

## Child Safeguarding Statement

### **Name of service being provided:**

- Name: RINKA Kids Fitness and Wellness classes
- Location: Local and National.
- Activities: Fitness and wellness through games and skills

**Nature of service** We provide fitness and wellness classes for children aged 3-12 years and teach them to develop confidence in their fundamental movement skills.

### **Principles to safeguard children from harm**

RINKA is committed to safeguarding children and by working under the guidance of our Safeguarding Policies our staff, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within fitness. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

- **Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in sport.
- **Needs of the child** - All children's sport experiences should be guided by what is best for children. This means that adults should have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical and personal needs of young people.
- **Integrity in relationships** - Adults interacting with children in sport are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play** - All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasised, and organisers should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Equality** - All children should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion



## 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.

	<b>Risk identified</b>	<b>Procedure in place to manage identified risk</b>
1	Lack of coaching qualification	Recruitment Policy and Coach Education/Training Policy
2	Supervision Issues	Supervision Policy
3	Unauthorised Photography	Photography & Use of Images policy
4	Behavioural Issues	Coach Education/Training Policy
5	Lack of gender balance amongst coaches	Supervision Policy Coach Education/Training Policy
6	Unauthorised access to designated children's play & practice areas & to changing rooms, showers, toilets etc	Supervision Policy Coach Education/Training Policy
7	Unauthorised exit from children's areas	Supervision Policy Coach Education/Training Policy
8	Recruitment of inappropriate people.	Recruitment Policy
9	Unqualified or untrained people in role	Coach Education/Training Policy Recruitment Policy
10	Harm not being recognised	Child Safeguarding Training
11	General behavioural issues	Code of Conduct
12	Injury in class	First Aid Training/ Training Policy
13	Bullying	Anti-Bulling Policy

## 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.



## 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 15.03.2024, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:

*Sarah Gillespie*

Email: [sarah@rinka.ie](mailto:sarah@rinka.ie)

