



Drumoghill FC – Child Safeguarding Statement

1. Statement of Intent

Drumoghill FC is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people who participate in our club activities. We strive to provide a safe, positive, and enjoyable environment where children can play football and develop to their full potential.

The welfare of the child is **paramount** and shall always take precedence over sporting, performance, or other considerations. This Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in accordance with the **Children First Act 2015**, *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children*, and the **Football Association of Ireland (FAI) Child Welfare and Safeguarding Policy**.

2. Nature of Service & Principles

Drumoghill FC provides football-related activities to children and young people under the age of 18, including training sessions, matches, competitions, trips, camps, and social events.

In our work with children, we are committed to:

- Protecting children from harm, abuse, neglect, and exploitation
- Promoting the welfare and wellbeing of children
- Treating all children with dignity, respect, and fairness
- Ensuring that safeguarding is a shared responsibility

3. Risk Assessment

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, Drumoghill FC has carried out a written Risk Assessment of potential harm to a child while availing of our services. The following areas of potential risk have been identified:

- Physical injury during training sessions or matches
- Inappropriate behaviour or conduct by adults or peers
- Inadequate supervision
- Travel to and from matches, tournaments, or events
- Use of social media and electronic communication
- Changing room and facility-related risks

The club has implemented procedures to manage and reduce these risks as far as is reasonably practicable.

4. Safeguarding Procedures in Place

Drumoghill FC has the following procedures in place to address the risks identified:

- Adoption and implementation of the FAI Child Welfare & Safeguarding Policy
- Garda Vetting of all coaches, volunteers, and officials working with children
- Mandatory completion of FAI safeguarding training

- Clear Codes of Conduct for coaches, volunteers, players, parents/guardians, and officials
- Clear reporting procedures for safeguarding concerns or allegations
- Procedures for the safe organisation of activities, trips, and communications

5. Roles & Responsibilities

Chairperson: Brendan O'Donnell

Child Welfare Officer (CWO): Kevin Higgins

The Child Welfare Officer is responsible for promoting safeguarding within the club, ensuring that procedures are followed, and acting as the first point of contact for child welfare or protection concerns.

Designated Liaison Person (DLP): Appointed in line with FAI requirements.

All child safeguarding concerns will be dealt with in accordance with FAI procedures and, where required, reported to **Tusla – Child and Family Agency** and/or **An Garda Síochána**.

6. Communication of the Statement

This Child Safeguarding Statement has been provided to all coaches, volunteers, and officials, made available to parents/guardians and members upon request, displayed at club facilities, and made available to Tusla or the FAI upon request.

7. Review

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed every **two years**, or sooner if there is a material change to club activities, new safeguarding risks are identified, or there are updates to legislation or FAI policy.

Signed (Chairperson):

Name:

Position:

Date:

Brendan O'Donnell

Chairperson, Drumoghill FC

16 January 2026