

Lucena Clinic Services

Child Safeguarding Statement

Lucena Clinic Services have adopted the **HSE Child Protection and Welfare Policy 2016**. It is the policy of the Lucena Clinic Services to promote the safeguarding and welfare of children and to help protect them from physical, sexual and emotional harm and neglect as outlined in the **Children First, National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2011)**;

Lucena Clinic Services respect the confidential nature of information that children and families share with us. However there are exceptions and limits to this confidentiality. Indicators which suggest serious concern for the welfare of a child will be addressed in a fair and impartial manner and in accordance with the principles of the **HSE Child Protection and Welfare Policy 2016**.

When reports of concerns, or allegations of abuse and neglect, past or present, (including Adult reports of past abuse), are made to staff in the Clinic, these will be followed up and if reasonable grounds for concern are established, will be forwarded to the Tusla Child and Family Services for assessment and investigation.

Lucena Staff Recruitment:

All Lucena staff are appropriately recruited, selected, trained and supervised in accordance with their role and agency policy. This includes Garda clearance prior to their appointment. We also provide training to all staff in relation to our Child Protection and Welfare Policy.

The legislation and guidelines detailed below have been used to inform the Lucena Clinic Services Child Safeguarding policy:

The Child Care Act 1991; Freedom of Information Act 1997 & 2003; Protection for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998; The Child Care Act (2001); Children First, National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2011); Child Protection and Welfare Practice Handbook (2011): Child Protection and Welfare Policy HSE (2016).

