



BORDER CROSSINGS

Child Safeguarding Statement of Border Crossings

1. Name of service being provided: **Border Crossings Theatre and Workshops**

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

Border Crossings is committed to a young-person centred approach in our work. We undertake to provide a safe environment and positive experience, the welfare of the young person being of paramount importance.

We will adhere to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017).

We have developed policies and procedures to ensure this commitment is embedded in all aspects of our work with young people in workshops settings. This Welfare and Child Protection Policy gathers all policies and procedures that relate to work with young people. The board of trustees recognises it holds ultimate responsibility for the wellbeing of young participants and staff/ volunteers. This policy is targeted at all adults involved in our theatre workshops, be they staff or volunteers. Parents and participants will be informed of relevant policies and procedures. will be informed of procedures and policies as they relate to their participation. Our work is often delivered in partnership with other organisations and we ensure that all partners are committed to the protection and welfare of children and have also have all policies in place.

We work with young people aged 13+ We carry out a range of theatre related activities including:

- Drama Workshops
- Theatre Productions
- Rehearsals
- Digital production (e.g. podcasts, film making)

3. Risk Assessment

Section 2 of the Children First Act 2015 defines harm as follows: ‘harm means in relation to a child– (a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects, or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health, development or welfare, or, (b) sexual abuse of the child.’

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	Risk of harm not being recognised by theatre personnel (workshop leaders, staff or volunteers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm
2	Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by staff/ workshop personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All personnel are provided with procedures for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tulsa including information on the role and responsibilities of the Designated Liaison Person
3	Risk of young person being harmed by workshop leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children including procedure for Garda Vetting. • Code of Behaviour for staff/volunteers
4	Risk of harm due to bullying of a young person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-bullying policy • Workshops and projects are designed to be inclusive and supportive.
5	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on Adult/Young People Ratios (within safeguarding policy) • Code of Behaviour for staff and volunteers • Risk assessments done for all settings and new projects.
6	Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between staff/workshop leaders and a young person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on Communications with young people (under safeguarding policy) • Code of Behaviour for workshop Leaders
7	Risk of harm caused by staff/ workshop leaders communicating with young people in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on Communications with young people (under safeguarding policy)
8	Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of images of young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on Use of Images and consent forms (under safeguarding policy)
9	Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of young people's personal data.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GDPR Policy

4. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015 and in line with Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017). In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children and young people while availing of our service:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child or young person availing of our service
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.
- Complaints Policy/Procedures
- Disciplinary/Appeals Procedures
- Policy on including participants aged 18 or over
- Health and Safety Policy and Procedures
- Policy on Informing Parents
- Guidelines on Dealing with Disruptive Behaviour
- Policy on Interagency Cooperation

All procedures listed are available upon request.

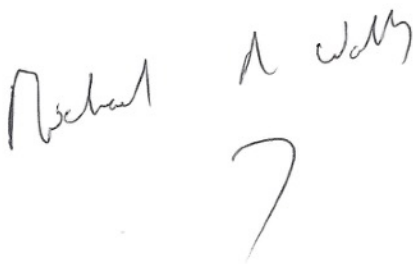
The Relevant person of Border Crossings is Lucy Dunkerley (Associate Director).

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 17th September 2025, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed

Handwritten signature of Michael Walling in blue ink. The signature is written in a cursive style and includes the name 'Michael' and 'Walling'.

Michael Walling (Artistic Director)
On behalf of Border Crossings
Wednesday, 19 February 2025

For queries, please contact Lucy Dunkerley, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.
lucy@bordercrossings.ie