

North Connaught Youth & Community Services

Child Protection Policy

for

Parents / Guardians

September 2014

What can you, as a parent/guardian, expect from North Connaught Youth & Community Services?

- The safety and welfare of young people is of paramount importance.
- Parental involvement is actively encouraged in all services provided/offered by North Connaught Youth & Community Services.
- Parental consent is required for membership, engagement with, and specific activities such as trips etc.
- Parents are required to provide their contact details, child medical details and allergies where relevant.
- All staff/volunteers employed or involved with North Connaught Youth & Community Services will/must have received Child Protection Training and Garda Vetting. No adult person is allowed to work with any young person engaged with North Connaught Youth & Community Services without having received Child Protection Training and obtaining Garda Vetting.
- All staff, volunteers and students, whether temporary or permanent, receives induction training in North Connaught Youth & Community Services' Child Protection Policy.
- All staff, volunteers and students, whether temporary or permanent, is required to sign up to our Child Protection Policy.
- Training, information and policies are updated regularly and communicated to all parties involved in the organisation.
- A Code of Behaviour, involving the following elements, is in place:
 - Appropriate adult supervision and ratios.
 - Appropriate relationships and boundaries between leaders/workers and young people.
 - Appropriate physical contact.
 - Appropriate language.
 - Appropriate behaviour when addressing challenging behaviour.
 - Procedures for dealing with bullying.
 - Consideration for off-site activities and overnight trips away.
 - Consideration for one-to-one/outreach/detached youth work.
 - Safe use of technology, including internet use and mobile technology.
 - Safe use of transport.
 - Consideration for working with children with special needs or vulnerable young people.
- Parents will be informed of any accident or incident involving their child while engaged with North Connaught Youth & Community Services.
- Parents have a right to access information on their child which may be both stored and/or shared by North Connaught Youth & Community Services.
- Confidentiality of all information about young people engaged with North Connaught Youth & Community Services is of paramount importance. Personal information is treated with the utmost respect. Information will only be shared on a 'need to know' basis in the best interest of the young person.

- In line with North Connaught Youth & Community Services' organisational duty to dare the following is in place:
 - A Designated Liaison Person
 - Information on definitions of abuse as per Children First.
 - Information on reasonable grounds for concern.
 - Reporting procedures with clear role and responsibilities for all involved.
 - Guidelines in relation to dealing with disclosure.
 - Reference to verbal and written reports being made to the TUSLA without delay.
 - Reference to informing parent/guardians that a report is being made to the TUSLA.
 - A standard reporting form to the TUSLA.
 - Out of social work hours or any emergency situation will be notified to the Gardaí.
 - All relevant telephone numbers i.e. local TUSLA duty social work numbers, addresses, Gardaí telephone numbers.
 - Mechanism for recording concerns that may not need to be reported to the TUSLA.
 - Procedures for reporting retrospective disclosures by an adult.
- Parents will be informed of any report being made to the statutory services, unless this is not appropriate to the situation.
- Parents who wish to make a complaint can contact Mr Pat Forde, Designated Liaison Person for North Connaught Youth & Community Services.

Email: youthservices@eircom.net
Telephone : 071 9144150
Address: North Connaught Youth & Community Services
Rockwood Parade, Sligo.