

ML EDUCATION & INNOVATION

BEARTAS UM CHOSAINT LEANAÍ

2019

1. Policy Statement

1.1 Basis of the Policy

It is the policy of the ML EDUCATION & INNOVATION (MLEI) also publishing as ML Óg, to safeguard the welfare of children and young people by ensuring they are safe and protected from harm whilst engaging in work for us.

Children contribute to the ML Óg publications in a range of different ways and are always accompanied by a parent and/or guardian. While the primary responsibility for children's welfare rests with the supervising adult, MLEI intends to ensure young people are protected from harm at all times.

The welfare of every child who works with MLEI is paramount. Children have the right to be protected, treated with respect, listened to and have their views taken into consideration. All children should be able to participate in a safe environment protected from harm. This is the responsibility of staff, paid or voluntary, who come in contact with children on any premises associated with MLEI work. The highest possible standards of care will be provided, knowing all reasonable precautions to prevent harm occurring have been taken.

MLEI wishes to give consideration to both the rights of children and the rights of adults while seeking to protect both groups in their association and work with each other. Any previous convictions or cautions in relation to abuse or violence involving young people will impact on our employment decisions.

1.2 Who is the policy for?

The MLEI Child Protection Policy (the policy) procedures are derived from and consistent with the current *Children First: National Guidance (2011)* document and the Children First Act (2015). The policy is for all permanent, contract, and freelance staff, as well as anyone else contributing to the work of MLEI. All staff and employees are obliged to be familiar with the policy, and all have access to the full document.

All staff are subject to a Garda Vetting check, and all freelance Employees and volunteers must sign a declaration that they have never been convicted of a criminal offence or been the subject of a caution or a bound over order. Access to the policy is available on the ML Óg website www.ml-og.ie.

1.3 Aim and purpose of the policy

The policy states that anyone working with MLEI have a duty to report concerns over safety and welfare of children. Any suspicions or allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately. It sets guidelines and procedures for staff to follow if they have reasonable grounds for concern about the safety and welfare of children that they come into contact with.

The policy also sets clear guidelines and procedures on action to be taken if allegations of abuse are made against staff. MLEI is committed to ensure that all documentation in relation to record-keeping of child protection and welfare concerns is securely filed.

1.4 Policy review

The policy will be reviewed by the designated liaison person every two years or more frequently, if required.

2. Definitions of Abuse

2.1 Definitions of child abuse

Child abuse can be categorised into four different types: neglect, emotional abuse, physical abuse and sexual abuse.

2.1.1 Definition of 'neglect'

Neglect can be defined in terms of an omission, where the child suffers significant harm or impairment of development by being deprived of food, clothing, warmth, hygiene, intellectual stimulation, supervision and safety, attachment to and affection from adults, and/or medical care.

Harm can be defined as the ill-treatment or the impairment of the health or development of a child. Whether it is significant is determined by the child's health and development as compared to that which could reasonably be expected of a child of similar age.

Neglect generally becomes apparent in different ways over a period of time rather than at one specific point. For example, a child who suffers a series of minor injuries may not be having his or her needs met in terms of necessary supervision and safety. A child whose height or weight is significantly below average may be being deprived of adequate nutrition. A child who consistently misses school may be being deprived of intellectual stimulation.

The threshold of significant harm is reached when the child's needs are neglected to the extent that his or her well-being and/or development are severely affected.

2.1.2 Definition of 'emotional abuse'

Emotional abuse is normally to be found in the relationship between a parent/carer and a child rather than in a specific event or pattern of events. It occurs when a child's developmental need for affection, approval, consistency and security are not met. Unless other forms of abuse are present, it is rarely manifested in terms of physical signs or symptoms. Examples may include:

- (i) the imposition of negative attributes on a child, expressed by persistent criticism, sarcasm, hostility or blaming;
- (ii) conditional parenting in which the level of care shown to a child is made contingent on his or her behaviours or actions;
- (iii) emotional unavailability of the child's parent/carer;
- (iv) unresponsiveness of the parent/carer and/or inconsistent or inappropriate expectations of the child;
- (v) premature imposition of responsibility on the child;
- (vi) unrealistic or inappropriate expectations of the child's capacity to understand something or to behave and control himself or herself in a certain way;
- (vii) under- or over-protection of the child
- (viii) failure to show interest in, or provide age-appropriate opportunities for, the child's cognitive and emotional development;
- (ix) use of unreasonable or over-harsh disciplinary measures;
- (x) exposure to domestic violence;
- (xi) exposure to inappropriate or abusive material through new technology.

Emotional abuse can be manifested in terms of the child's behavioural, cognitive, affective or physical functioning. Examples of these include insecure attachment, unhappiness, low self-esteem, educational and developmental underachievement, and oppositional behaviour. The threshold of significant harm is reached when abusive interactions dominate and become typical of the relationship between the child and the parent/carer.

2.1.3 Definition of 'physical abuse'

Physical abuse of a child is that which results in actual or potential physical harm from an interaction, or lack of interaction, which is reasonably within the control of a parent or person in a position of responsibility, power or trust. There may be single or repeated incidents.

Physical abuse can involve:

- (i) severe physical punishment;
- (ii) beating, slapping, hitting or kicking;
- (iii) pushing, shaking or throwing;
- (iv) pinching, biting, choking or hair-pulling;
- (v) terrorising with threats;
- (vi) observing violence;
- (vii) use of excessive force in handling;
- (viii) deliberate poisoning;
- (ix) suffocation;
- (x) fabricated/induced illness;
- (xi) allowing or creating a substantial risk of significant harm to a child.

2.1.4 Definition of 'sexual abuse'

Sexual abuse occurs when a child is used by another person for his or her gratification or sexual arousal, or for that of others. Examples of child sexual abuse include:

- (i) exposure of the sexual organs or any sexual act intentionally performed in the presence of the child;
- (ii) intentional touching or molesting of the body of a child whether by a person or object for the purpose of sexual arousal or gratification;
- (iii) masturbation in the presence of the child or the involvement of the child in an act of masturbation;
- (iv) sexual intercourse with the child, whether oral, vaginal or anal;
- (v) sexual exploitation of a child, which includes inciting, encouraging, propositioning, requiring or permitting a child to solicit for, or to engage in, prostitution or other sexual acts. Sexual exploitation also occurs when a child is involved in the exhibition, modelling or posing for the purpose of sexual arousal, gratification or sexual act, including its recording (on film, video tape or other media) or the manipulation, for those purposes, of the image by computer or other means. It may also include showing sexually explicit material to children, which is often a feature of the 'grooming' process by perpetrators of abuse;
- (vi) consensual sexual activity involving an adult and an underage person. In relation to child sexual abuse, it should be noted that, for the purposes of the criminal law, the age of consent to sexual intercourse is 17 years for both boys and girls. An Garda Síochána will deal with the criminal aspects of the case under the relevant legislation.

It should be noted that the definition of child sexual abuse presented in this section is not a legal definition and is not intended to be a description of the criminal offence of sexual assault.

2.2 Signs and Symptoms of Abuse

The signs and symptoms of abuse may not always be visible to people working with children at MLEI. For further details on the signs and symptoms of child abuse, please see Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, Appendix 5.

3. Designated Liaison Person

3.1 The Designated Liaison Person responsible for dealing with child protection and welfare concerns for MLEI is:

Risteard Mac Liam
Contact: rmac@ml-og.ie

The Deputy Designated Liaison Person is:

Clare Rogers
Contact: crog@ml-og.ie

3.2 The Designated Liaison Person is responsible for ensuring that the standard reporting procedures, as detailed in this policy, are followed.

4. Code of Behaviour between Employees and Children

- 4.1** MLEI staff and all those contributing to MLEI work must act in accordance with the Child Protection Policy, behave respectfully towards children at all times and maintain the standards of behaviour that are expected of them.
- 4.2** MLEI is committed to treat all children equally in line with the Equal Status Acts 2000 – 2004. We believe that children should be listened to, valued and respected as individuals and should be involved in decision making, as appropriate.
- 4.3** For the protection of all concerned, MLEI staff and all those contributing to MLEI work:
- (i) Engage in rough, physical games including horseplay with children; Employees should be sensitive to the risks involved in such activities.
 - (ii) Allow or engage in inappropriate touching of any kind. While physical contact is a valid way of comforting, reassuring and showing concern for children, it should only take place when it is acceptable to all persons concerned. Touch should always be in response to the child's need and should always be appropriate to the age and stage of development of the child.
 - (iii) Be verbally abusive to a child, nor should they tell jokes of a sexual nature in the presence of children.
 - (iv) Physically restrain a child or young person unless the restraint is to: Prevent physical injury of the child/other children/visitors or staff/yourself; Prevent damage to valuable property; Prevent or stop a criminal offence. In all circumstances physical restraint must be appropriate and reasonable; otherwise the act of restraint could be defined as assault.
 - (v) Do things of a personal nature for children that they can do for themselves or that their parent/leader can do for them. Employees should be sensitive to the possibility of developing favouritism, or becoming over involved or spending a great deal of time with any one child.
- 4.4** It is recommended, except in emergency situations, that MLEI staff and all those contributing to MLEI work do not:
- (i) Travel alone with children or young people
 - (ii) Go into a toilet cubicle with children unless another adult is present or gives permission (this may include a parent, member of staff or group leader)
 - (iii) Spend time alone with a child on his/her own. If you find yourself in a situation where you are alone with a child, ensure that you can be clearly observed or seen by others.
- 4.5** MLEI activities involving children are subject to a maximum adult: child ratio of 1:15. MLEI staff and all those contributing to MLEI work must adhere to this ratio at all times.
- 4.6** Should any MLEI staff or anyone contributing to MLEI work have concerns about a colleague's behaviour with regards to a child, they must follow the procedures laid out in this policy for reporting their concerns.
- 4.7** Physical chastisement of children by a parent or accompanying adult will not be tolerated in by MLEI staff or anyone contributing to MLEI work.

5. Reporting Procedures

5.1.1 Recognising child protection or welfare concerns

Child neglect or abuse can often be difficult to identify and may present in many forms. No one indicator should be seen as conclusive in itself of abuse. It may indicate conditions other than child abuse. All signs and symptoms must be examined in the context of the child's situation and family circumstances.

5.1.2 What constitutes reasonable grounds for a child protection or welfare concern?

- (i) An injury or behaviour that is consistent both with abuse and an innocent explanation, but where there are corroborative indicators supporting the concern that it may be a case of abuse.
- (ii) Consistent indication over a period of time that a child is suffering from emotional or physical neglect.
- (iii) Admission or indication by someone of an alleged abuse.
- (iv) A specific indication from a child that he or she was abused.
- (v) An account from a person who saw the child being abused.
- (vi) Evidence (e.g. injury or behaviour) that is consistent with abuse and unlikely to have been caused in any other way.

5.1.3 Dealing with disclosures

If a child hints at or tells a worker that he or she is being abused, it must be handled very sensitively, and in the following way:

- Stay calm and listen – give the child time to say what she or he wants
- Don't ask leading questions or details, or make suggestions
- Don't stop the child recalling significant events, but don't make him or her repeat the story unnecessarily
- Reassure the child, but don't promise to keep it a secret
- Explain what needs to be done next
- Record the discussion as carefully as possible

5.2 Procedures for reporting a case of suspected or alleged child abuse

If you identify a child at risk of harm you must act. Any member of staff who:

- Suspects a child has been or is at risk of being abused, or
- Has had a disclosure made to them, or
- Receives a complaint from a member of the public relating to child protection issues in MLEI, or
- Has a direct allegation made against them must report the matter to the designated Liaison Person/Deputy or the most senior person on site at the time of the incident.

5.2.1 Reporting Procedure

The following procedure should be followed:

You should contact the designated liaison person, who should make a referral to the Child and Family Agency's Social Work Service by using the Standard Report Form (Appendix 6). If you believe the concern is urgent and that there is imminent risk to a child, make the report by telephone and then follow it up with the completed form.

5.2.2 Consulting with Duty Social Worker in the HSE

Before deciding whether or not to make a formal report, you may wish to discuss your concerns with a health professional or directly with the Child and Family Agency (see HSE Duty Social Work contacts in Appendix 7).

5.2.3 Emergencies

Under no circumstances should a child be left in a situation that exposes him or her to harm or to risk of harm pending HSE intervention. In the event of an emergency where you think a child is in immediate danger and you cannot get in contact with the HSE, you should contact the Gardaí. This may be done through any Garda station.

5.3 Informing parents/carers

Any professional who suspects child abuse or neglect should inform the parents/carers if a report is to be submitted to the Child and Family Agency or to An Garda Síochána, unless doing so is likely to endanger the child.

5.4 Reporting without delays

Reports must be made without delay to the HSE Children and Families Services. It is important to establish the grounds for concern by obtaining as much information as possible.

Observations should be accurately recorded and should include dates, times, names, locations, context and any other information that may be relevant. Care should be taken as to how such information is stored and to whom it is made available.

5.4.1 Potential risks to children

A concern about a potential risk to children posed by a specific person, even if the children are unidentifiable, should also be communicated to the Child and Family Agency.

5.5 Consequences of Failure to Report

Section 176 of the Criminal Justice Act 2006 introduced the criminal charge of reckless endangerment of children. It states: 'A person, having authority or control over a child or abuser, who intentionally or recklessly endangers a child by –

- (a) causing or permitting any child to be placed or left in a situation which creates a substantial risk to the child of being a victim of serious harm or sexual abuse, or
- (b) failing to take reasonable steps to protect a child from such a risk while knowing that the child is in such a situation, is guilty of an offence.'

The penalty for a person found guilty of this offence is a fine (no upper limit) and/or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years.

5.6 Legal Protection

The Protections for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998 makes provision for the protection from civil liability of persons who have communicated child abuse 'reasonably and in good faith' to designated officers of the HSE or to any member of An Garda Síochána. This protection applies to organisations as well as to individuals. This means that even if a communicated suspicion of child abuse proves unfounded, a plaintiff who took an action would have to prove that the person who communicated the concern had not acted reasonably and in good faith in making the report.

5.7 Recording concerns that may not initially need to be reported to the HSE

A suspicion, which is not supported by any objective indication of abuse or neglect, would not constitute a reasonable suspicion or reasonable grounds for concern.

However, these suspicions should be recorded or noted internally at any premises used by MLEI and kept by the designated liaison person as future suspicions may lead to the decision to make a report and earlier suspicions may provide important information for the statutory child protection agency or An Garda Síochána.

If the designated liaison person, on behalf of MLEI, decides that reasonable grounds for reporting the incident or suspicion to the health board or An Garda Síochána do not exist, the individual worker who referred the matter should be given a clear written statement of the reasons why MLEI is not taking action.

Staff are advised that, if they remain concerned about the situation, they are free to consult with, or report to, the health board or An Garda Síochána themselves. The provisions of the Protections for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act, 1998 apply once they report "reasonably and in good faith".

5.8 Processes to deal with and report retrospective disclosures of child abuse by adults

If a disclosure is made to a staff member by an adult who suffered abuse as a child, it is essential to establish whether there is any current risk to any child who may be in contact with the alleged abuser revealed in such disclosures.

If any risk is deemed to exist to a child who may be in contact with an alleged abuser, the staff member should report the allegation to the Child and Family Agency without delay.

The HSE National Counselling Service is in place to listen to, value and understand those who have been abused in childhood. The service is available free of charge on Freephone: 1800 670 700.

5.9 Third Party Concerns

Concerns about a child that are reported anonymously should be followed up fully in accordance with HSE standard procedures. If the report has been made through a third party, the person mediating should be requested to facilitate contact between the original person who reported the concern and the Child and Family Agency. If, however, contact is not facilitated, for whatever reason, the concerns reported via the third party must be fully investigated.

6. Complaints Procedure for Employees / Parents / Children

If a member of staff, a parent or child has any complaints with how MLEI's Child Protection Policy is being implemented or if it is perceived that the Code of Practice has been breached by a member of staff, a complaint can be made, preferably in writing, to one of the MLEI's designated liaison persons.

In the case of a complaint by a child, this can be done orally to any member of staff who will then contact the designated liaison person in writing regarding the particulars of the complaint.

The complaint will be handled by the designated liaison person who will consult with HR and/or the HSE as necessary. The complaint will be dealt with promptly and sensitively and complainants will be kept informed at all stages of the process.

Appropriate training will be provided for all MLEI personnel in the correct handling of complaints and in our agreed policies and procedures.

7. Accidents / Incidents Procedure

7.1 The emergency numbers 999 and 112 are to be used in the event of an emergency.

7.2 Children are not permitted to engage in work with MLEI unless accompanied by an adult. Parents are not permitted to leave a child unattended at a workshop or recording studio without leaving a contact phone number. If a child leaves a workshop unannounced, the tutor should alert the security team and call the parent immediately.

8. Confidentiality

8.1 MLEI understands that the effective protection of a child depends on the willingness of the staff in statutory and voluntary organisations involved with children to share and exchange relevant information. Therefore, where child protection and welfare concerns arise, all information must be shared on a 'need to know' basis in the best interest of the child.

8.2 No MLEI staff member can give any undertakings regarding secrecy and this should be made clear to all involved, although they can be assured that all information will be handled taking full

account of legal requirements. Sharing information with statutory agencies for the protection of a child does not constitute a breach of confidentiality or data protection.

8.3 MLEI recognises that parents and children have a right to know if personal information is being shared, unless doing so could put the child involved at further risk.

8.4 MLEI is committed to attending and sharing information, as required, at formal child protection and welfare meetings as organised by the Child and Family Agency.

9. Recruitment

MLEI adopt the Public Appointments Service principles of fairness, transparency and parity when recruiting all candidates, employees, interns, volunteers and freelancers ('persons').

In all cases where those contributing to MLEI work come into contact with children, each 'person' will be requested to provide MLEI with proof of identity (copy of passport. The 'person' must complete and sign a contract of employment (or related services agreement) along with relevant commencement forms which include a Garda Vetting Form. Each person must also confirm their compliance with MLEI Child Protection Policy.

Garda Vetting is conducted by the person contributing to MLEI work.

All MLEI staff and those contributing to MLEI work will participate in recognised and appropriate Child Protection Training where necessary.

10. Safe Management of Employees

MLEI ensures there is sufficient supervision and support available for all.

11. Procedure for Allegations of Abuse Against Employees

In the event of allegations being made against an employee, or if a staff member suspects another member of staff of inappropriate behaviour towards or abuse of a child, the protection of the child/young person is the first and paramount consideration. The first priority is to ensure that no child is exposed to unnecessary risk. MLEI should as a matter of urgency take any necessary protective measures (Appendix 11). The measures should be proportionate to the level of risk and should not unreasonably penalise the staff member, financially or otherwise, unless necessary to protect children. Where protective measures penalise the staff member, it is important that early consideration be given to the case.

Where there is a complaint of abuse against a member of staff, procedures will take on two strands.

The reporting of the child abuse will be the same as Section 5 above (staff member → Designated Liaison Person → Child and Family Agency). However, there will also be an investigation into the alleged abuse.

There may be three investigations:

- an internal investigation
- an investigation by the Child and Family Agency investigation
- and possibly a criminal investigation by the Gardaí.

Appendices

Appendix 1: A written description outlining the nature and type of our service

MLEI is a children's book publisher. At all times has the best interests of children are central to the work of MLEI.

Appendix 2: Reference to key legislation in relation to child protection and welfare

Practitioners should always check relevant legislation, case law, regulations and standards, and consider the legal context of the case at <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie>

CHILD CARE ACT 1991

This Act provides the statutory basis for the HSE's responsibilities to promote the welfare of children.

CHILDREN ACT 2001

The Children Act 2001 provides a framework for the juvenile justice system and also provides protection for children against persons who have the custody, charge or care of them.

CHILD CARE (AMENDMENT) ACT 2011

The Child Care Amendment Act 2011 was passed at the end of July 2011. It gives the High Court statutory authority to deal with applications to detain children in Special Care. It sets out a comprehensive framework for those applications, as well as detailing the interaction of Special Care Orders with Criminal Courts dealing with children's cases. In particular, it sets out that the HSE is not prevented from applying for a Special Care Order where a child is charged with a criminal offence.

CHILDREN FIRST ACT 2015

The Children First Act was passed in November 2015. The purpose of the act is to make "further and better provision for the care and protection of children and for those purposes to require the preparation, by certain providers of services to children, of child safeguarding statements; to require certain persons to make reports to the Child and Family agency in respect of certain circumstances".

Appendix 3: Reference to the Protections for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act, 1998

The main provisions of this Act are:

- The provision of immunity from civil liability to any person who reports child abuse 'reasonably and in good faith'.
- The provision of significant protections for employees who report child abuse.
- The creation of a new offence of false reporting of child abuse when a person makes a report of child abuse to the appropriate authorities 'knowing that statement to be false'. This is a new criminal offence designed to protect innocent people from malicious reports.

Note: Persons reporting abuse in good faith and in the child's best interests may also be protected under common law, using 'qualified privilege'. (Children First, 2009) 16

Appendix 4: Best practice principles in relation to child protection and welfare

Principles, Aims and Use of '*Children First: National Guidance*'

Key principles of best practice in child protection and welfare

The key principles that should inform best practice in child protection and welfare are:

- (i) The welfare of children is of paramount importance.
- (ii) Early intervention and support should be available to promote the welfare of children and families, particularly where they are vulnerable or at risk of not receiving adequate care or protection. Family support should form the basis of early intervention and preventative interventions.
- (iii) A proper balance must be struck between protecting children and respecting the rights and needs of parents/carers and families. Where there is conflict, the child's welfare must come first.
- (iv) Children have a right to be heard, listened to and taken seriously. Taking account of their age and understanding, they should be consulted and involved in all matters and decisions that may affect their lives. Where there are concerns about a child's welfare, there should be opportunities provided for their views to be heard independently of their parents/carers.
- (v) Parents/carers have a right to respect and should be consulted and involved in matters that concern their family.
- (vi) Factors such as the child's family circumstances, gender, age, stage of development, religion, culture and race should be considered when taking protective action. Intervention should not deal with the child in isolation; the child's circumstances must be understood within a family context.
- (vii) The criminal dimension of any action must not be ignored.
- (viii) Children should only be separated from parents/carers when alternative means of protecting them have been exhausted. Re-union should be considered in the context of planning for the child's future.
- (ix) The prevention, detection and treatment of child abuse or neglect requires a coordinated multidisciplinary approach, effective management, clarity of responsibility and training of personnel in organisations working with children.
- (x) Professionals and agencies working with adults who for a range of reasons may have serious difficulties meeting their children's basic needs for safety and security should always consider the impact of their adult client/patient's behaviour on a child and act in the child's best interests.

Appendix 5: Signs and symptoms of child abuse

For further details on the signs and symptoms of child abuse, please see *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children* (2011), Appendix 1.

http://www.dcy.gov.ie/documents/child_welfare_protection/ChildrenFirst.pdf

Appendix 6: Copy of the Standard Report Form (SRF)

FORM NUMBER: CC01:01:00

STANDARD REPORT FORM

(For reporting CP&W Concerns to HSE)



A. To Principal Social Worker/Designate: _____

1. Date of Report _____

2. Details of Child

Name:		Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female	<input type="checkbox"/>
Address:		DOB		Age	
Alias		School			
		Correspondence address (if different)			

3. Details of Persons Reporting Concern(s)

Name:		Telephone No.	
Address:		Occupation:	
		Relationship to client:	
Reporter wishes to remain anonymous	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reporter discussed with parents/guardians	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Parents Aware of Report

Are the child's parents/carers aware that this concern is being reported to the HSE? Yes No

5. Details of Report

(Details of concern(s), allegation(s) or incident(s) dates, times, who was present, description of any observed injuries, parent's view(s), child's view(s) if known.)

FORM NUMBER: CC01:01:00

STANDARD REPORT FORM

(For reporting CP&W Concerns to HSE)



Fóidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

6. Relationships

Details of Mother		Details of Father	
Name:		Name:	
Address: (if different to child)		Address: (if different to child)	
Telephone Nos.		Telephone Nos.	

7. Household composition

Name	Relationship	DOB	Additional information, e.g. school/occupation/other

8. Name and Address of other personnel or agencies involved with this child:

	Name	Address
Social Worker		
PHN		
GP		
Hospital		
School		
Gardaí		
Pre-School/Crèche/YG		
Other (<i>specify</i>):		

9. Details of person(s) allegedly causing concern in relation to the child

Relationship to child:		Age		Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name:		Occupation:					
Address:							

10. Details of person completing form

Name:		Occupation:	
Signed		Date:	

Appendix 7: Meath Dedicated Contact Points

Address	Child and Family Agency, Meath Enterprise Centre, Trim Road, Navan, Co Meath
Phone	046 9098560

Appendix 8: Local Garda Telephone Numbers

Kells Garda Station,
Fairgreen, Kells, Co. Meath
Tel: +353 46 9280827
W: <http://www.garda.ie>
Opening Hours: 24 hours

Dublin Metropolitan Region Headquarters
Harcourt Square Dublin 2 Co. Dublin
Tel: +353 1 666 6666 A
W: <http://www.garda.ie>
Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 9.00-5.00

Appendix 9: National Counselling Service Number

The HSE National Counselling Service is in place to listen to, value and understand those who have been abused in childhood. The service is available free of charge on Freephone: 1800 477 477.