

CCI Child Safeguarding Statement (2022 – 2023)

1. Name of service being provided: Current Chemistry Investigators (CCI)

2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm (brief outline of what our service is, what we do and our commitment to safeguard children):

Current Chemistry Investigators (CCI) is run by the School of Chemistry at Trinity College Dublin (TCD) in partnership with the Faculty of Science at the Atlantic Technological University (ATU) Sligo with the aim of providing school students the opportunity to learn about chemistry using real-world contexts. Specially trained university staff and students (Ambassadors) from both institutions will deliver chemistry workshops in a school setting or on campus during school hours. From time to time these activities will also take place in a public outreach setting and outside of school hours. All project coordinators, staff and Ambassadors involved in running workshops or public demonstrations are required to be Garda Vetted and trained for Child Safeguarding through the Tusla Children First e-Learning programme.

3. Risk assessment:

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of workshops. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage risk
1. Contact between staff and students with young people in a school or college setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Teacher presence (or other agreed school staff member) is <u>required</u> to be present during the workshop at all times. ✓ Project Staff and Ambassadors must be Garda vetted. ✓ Project Staff and Ambassadors must attend training which details the relevant Child Protection Policies where available. ✓ The School of Chemistry at TCD and the Faculty of Science at ATU Sligo commits to not employ or use the services of any person who is barred from, or whose previous conduct or records indicate that he or she would not be suitable or who may otherwise present a risk to children or vulnerable adults
2. Communicating safeguarding policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ All project coordinators (or suitable representatives) are responsible for attending meetings where Child Protection is an agenda item. ✓ All project coordinators (or suitable representatives) have a duty to liaise with local Child Protection Officer's to ensure compliance with all requirements. ✓ All project Coordinators (or suitable representatives) commits to stay up to date on child protection guidelines as part of the delivery of workshops and communicate any updates to all project partners.
3. Contact between staff and students with young people in a public outreach setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In addition to the procedures outlined in part 1: All ambassadors are made aware of the need to ensure that a child or young person remain in the presence of a family member or in a public area with colleagues at all times.

4. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, we adhere to the Trinity College Dublin and Atlantic Technological University Sligo Child Protection Policies which include details on the following:

- Code of behavior for employees/students working, learning or volunteering with children.
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers, students and volunteers to work with children.
- Procedure for safe management practices and policies with regard to children.
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla and/or the HSE.
- Procedure for provision of and access to child protection training and information.
- Guidelines on how to respond to accidents involving children.

The **Trinity College Dublin Child Protection Policy** is available upon request or online here:
<https://www.tcd.ie/about/policies/assets/pdf/child-protection-policy-final.pdf>

The **Atlantic Technological University Sligo Child Protection Policy** is available upon request or online here:
<https://www.itsligo.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/ADM030-Child-Protection-Policy.pdf>

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed again on the 1st Jan 2024, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

For queries in relation to this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact:

Signed: _____	Signed: _____
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Relevant Persons under the Children First Act 2015 and regional project leads for the Current Chemistry Investigators Project.