



Child Safeguarding Statement

Name of Service:

Scottish Nursing Guild

The Health Service Executive (HSE) is a large organisation of over 100,000 people, whose job is to run all of the public health services in Ireland. The HSE is committed to ensuring that the children and young people who avail of our services are safe from harm.

Description of service and activities provided:

The Scottish Nursing Guild empowers adults and children across Ireland to live independently at home, with the right clinical support by their side. Our team of experienced nurses and carers provides a wide range of in-home care services, including complex care, end-of-life care, palliative care, mental health support, learning disability support, respite care, and more. Our commitment to quality care is reflected in our 'Excellent' rating from Neuen Consult, an independent organisation specialising in quality checking agencies that supply nursing and medical locum staff. We achieved a perfect score of 100%, demonstrating our commitment to providing high-quality staff, so you can trust us to deliver the best possible care.

HSE Principles to safeguard children from harm:

The safety, welfare and development of children and young people are core objectives and key priorities of the HSE. The following principles are informed by Children First Guidance and legislation and support our intention to keep children safe from harm:

- The best interests of the child should be paramount.
- The safety and welfare of children is everyone's responsibility.
- Children have a right to be heard, listened to and to be taken seriously. Taking account of their age and understanding, they should be consulted and involved in all matters and decisions that may affect their lives.
- All children must be treated equally and have the right to be protected from discrimination, intolerance, harassment and bullying.
- Child protection is a multi-agency, multidisciplinary activity. Agencies and professionals must work together in the best interests of children.

Risk Assessment

This Child Safeguarding Statement is informed by an assessment of any potential for 'harm', to a child while availing of this service ('harm' as defined in the Children First Act 2015). Below is an amalgamated list of the main risks identified and the procedures in place for managing these risks.

A more detailed secondary risk assessment for this service is available on request.

Risk Category	Main procedures and controls in place to manage risk identified
1. Risk of harm to a child by a staff member, volunteer or student, including risks related to online activities	SNG Protection and Welfare of Children Policy SNG Recruitment and Selection Procedures/Policy HSE Trust in Care Policy Supporting a Culture of Safety, Quality: Quality and Safety Meetings, High Risk Package Meetings, Risk Register, Dedicated Incidents and Complaints Team, Clinical Lead. Consent Policy Disciplinary Procedures (ER) Policy GDPR Policy and training
2. Risk of harm to a child from a service user (adult or child), visitor or member of the public, including risks related to online activities	GDPR Policy and training Risk Management Strategy SNG Protection and Welfare of Children Policy
3. Risk of harm to a child due to a child protection or welfare concern not being recognised or reported by a staff member	SNG Protection and Welfare of Children Policy SNG Incidents Policy/Procedure Dedicated Incidents and Complaints Team Clinical Lead Safeguarding Lead Disciplinary Procedure (ER) Policy Open Disclosure Training
4. Risk of harm to a child due to a child protection or welfare concern not being recognised or reported by a child	SNG Protection and Welfare of Children Policy SNG Incidents Policy
5. Risk of harm to a child due to not implementing the Children First Act 2015 and/or related guidance or policies	SNG Recruitment and Selection Procedures/Policy SNG Protection and Welfare of Children Policy Clinical Governance Policy
6. Risk of harm to a child due to a service failing to ensure safe access to ICT (incl. social media, web access and electronic contact).	GDPR Policy and training SNG Protection and Welfare of Children Policy

Procedures - (All HSE National Policies, Procedures, Protocols and Guidance are available at www.hse.ie).

This 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), HSE Guidance on Developing a Child Safeguarding Statement and Guidance issued by Tusla – Child and Family Agency. In addition to the policies and procedures named above, the following HSE policies and procedures also support our intention to safeguard children:

- HSE Enterprise Risk Management Policy and Procedures 2023
- HSE Incident Management Framework 2020

All queries about this statement, and any associated risk assessments, should be directed to the Relevant Person.

The Relevant Person appointed for the purpose of this Child Safeguarding Statement is

Name: Kate Nicholson-Florence

Contact Details: kate.nicholson-florence@acaciumgroup.com

Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed every 24 months or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Review Date: August 2027

Date Signed: 05/08/2025

Service Address: 57 Adelaide Road, Dublin 2, D02 Y3C6

Service Manager Title: Business Manager

Signature: CHESNUT ROSE CERVANTES