken:

- avoid any delay;
- report this to the IRLI Child Protection Officer;
- record all information on the IRLI Reporting Form, which should be signed and dated by the author;
- if the suspicion or allegation relates to activities or persons working in a school or in another setting, ensure that the appropriate authority is also informed;
- the Child Protection Officer will ensure that a report is prepared and submitted to the appropriate authorities, either in Ireland or overseas, including the police services and the local social welfare authorities;
- assess the risk and make an immediate referral to the relevant statutory services if you deem a child to be at immediate risk (do not wait to refer the matter to the IRLI Child Protection Officer if a child is in immediate danger);
- No staff or other member or volunteer will prejudice their own standing or position within IRLI by responsibly reporting potential or suspected child abuse.

Actions to Take	Actions to Avoid
<p>The person receiving the disclosure should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • react calmly so as not to frighten the child; • tell the child that he/she is not to blame and was right to tell somebody; • take what the child says seriously; • keep questions to the absolute minimum to ensure a clear and accurate understanding of what has been said; • reassure the child but do not make promises of confidentiality that cannot be kept; • make a full record of what had been said, heard and/or seen (fact and not opinion) as soon as possible. 	<p>The person receiving the disclosure should not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • panic; • allow expressions of shock or distaste to show; • probe for more information than is offered; • speculate or make assumptions; • make negative comments about the alleged abuser; • approach the alleged abuser; • make promises that cannot be kept or agree to keep secrets.

Appendix III
Reporting Form

PART ONE: Person Reporting

Name: _____
E-mail: _____
Telephone: _____

IRLI member Dublin
IRLI volunteer Dublin
IRLI member overseas Specify Project _____
IRLI volunteer overseas Specify Project _____
Other Specify Project _____

(please check relevant one)

Details of any other organisation involved:

Your relationship to the child or young persons or vulnerable adult concerned:

PART TWO: About the Child/Young Person(s)

Name(s): _____

Male
Female

(please check relevant one)

Age: _____

Address (where possible):

Who does the child or young person live with?

PART THREE: About Your Concern

Are you reporting your own concern or passing on those of someone else? Give details:

How did you come to have a concern? (e.g. was abuse observed or suspected?)

Was an allegation made?

Did a child disclose abuse?

Date, time and place of any incident(s):

Nature of concern/allegation:

Observations made by you: (e.g. the child's physical and/or emotional state)

Write down exactly what the child said and what you said: (continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

Has anybody been alleged to be the abuser? If so give details:

Any other relevant information? (e.g. disability? language?)

Does the child require any medical attention?

Have you consulted a government department or any other agency or have you reported this to anyone else? If so, give details (name of person, organisation, date and time):

Time and date of reporting: _____

Signed: _____

Appendix IV

Child Protection Officer Duties and Responsibilities

It is the Child Protection Officer's role to receive information where it is alleged or suspected that a child(ren) has been or is being abused. The Child Protection Officer is responsible for managing the allegation/disclosure or concern from start to finish including:

- the preliminary inquiry;
- the referral to the Board of Directors and the local team leader and/or the HSE/Gardaí/Social Services, as appropriate;
- any subsequent internal inquiry;
- requesting follow up reports detailing child protection outcomes;
- ensuring that the person raising the concern or making an allegation and the respondent or alleged perpetrator are regularly informed about how the inquiry into the matter is progressing. (This must be done in consultation with the HSE/local Social Services and/or the Gardaí/local police services where there is an external child abuse investigation taking place.)

Procedure:

1. Receive information about a concern or allegation;
2. Create a Child Protection case file;
3. Take possession of all original records/information and place in case file;
4. Explain the IRLI child protection procedure to the complainant;
5. Make a child protection referral to the statutory services where appropriate;
6. Where you are unsure about making a referral consult the duty social worker, the HSE and/or the Gardaí/relevant local authorities. Place a written record of these consultations on the case file;
7. Pass on the information to the Board of Directors;
8. Where an allegation is made concerning an overseas project, request a final outcome report from the relevant local authorities detailing how an allegation/suspicion/concern has been processed/concluded;
9. Contact the emergency services/relevant local authority if a child is deemed to be at immediate risk;
10. Follow the advice of the statutory services;
11. Request in writing a confirmation from the statutory services of the referral and request to be kept informed of their progress;
12. Conduct an internal investigation (if the allegation /concern refers to staff/ board or volunteer member(s) of IRLI) on conclusion of any external investigation, if appropriate, and implement in consultation with the Board of Directors any disciplinary procedures which may be deemed necessary.

Appendix V

Code of Conduct on Images and Messages

Guiding Principles⁷

Choices relating to images and messages will be made based on the paramount principles of:

- respect for the dignity and privacy of the people concerned;
- belief in the equality of all people; and
- acceptance of the need to promote fairness, solidarity and justice.

Accordingly, in all communications, where practical and reasonable while also remaining cognisant of the need to reflect reality, we strive to:

- choose images and related messages based on the values of respect, equality, solidarity and justice;
- truthfully represent any image or depicted situation both in its immediate and in its wider context so as to improve public understanding of the realities and complexities of development;
- avoid images and messages that potentially stereotype, sensationalise or discriminate against people, situations or places;
- use images, messages and case studies only with the full understanding, participation and permission of the subjects (or the subjects' parent(s) or guardian(s));
- ensure those whose situation is being represented have the opportunity to communicate their stories themselves;
- establish and record whether the subjects wish to be named or identifiable and always act accordingly;
- conform to the highest standards in relation to human rights and protection of the vulnerable people.

Use of children's images for work related purposes⁸

When photographing or filming a child for work related purposes, I **[insert name]** must:

- before photographing or filming a child, assess and endeavour to comply with local traditions or restrictions for reproducing personal images;
- before photographing or filming a child, obtain consent from the child or a parent or guardian of the child. As part of this I must explain how the photograph or film will be used;
- ensure photographs, films, videos and DVDs present children in a dignified and respectful manner and not in a vulnerable or submissive manner. Children should be adequately clothed and not photographed in poses and/or a state of dress that could be seen as being sexually suggestive;
- ensure images are honest representations of the context and the facts;
- ensure file labels do not reveal identifying information about a child when sending images electronically.

I understand that the onus is on me, as a person engaged by Irish Rule of Law International to use common sense and avoid actions or behaviours that could be construed as child abuse when implementing IRLI-funded activities.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

⁷ *Dóchas Code of Conduct on Images and Messages*

⁸ *AusAid Child Protection Policy, Sample Code of Conduct for use of children's images*

Annex VI

Policy Context and List of Resources

- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: www.unicef.org/crc
- Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2011: <http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/Publications/services/Children/cf2011.pdf>
- Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child: www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/25.htm
- WHO Report 2006 Preventing Child Maltreatment: A guide to taking Action and Generating Evidence: http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2006/9241594365_eng.pdf
- SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN Standards and Guidance Document for the Catholic Church of Ireland (2008): <http://www.safeguarding.ie/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/Standards-and-Guidance.pdf>
- The Child Care Act 1991: http://www.mhcirl.ie/Service_User_Information/Child_Care_Act_1991.pdf
- The Protection for Person's Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998 (updated 19 Dec 2012): http://www.lawreform.ie/fileupload/Restatement/Second%20Programme%20of%20Restatement/EN_ACT_1998_0049.PDF
- The Non-Fatal Offences against the Person Act 1997: <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/pdf/1997/en.act.1997.0026.pdf>
- Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/dopchild.htm
- Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict: www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/6/protocolchild.htm
- ILO Convention 182 Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour: www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp1.htm
- Mísean Cara, Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy: http://www.miseancara.ie/images/mc_childprotectionpolicy.pdf
- Tanzanian Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA) Child Protection Policy: <http://www.tawla.or.tz>
- Global NGO's Child Protection Policy: <http://www.globalngocentres.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Global-NGO-Centres-Child-Protection-Policy-2013.pdf>
- AusAid Child Protection Policy: http://www.ausaid.gov.au/Publications/Documents/child_protection.pdf
- Save the Children/UNCHR, Setting the Standard: http://www.crin.org/docs/resources/publications/hrbap/setting_standards.pdf
- Keeping Children Safe Coalition, Standards for Child Protection: http://www.un.org/en/pseataaskforce/docs/keeping_children_safe_standards_for_child_protection_tool.pdf