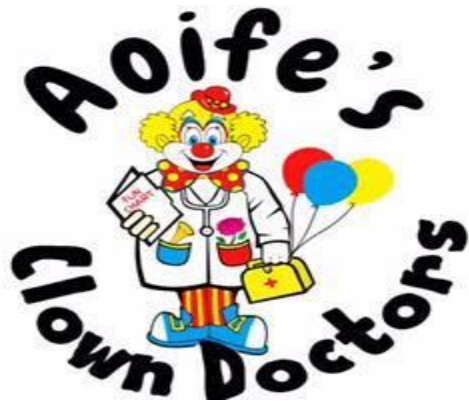# Aoife's Clown Doctors Ireland

Children First Child Safeguarding Risk Register of

Aoife's Clown Doctors Ireland

Date of adoption by Aoife's Clown Doctors Ireland: March, 2018

Aoife's Clown Doctors

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Aoife's Clown Doctors

OVERVIEW

Introduction

A risk management system is defined according to the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies, 2009 as:

"An effective risk management system identifies and assesses risk, decides on appropriate responses and then provides assurances that the chosen responses are effective"

As of the 11th of December 2017 the Children First Act 2015 was fully implemented by the Minister for Children and Youth affairs. Under the Children First act 2015, Crosscare are providing a relevant service and is obliged to undertake a risk assessment. This considers the potential harm to Children while they are in our care.

Section 11(1)(a) of the Children First Act 2015 defines risk as ''any potential for harm to a child while availing of the service''. Section 2 of the Act defines harm as follows:

''harm means in relation to a child -
   (a) Assault, ill-treatment or neglect of a child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child's health, development or welfare, or

   (b) Sexual abuse of the child, whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstances or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances or otherwise.''

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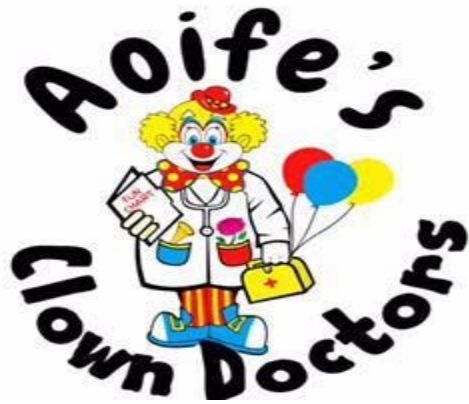The risk assessment process is intended to enable an organisation to:

- Identify potential risks/harm
- Develop policies and procedures to minimise risk by responding in a timely manner to potential risks
- Review whether adequate precautions have been taken to eliminate or reduce these risks.

Aoifes Clown Doctors Ireland recognises that an effective risk management framework is a key element of effective governance and internal control within organisations in the voluntary and community sector. Indeed, the need for formal risk management processes have been formalised through best practice codes such as the 'Code of Practice for Good Governance of Community, Voluntary and Charitable Organisations in Ireland' and the 'Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies'.

This risk management framework provides management, volunteers, staff, funders, young people and parents and other stakeholders with assurances that the organisational risks are identified and appropriately managed on an ongoing basis.

Risk Identification

Risks are identified within the different areas of the organisations operations; risk identification is delegated to the appropriate persons within these areas.

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Risk Assessment

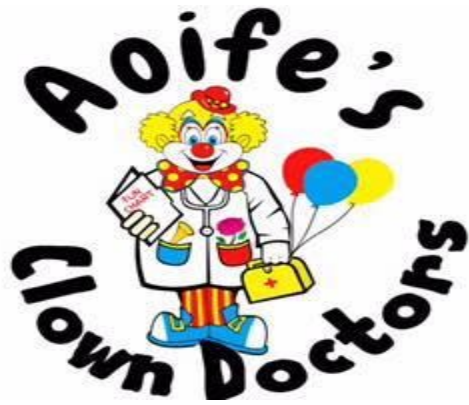**Risk is measured in terms of:**

- Likelihood or probability
- Consequences or impact

Probability / Likelihood of Occurrence

- What is the chance that this risk is going to happen
- Measured on a scale from low to high

Consequences / Impact of Occurrence

- If it does occur, what will be the likely impact on the organisation?
- Measured on a scale from low to high

Aoife's Clown Doctors

Ranking of Risk - "Traffic Lights"

Co nse que nce / Imp act

High | Yellow | Red | Red
Medium | Yellow | Yellow | Red
Low | Green | Green | Red

Low — Medium — High

Probability / Likelihood

Consequence / Impact Scoring

Low
Medium
High

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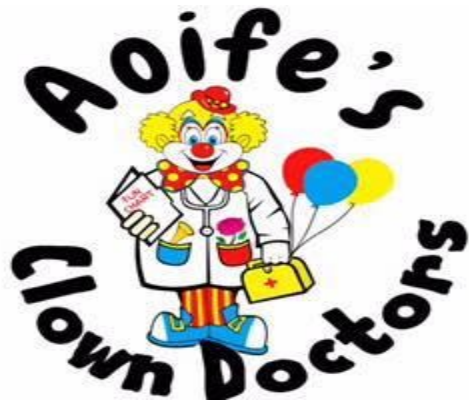*Likelihood / Probability Scoring*

Low
Medium
High

Treatment of Risk

Risks are treated according to the three T's as follows:

Tolerate – accept the risk (*Risks that are low and require no further action*)

Treat – controls to address problems (*Manage and contain the risk to an acceptable level*)

- Reduce – likelihood of occurrence
- Reduce – consequences of occurrence

Terminate – withdraw from activity (where the only appropriate way of managing the risk is to terminate it)

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Risk Register

Introduction

The Risk Register is the primary tool used to support the risk management process. It is used to record risks, to identify current controls, to allocate ownership of the risk and controls to the best placed individual and to identify future actions for the management of risks.

The Risk Register captures the following:

- Risk Description
- Procedures in Place
- Risk Rating
- Immediate / Future Action
- Risk Owner

Review

The Risk Management Process and the Risk Register are subject to at least an annual review by the Directors of Aoifes Clown Doctors Ireland.

Aoife's Clown Doctors

Risk Description	Procedures in Place	Risk Rating	Risk Owner	Immediate / Future Action
Risk of harm to a child from a clown doctor.	Pre-employment checks – vetting for all clown doctors by each participating hospital and by Aoifes Clown Doctors Ireland. Online Children First training for all clown doctors. Code of Conduct for clown doctors. Clown doctors always work in pairs. Local procedures in each hospital for management of allegations against a staff member, in line with Trust in Care Policy requirements.	Low	Board of Directors	Review Garda Vetting Policy and Procedures. Review Recruitment and Selection Policy and Procedures. Collaborate with participating hospitals regarding their individual child protection policies and protocols. Review list of all designated mandated persons for each participating hospital/service

Aoife's Clown Doctors

Risk Description	Procedures in Place	Risk Rating	Risk Owner	Immediate / Future Action
Non reporting of concerns due to risk of harm not being recognised by the clown doctors	Induction for all clown doctors. Child protection training for all clown doctors Circulation of Safeguarding Statement to all clown doctors and directors.	Medium	Board of Directors and Clown Doctors	Review Safeguarding Statement and Risk Register every two years. Ongoing Child Protection training for new and current clown doctors and directors .
Appropriate management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against clown doctors, volunteers or directors.	Child protection training for directors Collaborate with the hospital /service where the allegation of misconduct took place Clearly defined CP and HR policies and procedures that include the role and responsibilities of the directors.	Medium	Management	Regular review of policy and procedures, Ongoing training in HR and CP.

Aoife's Clown Doctors

In undertaking this risk assessment, Aoife's Clown Doctors has endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to working with young people and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified. While it is not possible to foresee and remove all risk of harm, Aoife's Clown Doctors has in place the procedures listed in the risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.