



Safeguarding Specifics COSAIN CARD

Scouting Ireland recognises that the **welfare** and interests of youth members is **paramount in all circumstances**. It aims to ensure that regardless of gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, race and membership of the traveller community, **ALL** youth members have a positive and enjoyable experience of Scouting in a safe and child centred environment and are protected from any form of abuse while taking part in Scouting activities.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Scouters **MUST** ensure at all times they:

- Know Scouting Ireland's Child Safeguarding Statement
- **DO** Act as a role model. Ensure you are capable of fulfilling leadership responsibilities to provide a safe secure environment for youth members in your care. Keep your good name.
- **DO** Lead by example.
- **DO** Adhere to Scouting Ireland's Policy and Procedures and do not permit loyalty to individuals or groups to supersede Safeguarding principles.
- **DO** Ensure the welfare of all concerned.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- **DO** Ensure your Scout Group has put in place a Code of Conduct for Programme Sections with youth members & parents/guardians of Sections.
 - **DO** Remember that someone may misinterpret your actions
 - **DO** Be aware of what is appropriate physical contact
 - **DO** Ensure Youth members are supervised appropriately and should form part of the planning/risk assessment
- REMEMBER RATIOS**
- **DO** Ensure your Vetting/Access NI And Safeguarding training is in date

Reg. No. 397094, Charity No. CHY3507, Reg. Office - National Office, Larch Hill, Dublin 16.

Scouting Ireland Services is a company limited by guarantee.

RELATIONSHIPS

Scouters **MUST** ensure that the safeguarding of children is the paramount consideration in all interactions.

- **DO** create an environment where youth members can talk freely
- **DO NOT** seek to control and/or create dependence
- **DO NOT** tolerate favouritism.
- **DO NOT** engage in, or tolerate, any form of exclusion
- **DO NOT** administer harsh disciplinary regimes
- **DO NOT** engage with friendships or sexual relationships with youth members

RELATIONSHIPS

- **DO NOT** engage with Scouts outside of Scouting activities
- **DO NOT** have direct contact with youth members on line. All communications should be with parents/guardians knowledge.
- **Plan-Do-Review** for 17year olds turning 18 & roles/responsibility

Funding Partners:



An Roinn Léaraí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Education, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth



An Roinn Forbartha Tuairle agus Pobail
Department of Rural and Community Development



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs



SCOUTING AND ALCOHOL

- A risk assessment should be carried out relevant to the size and nature of the Scouting event
- Under 18s must not drink alcohol under any circumstances.
- A code of conduct should be agreed before events where alcohol is present
- Always ensure correct ratio of adults responsible for youth members
- If you are responsible for youth members you must not drink
- The code of conduct still applies if you are not directly responsible for youth members "off duty", and you do drink alcohol
- Youth Members **MUST** know who is responsible for them at all times
- Ensure a designated driver is available

WHEN TO ACT

Scouters **MUST** report all allegations or suspicions of abuse, no matter how insignificant they seem or where or when they occurred. Talk to the Safeguarding team if you are unsure.

- **DO RECOGNISE** Listen to youth members when they disclose information - **DO NOT** promise to keep secrets or trivialise abuse
- **DO RESPOND** But do not investigate or question
- **DO RECORD** Dates, Times, Names of those involved, words used.
- **DO REPORT** 1. Contact the statutory agency if the youth member is at immediate danger and 2. Contact the Safeguarding Team as soon as practical
- **DO NOT** Disclose Safeguarding concerns to anyone who does not need-to-know, including other Scouters.

ENSURE CONFIDENTIALITY



Anyone can report a concern about a member of Scouting Ireland to the Safeguarding Team. Scouting Ireland's Relevant Person (Steven Maclean) at Scouting Ireland's National Office:



00353 (0) 1 4998014
safeguarding@scouts.ie