

CPA Child Safeguarding Statement

1. Name of service being provided:

The CPA: Performing Arts (singing, dancing and drama) with primary school aged children (4-12yrs)

2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm:

CPA teachers deliver classes each week in singing, dancing and drama. Giving children a foundation in performing arts. Safety is our number one concern; we ensure that children are supervised at all times by teachers/assistants who have been garda vetted and trained in the 'CPA way'. Children are supervised from drop off to pick up. We have a full risk assessment completed to ensure all physical risks are constantly recorded and eradicated. We have a child protection policy in place that all teachers/assistants have read and signed.

3. Risk Assessment

We have carried out a full risk assessment (in a separate document) At no point is a child left alone with a teacher/assistant. Toilet runs are monitored by a teacher who is in view of another teacher. No child is allowed to leave CPA alone, nor are they permitted to enter an unsupervised classroom during or after class time. Only garda vetted CPA staff will have contact with our students. Doors of halls are locked and/ or monitored by Katie Burke at all times.

4. Procedures

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 Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- Should there be any allegation of abuse against any CPA staff member, this should be reported to Katie Burke and recorded in full. Appropriate action will be taken, this can include staff suspension, a meeting with the child's parent, a report to Tusla and a call to the Garda.
- All CPA staff members are garda vetted via CREATE.

- All CPA staff must complete 'The Child First' training programme provided by Tusla each year, and their cert held on file by Katie Burke(DLP and Mandated person) at CPA.
- Should there be any reason for a CPA staff member to suspect a case of neglect or abuse in the child's home, they are required to bring their concern to Katie Burke. A report of the concern will be drawn up and Katie Burke will discuss this concern with a member of the local Tusla office on how to proceed. If we think there is a threat of immediate harm to the child, Garda will be notified.

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on Sept 2026, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:  (Provider)
[Provider's name and contact details]

For queries, please contact Katie Burke, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.