



Dublin Municipal Theatre Child Safeguarding Statement

Context and Scope

Our Child Safeguarding Statement is in accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017).

Dublin Municipal Theatre (DMT) is a civic theatre operating from the Smock Alley Theatre building premises on Exchange Street Lower, Dublin 8, comprising the Main Space, Boys School theatre and Banquet Hall. For the purposes of the Children First Act 2015, DMT is a provider of a relevant service by providing or hosting the following events in which children and young people may participate or attend:

- Theatre performances and promoted events
- Rehearsals and technical rehearsals involving child performers
- Workshops and participatory programmes for schools and youth theatres
- Festivals and co-produced work with external partners
- Venue hire to external organisations delivering activity for or involving children
- Online and digital engagement
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Relevant Person and Designated Liaison Person

For the purposes of the Children First Act 2015, the Relevant Person is the first point of contact in relation to the Child Safeguarding Statement. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is responsible for receiving safeguarding concerns, managing disclosures, and making reports to Tusla and/or An Garda Síochána where required.

Relevant Person	Oonagh Murphy — oonagh@smockalley.com
Designated Liaison Person	Osgar Dukes — osgar@smockalley.com
Deputy Designated Liaison Person	Jessie Doyle — jessie@smockalley.com

Statutory Reporting and Immediate Risk Contacts

Tusla Dublin South Central	01 491 3700 (office hours)
Tusla Out of Hours	01 819 8349
An Garda Síochána	999 / 112 or Bridewell Garda Station 01 666 8200
Tusla Online Reporting	www.tusla.ie/children-first

Assessment of Risk

DMT has carried out an assessment of the potential risk of harm to children while availing of its services. The following risks have been identified and procedures are in place to manage each:

Risk identified	Procedure in place
Unsupervised access to children backstage or in dressing rooms	Named supervising adult or chaperone required at all times; dressing room access controlled
One-to-one situations between an adult and a child	Closed-door meetings not permitted; observable spaces required; second adult must be aware and accessible
Physical characteristics of listed building (restricted sightlines, basement areas, interconnecting corridors)	Site-specific risk assessment maintained; children not permitted in technical or plant areas without supervision; site briefing given to children before technical rehearsals
Inappropriate physical contact	Code of behaviour for all adults; no unnecessary physical contact; no isolated situations
Inappropriate digital communication with children	All communication via official DMT channels only; personal social media contact with children prohibited
Filming or recording of children without consent	Written parental consent required before any filming or recording; backstage filming prohibited
Visiting companies or external hirers involving children without adequate safeguarding arrangements	Written declaration of safeguarding arrangements required before engagement; DMT may suspend activity where documentation is incomplete
Online bullying or exploitation	Online bullying treated as a safeguarding concern; any disclosure of online abuse reported to DLP immediately

Procedures in Place

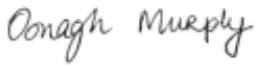
The following procedures are in place to safeguard children availing of DMT services:

- A Child Safeguarding Policy setting out DMT’s safeguarding commitments, roles, reporting procedures and theatre-specific safeguarding measures
 - A Designated Liaison Person and Deputy DLP trained to receive and manage safeguarding concerns
 - A procedure for reporting concerns to Tusla and An Garda Síochána
 - A procedure for responding to disclosures from children
 - A procedure for managing allegations against staff or contractors
 - A code of behaviour for all adults working under the auspices of DMT
 - Safe recruitment procedures including Garda vetting for relevant roles
 - A procedure for obtaining written parental consent for filming, recording and online sessions
 - A procedure for confirming the safeguarding arrangements of visiting companies and external hirers
 - A procedure for maintaining a list of Mandated Persons within DMT
 - A training requirement for all staff, DLPs and Mandated Persons
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The full Child Safeguarding Policy is available on request from the Relevant Person.

Commitment

Dublin Municipal Theatre CLG is committed to implementing the procedures set out in this statement and in its Child Safeguarding Policy, and to reviewing both documents at least every two years or sooner on material change.

Signed (Relevant Person)	
Name	Oonagh Murphy, CEO
Date	July 2026
Next review	July 2027

This statement is available to any person on request and is displayed on DMT premises.
