

DOIRE COLMCILLE CLG



CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

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Doire Colmcille CLG Child protection Policy is based upon Cumann Luthchleas Gael guidelines, the “Duty to Care” document as well as the Children Order (NI 1995). It further incorporates the United Nations Charter on the Rights of Children. It is the policy of Doire Colmcille CLG that whilst in their care children and young people are kept safe and free from harm. They will endeavour to safeguard children by:

1. Adopting child protection guidelines through a code of behaviour for staff and volunteers.
 - ❑ Appointing a designated officer.
 - ❑ Adhering to a confidentiality policy.
 - ❑ Issuing and recording and reporting procedures.
 - ❑ Ensuring all staff and volunteers are carefully selected, trained and supervised.
 - ❑ Creating an environment where all young people, children and adults feel safe.
 - ❑ Making parents and children aware of how to voice their concerns or complaints if there is anything there are not happy about.

2. Sharing information about concerns with agencies that need to know and involving parents and children appropriately.

Doire Colmcille CLG has an Executive Committee, elected at an Annual General meeting, by fully registered members of Doire Colmcille CLG. Each role within the Executive Committee is clearly defined.

Doire Colmcille CLG is governed by its Constitution, which has been amended and ratified to reflect the adoption of this policy

Doire Colmcille CLG is committed to ensuring all volunteers have the opportunity to partake in Child Protection Awareness Training.



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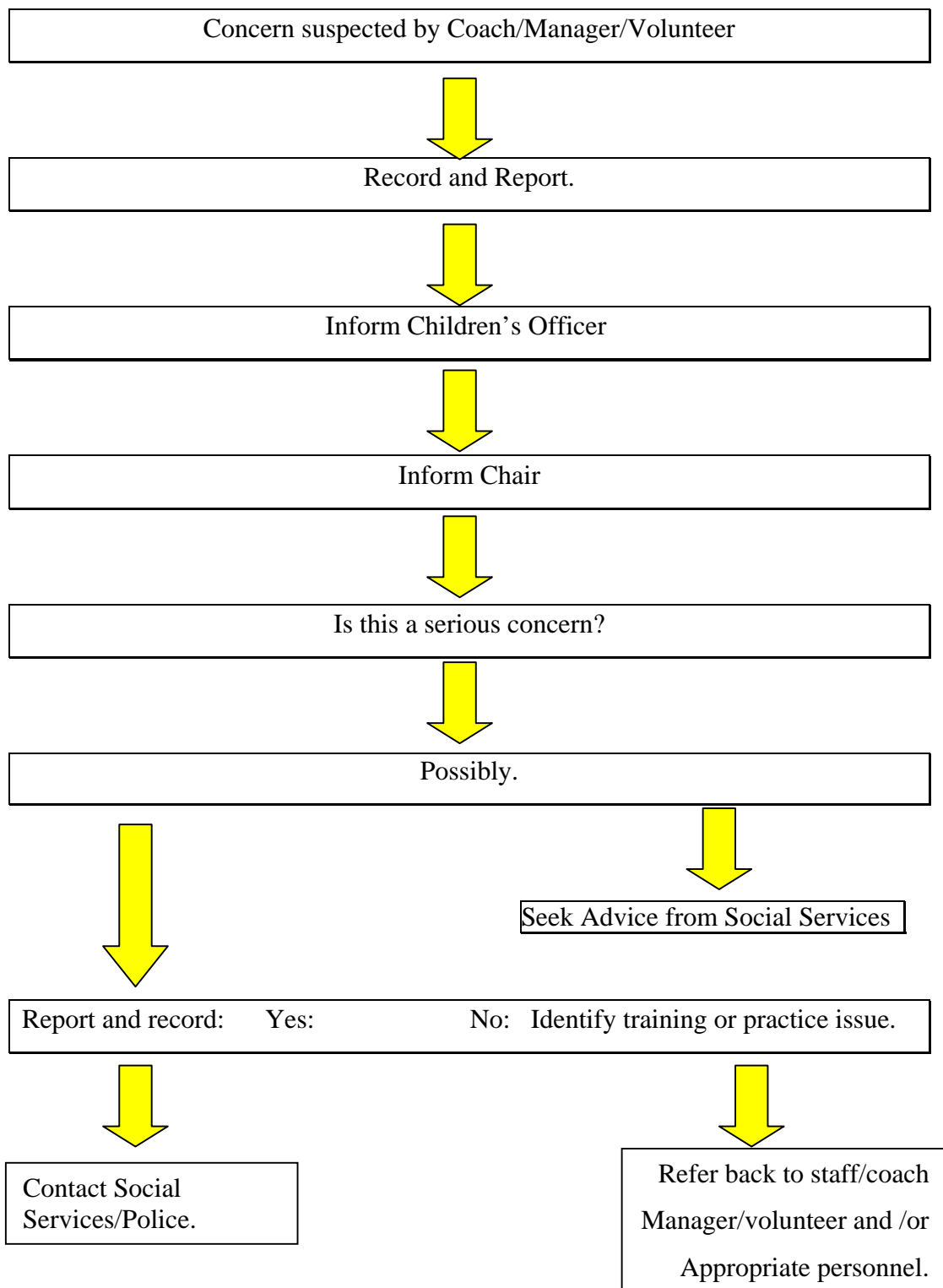
The Children (NI) Order 1995 states that the welfare of the child is paramount. Doire Colmcille CLG is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people who attend or who are members of this organisation.

It is the policy of Doire Colmcille CLG that whilst in our care, children and young people are kept safe and free from harm. We will endeavour to safeguard children by:

- Adopting child protection guidelines through a code of behaviour for staff and volunteers.
 - Appointing a designated officer.
 - Adhering to a confidentiality policy.
 - Issuing, recording and reporting procedures.
 - Ensuring all officers, coaches, managers and volunteers adhere to our code of behaviour.
 - Creating an environment where parents, children and young people feel safe.
 - Making parents, children and young people of how to voice their concerns or complain if there is anything they are not happy about.
 - Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children appropriately.

We are also committed to reviewing our policy and good practice at regular intervals.

□ REPORTING PROCEDURES:



REPORTING ALLEGATIONS OR SUSPICIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE:

The person within the club structure who should always be informed of any concerns regarding actual or suspected abuse of the child is the Chair of the management committee.

Appropriate Contacts Outside The Organisation Are.

Social Services: Early Years Service @ 028 71 320950

Riverview House Duty Social Worker @ 028 71 266111

Police Station: Strand Road Police Station.

Strand Road

Derry

Telephone: 028 71 367337.

NSPPC ADVICE AND REFERRALS: 0800 800 500.

NSPPC LOCAL: 028 71 266789.

Child Protection:

Please read the attached sheets on types and definitions of child abuse and how to recognise it. If a member has reason to believe or suspect that someone may be the victim of abused they should:

- 1.Observe the person and make a note of any unusual behaviour, injuries or information volunteered by the child.
- 2.Discuss with the Chair in case he/she is aware of any home circumstance, which may be responsible.
- 3.In consultation with the designated Children's Officer, maintain and keep a written record, ensuring confidentiality at all times.
- 4.The Chair will consult with the designated Children's Officer and they then will consult with social services.
- 5.Senior Coaching or management staff must be aware that they may be required to give evidence to a social service case conference.
- 6.Allegations are fully examined and explained.
- 7.There exists a complaints procedure that Members have knowledge of and access to.

Doire Colmcille CLG Staff and Volunteers should never!:

- Spend excessive amounts of time alone with children/young people away from others.
- Take Children alone in a car on journeys however short.
- Take children to your home.
- When it is unavoidable that these things happen, they should occur only with the full knowledge and consent of someone in charge of the organisation and/or children's parents.
- Engage in rough physical games including horseplay- apart from structured sports activities.
- Allow or engage in inappropriate touching of any kind.
- Allow children to use inappropriate language unchallenged.
- Make sexually suggestive comments about or to a child, even in fun.
- Do things of a personal nature for children that they can do for themselves.
- Let allegations a child makes go unchallenged or unrecorded.

It may be necessary for members/volunteers to do things of a personal nature for children, particularly if they are young or disabled. These tasks should only be carried out with the full understanding and consent of parents. In an emergency situation that requires this type of help, parents should be fully informed, as soon as reasonably possible.

In such circumstances, it is important that all members and officers are sensitive to the child and undertake personal care tasks with utmost discretion.

