

Declaration of Guiding Principles

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In the course of our work, Tearfund Ireland from time to time engages with children and young people in the following activities; a transition year work experience programme; Development Education activities in churches, youth groups and schools, or when traveling overseas to visit Tearfund partners.

Our organisation believes that the best interests of children and young people involved in any of these activities are paramount. We believe that all children have the right to be protected, treated with respect, listened to and to have their views taken into consideration in all decisions affecting them. Our guiding principles are underpinned by *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children*, Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and current legislation such as the *Children First Act 2015*, *Child Care Act 1991*, *Protections for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998* and the *National Vetting Bureau Act 2012*.

Our guiding principles apply to all paid staff, volunteers, committee/board members and students on work placement within our organisation. All of whom must sign up to and abide by these guiding principles and our child safeguarding procedures.

We will review our guiding principles and child safeguarding procedures every two years or sooner if necessary due to service issues or changes in legislation or national policy.

Our Designated Liaison Person is Sean Copeland

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Our Deputy Designated Liaison Person is Emma Lynch

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List of mandated persons:

Sean Copeland Contact details as above