



Risk Assessments

Children First National Guidance 2017 (ROI) states that organisations that provide services to children must ensure that they prevent, as far as practicable, deliberate harm or abuse to the children while availing of their services.

What is a Risk Assessment?

An exercise where your organisation examines all aspects of your service from a safeguarding perspective and considers the potential harm to come to children in the organisations care and informing the development of policies and procedures and management of the risks of harm identified.

Who creates a Risk Assessment?

This responsibility rests with the provider of the relevant service. Organisations and clubs should identify who the provider of the relevant service is – e.g. the chairperson of the club/head of the National Governing Body.

Why do you need to develop a Risk Assessment?



Identify potential risk of harm



Develop policies and procedures to minimise risk



Review whether adequate precautions have been taken to eliminate/reduce these risks

What is the Importance of a Risk Assessment?

If your organisation is providing a relevant, service, you must...



Carry out a risk assessment



Keep children safe from harm while they are using your service



Appoint a relevant person to be the first point of contact



Develop a Child Safeguarding Statement

I have completed my Risk Assessment, now what?

1

Conduct your Child Safeguarding Statement

2

Put in place an implementation plan



Set out the tasks necessary to fully realise your child safeguarding procedures. This includes actions taken in the introduction, development and implementation of child safeguarding procedures.



Ensure that your child safeguarding procedures are regularly reviewed and updated through your risk assessment.



Ensure there is a continuous cycle of development, response to change, and review of policies, procedures and practices relevant to meeting the requirements of Children First.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Sport Ireland and Sport NI in consultation with the Children in Sport Group have designed a sport specific risk assessment template which is available to the National Governing Bodies of Sport, Local Sports Partnerships and other sporting organisations.



For more information, please see the Sport Ireland Safeguarding Guidance Document, page 22



Click here for: Risk Assessment Template