**BrokenCrow Child Safeguarding Statement –**

**Secondary Risk Assessment**

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| **Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment** | |
| Name of Company | BrokenCrow Theatre Company |
| Address of service | Clonlara, Lower Branch Road, Tramore, Co. Waterford |
| Location (List all locations where the service is provided) | Garter Lane Art’s Centre |
| Name of Person responsible for the Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment | Deirdre Dwyer |
| Names of those consulted with in completing the risk assessment, if applicable | George Hanover, Ronan FitzGibbon |
| Details of where the CSS will be displayed and how it will be furnished to all staff | On our website |
| Completed By: Deirdre Dwyer  Date: 16/10/25  Date for Review: 16/10/26  (This risk assessment should be reviewed on an ongoing basis, and updated as required) | |

**Risk Assessment**

It is the objective of the BrokenCrow to keep children safe from harm while availing of/attending BrokenCrow services. This risk assessment will focus on assessing the risk of harm to a child while availing of the service.

The legal definition of **harm** used for the purpose of this risk assessment is as follows:

“harm means in relation to a child –

1. assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health,

development or welfare, or

1. sexual abuse of the child,

whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances or otherwise.”

(Children First Act 2015, S.2 Definitions)

**Definition of a Child:**

The Child Care Act, 1991, and the Children Act 2001 define a child as anyone under the age of 18.

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| **Service Details** |
| **Description of the service provided:** |
| BrokenCrow are a Theatre Company who make theatre work for Children and Adults |

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| **List of activities provided:**  Provide a detailed list here of all of the activities that staff engage in when delivering this service. Where services are being provided to children and/or adults this should include activities like home visits, office visits, one-to-one contact, group work, overnight trips away, online and telephone contact, use of technology and applications, where applicable.  It is important to refer to this list of activities when considering each of the risks below. |
| Providing Theatre experiences, often as a show where children are in the audience. Occasionally in workshop settings where children are participants. |

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| **Describe the profile of your service users**:  Think about the adults and/or children who avail of your service. Consider any additional vulnerabilities or factors that might be relevant to child safeguarding, such as age of the child, or older children attending services unaccompanied. Other vulnerabilities or factors that can relate to both children and adults could be issues related to disability, mental health, domestic abuse, substance misuse, addiction, communication. Further information about circumstances that can make children more vulnerable to harm is available in Children First National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, pp11-12 |
| Members of the public. |

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| **Note the points of contact staff have with children**  It is also important to also think about contact with adults; particularly those who may be parents or carers and present with issues that may impact on children  Consider methods of service delivery – home visits, office visits, one to one sessions, group work, online contact, telephone contact, residential care. If you work with adults you may have contact with children on home visits, children may be visiting adults in your service, or accompanying adults who are attending appointments.  Consider shared spaces in your building – for example, reception and waiting areas. |
| In theatre’s and arts centres. |

**Summary of Identified Risks**

The list below sets out the overarching risks categories that are included in the BROKENCROWChild Safeguarding Statement template.

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| **Risk 1** | Risk of harm to a child by a staff member, volunteer or student, including risks related to online activities |
| **Risk 2** | Risk of harm to a child from a service user (adult or child), visitor or member of the public, including risks related to online activities |
| **Risk 3** | Risk of harm to a child due to a child protection or welfare concern not being recognised or reported by a staff member |
| **Risk 4** | Risk of harm to a child due to a child protection or welfare concern not being recognised or reported by a child |
| **Risk 5** | Risk of harm to a child due to not implementing the Children First Act 2015 and/or related guidance and policies in BrokenCrow |

The procedures that are required to be specified in the Child Safeguarding Statement under

Section 11(3) of the Children First Act 2015 are listed at the end of the document.

# **Risk One**

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| **Risk 1 - Risk or harm to a child by a staff member, volunteer or student, including risks related to online activities** | |
| **Risk Description** | There is a risk of harm to a child due to a staff member, volunteer or student physically, emotionally, or sexually abusing or neglecting a child, resulting in the child experiencing harm that seriously affects their health, development or welfare. |
| **What could happen?** | A child could be abused or neglected by a staff member, volunteer or student, while availing of services. This could happen through face to face contact with a child, or through the use of information technology. |
| **How could it happen?** | A staff member could   * arrange to meet with a child alone, within their working hours, for the purpose of abusing them * arrange to meet with a child, outside of working hours, for the purpose of abusing them * contact a child, by phone or through online platforms, for the purpose of grooming with the intent to abuse * abuse a child while providing intimate care as part of the service provision * neglect a child in their care, either wilfully or accidentally, resulting in that child being harmed * lose control and cause physical harm to a child. * inappropriately prescribe and/or administer medication in a manner that causes harm to a child (has a serious effect on their health development and welfare)   A child could be harmed though the unauthorised taking and/or use of digital imagery by a staff member– for example, photographs and videos being shared without consent, modified or misused out of context, a vulnerable child being identified for the purpose of grooming and abuse |
| **Why might it happen?** | This might happen because:   * a staff member deliberately engages in this behaviour * of inappropriate levels of supervision – for example child/adult ratios * of inappropriate levels of support or clinical supervision * of staff members not adhering to policy and procedures * staff members were not properly screened and Garda vetted, as appropriate |
| **What might the impact be?** | Harm to a child which seriously affects the child’s health, development or welfare |
| **Who, within the service and/or organisation, can and does influence this risk?** | All staff |
| **Controls** | * - BrokenCrow Recruitment policy * BrokenCrow Child Safe Guarding Statement |
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# **Risk Two**

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| **Risk 2 – Risk of harm to a child from a service user (adult or child), visitor or member of the public, including risks related to online activities** | |
| **Risk Description** | There is a risk of harm to a child due to another service user (adult or child), visitor or a member of the public, physically, emotionally, or sexually abusing or neglecting a child, resulting in the child experiencing harm that seriously affects their health, development or welfare. |
| **What could happen?** | A child could be abused or neglected by another service user, a visitor to BrokenCrow, or a member of the public, while availing of or attending BrokenCrow.    A child could be bullied, or discriminated against resulting in harm to the child. |
| **How could it happen?** | A child could be harmed by another service user, visitor or member of the public while availing of services  This could be:   * in a shared space or waiting area * while on outings as part of the service being provided * when availing of residential services/staying overnight * when attending clinical appointments unaccompanied by a parent or guardian * because the service is co-located with another service attended by persons who may pose a risk to children * because parents/guardians may not be aware that it is their responsibility to supervise their children at all times * through contact with another service user or member of the public in an online forum. * as a result of the unauthorised taking and/or use of digital imagery, for example, photographs and videos being taken and shared without consent, modified or misused out of context, a vulnerable child being identified for the purpose of grooming and abuse |
| **Why might it happen?** | This might happen because:   * a service user, visitor or member of the public wants to harm a child * there are inadequate levels of supervision * service users, visitors or members of the public can have diminished capacity * there is a lack of adequate security measures * staff do not recognise signs and symptoms of abuse |
| **What might the impact be?** | Harm to a child which seriously affects the child’s health, development or welfare |
| **Who, within the service and/or organisation, can and does influence this risk?** | BROKENCROW Senior Leadership Team |
| **Controls** | * Supervision/accompaniment/admission policies [as specified below] * Public Access policies/practices [as specified below] |
| **Controls** |
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# **Risk Three**

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| **Risk 3 – Risk of harm to a child due to a child protection or welfare concern not being recognised or reported by a staff member** | |
| **Risk Description** | There is a risk of harm to a child due to a child protection or welfare concern not being recognised or reported by a staff member, resulting in the child experiencing harm that seriously affects their health, development or welfare. |
| **What could happen?** | A child could remain at risk, or could continue to experience abuse or neglect. |
| **How could it happen?** | A staff member may not:   * recognise and/or report a disclosure of child abuse * recognise an admission or indication by an adult, or by a child, of abuse they have committed * recognise and/or report the signs and indicators of abuse or neglect * consider child safeguarding issues when working with adult service users * recognise and report a concern/risk to a child (identified or not) arising from an adult retrospective disclosure of child abuse * follow the HSE Child Protection and Welfare Policy by reporting concerns to Tusla - Child and Family Agency, when they have reasonable grounds for concern |
| **Why might it happen?** | Because a staff member:   * is not aware of their roles and responsibilities * does not adhere to Children First Guidance and the HSE Child Protection and Welfare Policy and reporting procedure * is not aware of the protections under law for people who report reasonably and in good faith * chooses not to report and knowingly fails to discharge their duty of care |
| **What might the impact be?** | Harm to a child which seriously affects the child’s health, development or welfare. |
| **Who, within the service and/or organisation, can and does influence this risk?** | BC Staff and managment |
| **Controls** | * BrokenCrow Child Safeguarding policy and Procedure |
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| **Any further action required?** |

# **Risk Four**

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| **Risk 4 – Risk of harm to a child due to a child protection or welfare concern not being recognised or reported by a child** | |
| **Risk Description** | There is a risk of harm to a child due to a child protection or welfare concern not being recognised or reported by a child, resulting in the child experiencing harm that seriously affects their health, development or welfare. |
| **What could happen?** | A child could remain at risk, or could continue to experience abuse or neglect. |
| **How could it happen?** | This could happen because:   * a child does not recognise what is happening to them as abuse or neglect * a child is not aware that they can speak to someone in the service about what is happening to them |
| **Why might it happen?** | * A child is not provided with information about their rights. * Relevant information is not presented in a child friendly way. * There is no mechanism for children to make a complaint. * Children might not have appropriate or safe opportunities to disclose/report abuse or neglect. |
| **What might the impact be?** | Harm to a child which seriously affects the child’s health, development or welfare |
| **Who, within the service and/or organisation, can and does influence this risk?** | All staff |
| **Controls** | * Child friendly information in relation to how to report if they feel unsafe * A safe and friendly environment |
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| **Any further action required?** |

# **Risk Five**

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| **Risk 5 – Risk of harm to a child due to not implementing the Children First**  **Act 2015 and/or related guidance and policies** | |
| **Risk Description** | There is a risk of harm to a child due to not implementing the Children First Act 2015 and/or related guidance and policies, resulting in a child experiencing harm that seriously affects their health, development or welfare. |
| **What could happen?** | A child could be at risk of abuse or neglect if child safeguarding measures are not in place in the service and/or staff are not implementing existing measures. |
| **How could it happen?** | This could happen if   * a service fails to undertake a Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment and develop a Child Safeguarding Statement * a service fails to implement the requirements of the HSE Child Protection and Welfare Policy * Children First Governance Structures are not implemented or are ineffective * a service does not ensure that all staff complete the mandatory training An Introduction to Children First * staff who are Mandated Persons are not aware of their legal responsibilities under the Children First Act 2015 |
| **Why might it happen?** | It might happen because the service   * may not be aware of their responsibilities under Children First * may not be aware of their obligations under the HSE Child Protection and Welfare Policy * may not have sufficient staffing capacity to implement Children First requirements. * does not check or monitor their compliance with their requirements under Children First |
| **What might the impact be?** | Harm to a child which seriously affects the child’s health, development or welfare. |
| **Who, within the service and/or organisation, can and does influence this risk?** | All staff |
| **Controls** | Children First governance and compliance monitoring measures in place for example:   * Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person [as noted below] * Procedure for Maintaining a list of Mandated Persons [as noted below] |
| Appointing a Relevant Person to be the first point of contact in relation to their service’s Child Safeguarding Statement.  For maintaining a List of Mandated Persons in their service. |
| **Any further action required?** |  |