



Parentline Child Safeguarding Statement 2022

Parentline provides a national helpline for parents and carers. It offers support, information, and guidance on all aspects of parenting in confidence and without judgement. It provides the national helpline for Post-Natal Depression (PND) and facilitates the Non-Violent Resistance (NVR) Programme to deal with child to parent violence.

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017)*, and *Tulsa's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*.

Parentline does not deal directly with children as part of our service delivery. We deal directly with parents only and ask parents not to bring children to our premises.

However, in case there is a breach of this rule the following applies:

- All allegations of abuse or misconduct against employees/volunteers must be reported to the CEO (Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015). This is the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement. The CEO will, in turn, be reported to the Board of Directors of Parentline.
- All volunteers and staff are trained and made aware of our policies as part of their induction process. References are always checked.
- If anyone connected with Parentline becomes aware of a child protection or welfare concern, and has identifying information, they report it initially to the CEO (Relevant Person) (also known as the Designated Liaison Person DLP or the Deputy DLP) who will then report it to **The Prevention, Partnership & Family Support Manager at Tulsa.**

- As part of the policy, the Relevant Person and Deputy are listed in The Helpline Room, to which all staff and volunteers have access. Incoming staff or volunteers are informed as part of induction.

The Relevant Person is the CEO Aileen Hickie, and the Deputy Relevant Person is Michéle Ridgway. They have undergone the relevant Child Safety Training provided by Carmichael House on behalf of Tusla.

The full Child Safeguarding Statement is available on www.parentline.ie

Reviewed, updated and approved January 2022