



Youth Work Ireland
North Connaught

North Connaught Youth & Community Services

trading as

Youth Work Ireland North Connaught

Child Protection Policy

for

Parents / Guardians

March 2023

What can you, as a parent/guardian, expect from Youth Work Ireland North Connaught?

- The safety and welfare of young people is of paramount importance.
- Parental involvement is actively encouraged in all services provided/offered by Youth Work Ireland North Connaught.
- 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 Youth Work Ireland North Connaught will/must have received Child Protection Training and Garda Vetting. No adult person is allowed to work with any young person engaged with Youth Work Ireland North Connaught without having received Child Protection Training and obtaining Garda Vetting.
- All staff, volunteers, and students, whether temporary or permanent, receives induction training in Youth Work Ireland North Connaught's 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 Youth Work Ireland North Connaught.
- Parents have a right to access information on their child which may be both stored and/or shared by Youth Work Ireland North Connaught.
- Confidentiality of all information about young people engaged with Youth Work Ireland North Connaught 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 Youth Work Ireland North Connaught's organisational duty to care the following is in place:
 - A Designated Liaison Person
 - Relevant Person
 - Mandated Persons
 - 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 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 Youth Work Ireland North Connaught.

Email: patforde@ncycs.ie
 Telephone: 071 9144150
 Address: Youth Work Ireland North Connaught
 Rockwood Parade, Sligo.