



Child Safeguarding Statement 2024

1. Name of service being provided:

Consairtín, the national concertina convention

2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm (brief outline of what our service is, what we do and our commitment to safeguard children):

Consairtín is a festival that celebrates the role of the concertina in Irish traditional music. We provide classes, specialist workshops, instrument maintenance tutorials, concerts and other performances for one weekend in Ennis, Co Clare.

Consairtín holds it as a priority that while children are participating in any of its events they feel safe and secure at all times and are protected from any form of abuse or neglect. *Consairtín* will do this by ensuring that the young people receive adequate supervision by all adults who are responsible for their care while attending *Consairtín* events. We will ensure that the teachers and staff are carefully selected and supervised.

Consairtín will deal promptly, fully and fairly with any concerns raised about the welfare of children in its care.

Consairtín is committed to creating an environment where the children in its care are enabled to have an open, trusting and co-operative relationship with the organisation.

Our Designated Liaison Person is: **Áine Hensey**
aine@consairtin.ie; 086-2612127

Our Deputy Designated Liaison Person is: **Tim Collins**
tim@consairtin.ie
087-2605689

3. Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

	RISK IDENTIFIED	PROCEDURE IN PLACE TO MANAGE IDENTIFIED RISK
1	<p>Consairtín provides classes and workshops for 200 students, 75% of whom are children. Most classes are mixed between adults and children and there are no one-to-one teaching sessions. No younger children are permitted to leave the school campus during breaktime or at the end of classes without an adult. Risk ranking: LOW</p>	<p>All tutors and volunteers are fully aware of Consairtín’s Child Safeguarding policy and procedures. Students, with their parents and guardians, are encouraged to discuss any difficulties encountered with the school directors.</p>
2	<p>Children attend recitals and concerts during the festival. Younger children are accompanied by parents, guardians or older siblings. Teenagers attend some daytime and early evening events unaccompanied. Risk ranking: LOW</p>	<p>All Consairtín volunteers are fully aware of Consairtín’s Child Safeguarding policy and procedures. At least two volunteers working at each event has completed the TUSLA Children First e-learning programme.</p>

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:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service;
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children;
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla;
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons;
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

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 1 January 2025, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: *Aine Hensey*

For queries, please contact Áine Hensey, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.