



Child Safeguarding Statement

Name of Service: Coaching Talk

Designated Liaison Person: Joanne Bowers

Nature of Services: Coaching Talk offers one-to-one and small group life coaching sessions for children and teenagers, predominantly aged 6 to 18, and their families. Children under the age of 6 are coached only as part of a family group session. Coaching Talk also offers one-to-one and group grinds sessions in English Literature.

Coaching Talk ensures to prioritise the safety and welfare of every child that avails of these services. All current and future employees will have full and up-to-date training as provided by Tusla to ensure that they will be alert to any possible risk of harm. Should reasonable grounds for reporting exist then the DLP will make contact with Tusla in the first instance or the Garda Síochána if out of hours.

Risk Assessment: Following on from a risk assessment to identify where concerns may arise, the following areas have been noted:

- One-to-one Coaching sessions: Any concerns raised, or disclosures made, will be dealt with confidentially by the DLP who, in consultation with the Duty Social Worker, will make the decision to proceed with a formal report.
- Family Group sessions: Any concerns raised, or disclosures made, will be dealt with confidentially by the DLP who, in consultation with the Duty Social Worker, will make the decision to proceed with a formal report.
- Small group coaching or grinds sessions: Any concerns raised, or disclosures made, will be dealt with confidentially by the DLP who, in consultation with the Duty Social Worker, will make the decision to proceed with a formal report.

Procedure:

All staff, current and future, will be Garda Vetted and have completed appropriate Child Protection training. Should a disclosure be made or an issue arise during any session, the person will be listened to non-judgementally with only factual note-taking either during or as soon after the disclosure as is practicable. No assurance regarding confidentiality will be offered as the issue may need to be raised as a formal report.

Concerns will be discussed first and formally reported if deemed appropriate. If a decision is made not to submit a formal report then a factual statement of the event will be stored safely and securely as per the Retention of Records guidelines. If a concern remains, the reporting person will be protected under the 'Protection for Persons reporting Child Abuse Act 1998'.

This safeguarding statement and any reports made will be in accordance with ministerial guidelines and the Children First Act.

This statement and risk assessment will be reviewed and updated annually.

Joanne Bowers (DLP)

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