



# Young Horizons Child Protection Statement

## yH Service

Through site visits, workshops, and career days young Horizons supports and enables young people to achieve more and reach further, by making them aware of opportunities and possibilities. Through our contacts and our dedication, we encourage kids to dream big and to reach beyond their circumstance with advice, support and imagination.

Young Horizon's policy with child protection is to promote overall welfare and development of the child, contributing to the growth of his or her self-esteem and personal autonomy. Young Horizons aims to achieve this by creating an environment where trust, respect, equity and, in particular, a real willingness to listen to children is established and where a focus on what is in the interests of the child is the guiding principle.

## 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. The full risk assessment is available on request to the relevant person.

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage identified risk
1	Risk of child being harmed during a yH activity by another child	Students are accompanied at all times by their teachers and yH personnel during a yH event
2	Risk of child being harmed during a yH activity by volunteer or other persons (i.e. staff of organisation yH students are visiting)	Students are accompanied at all times by their teachers and yH personnel during a yH event, they will never be left alone with any adult.
3	Risk of child being harmed by a member of yH personnel	yH staff/volunteer is never alone with students, teacher and other students are always present.
4	Risk of harm due to bully of child	Students are accompanied at all times by their teachers and yH personnel during a yH event

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5	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children during yH activity	Ratio of 10:1 is always adhered to in regard to teachers, along with the necessary yH personnel
6	Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult	If students wish to find out more information regarding a particular career, yH personnel will organise this through the school, no communication between volunteer and student will be encouraged or allowed other than through work emails.
7	Risk of harm in one-to-one coaching situation	Ratio of 10:1 is always adhered to in regards to teachers, along with the necessary yH personnel; volunteers/staff are informed in the code of behaviour to avoid one-to-one situations during yH events.
8	Risk of harm caused by member of yH personnel communication with pupils in appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.	If students wish to find out more information regarding a particular career, yH personnel will organise this through the school, no communication between volunteer and student will be encouraged.
9	Risk of harm caused by member of yH personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.	If students wish to find out more information regarding a particular career, yH personnel will organise this through the school, no communication between volunteer and student will be encouraged or allowed.

## Procedures

The yH 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 including Procedure for appointing a relevant person;
- 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.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

### Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Young Horizons 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 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed (Provider):

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Kelly", written over a horizontal line.

Steve Kelly - [Steve.kelly@younghorizons.ie](mailto:Steve.kelly@younghorizons.ie)

For queries, please contact Aoibheann Doyle, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015 at [aoibheann@younghorizons.ie](mailto:aoibheann@younghorizons.ie).