

Child Protection Policy

Nenagh Leisure Centre

Dublin Rd.

Nenagh

Co. Tipperary

Tel: 067-31788

Email: NenaghLeisureCentre@tipperarycoco.ie



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

Nenagh Leisure Centre Policy Statement for the Protection of Children & Vulnerable Adults

Nenagh Leisure Centre will ensure that best practice is followed by all staff.

We shall work closely with Tipperary County Council.

In order to promote best practice in all activities within Nenagh Leisure Centre, we shall comply with the guidelines of the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport.

Nenagh Leisure Centre strives to provide the safest possible leisure environment for all users and recognises the particular importance of the safety and good practice of their children's activities and swimming lessons.

Good Practice means:

- Always working in an open environment (eg. Avoiding private or unobserved situations and encouraging an open environment, i.e. no secrets)
- Treating all children and vulnerable adults equally, with respect and dignity
- Always putting their welfare first before winning or achieving goals
- Maintaining a safe and appropriate distance with children or vulnerable adults
- Building balanced relationships based on mutual trust, which empowers them to share in decision making
- Making activities fun, enjoyable and promoting fair play
- Proper supervision of children and vulnerable adults within the Centre and with satisfactory ratio of supervision
- Use of proper recommended equipment, that will be used safely in an appropriate
- A clearly defined area for activities
- A First-Aid kit and First-Aider always on duty. Accident / Incident report forms completed for every incident. All Accidents will be reported to parents (or nominated person) for the child to be collected. Accident / Incident reports will be forwarded to Tipperary County Council.
- Ensuring that if support is required, the child / vulnerable adult is spoken to clearly, explaining what you are going to do and why. Any necessary contact should be in response to the needs of the child / vulnerable adult and should be in an open environment with the understanding and permission of the person where possible.
- Staff should never do something for a child / vulnerable adult that they can do themselves
- Child / vulnerable adult should always be consulted and their agreement obtained before manual support is given
- Parental / Carer views about manual support should always be considered and their involvement encouraged
- Parents / Carers should be given whatever practical help they require and directed to the appropriate changing facilities
- Staff must never be alone and must work in pairs when dealing with a child / vulnerable adult
- Staff will strive to be excellent role models- by not smoking, drinking alcohol, using foul language or taking drugs in the company of a child / vulnerable adult
- Enthusiastic and constructive feedback and encouragement will always be given but never negative criticism
- The development needs of the child / vulnerable adult (including those with special needs or disabilities) will be catered for and excessive training or pushing to competition will be avoided

Practices that are never sanctioned by Nenagh Leisure Centre staff:

- Engaging in rough, physical or sexually provocative games or horseplay
- Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate touching
- Allow child / vulnerable adult to use foul, sexualised or discriminatory language to go unchallenged
- Make sexually suggestive comments to a child / vulnerable adult, even in fun
- Reduce child / vulnerable adult to tears as a form of control
- Allow allegations made by a child / vulnerable adult to go unrecorded and not acted upon
- To undertake personal care of a child / vulnerable adult. The personal care of a child / vulnerable adult is always the responsibility of a Carer / Guardian

Staff Responsibilities

- To treat a child / vulnerable adult fairly and recognise that each is an individual
- To provide a challenging, relevant appropriate and fun experience at Nenagh Leisure Centre
- To be clear about the rules and the use of sanctions consistently

Behaviour Policy

- Nenagh Leisure Centre endeavours to control, monitor, and manage behaviour in order to ensure the smooth running and enjoyment of all child / vulnerable adult activities and lessons.

Expected behaviour from child / vulnerable adult

- Show respect other children / vulnerable adults during activities and lessons, treating them as they wish to be treated themselves
- Swearing, abusive and harmful language is not acceptable
- Aggressive behaviour or violence will not be tolerated
- Show respect for all personal property and the facilities
- Show respect to all staff
- Listen and follow instructions from the staff
- One child's / vulnerable adult's behaviour will not be allowed to endanger other children / vulnerable adults in the group by absorbing or distracting the supervising staff

Parent / Guardian / Carer Responsibilities

- To inform us of any potential behavioural issues and medical conditions
- Parents / Guardians/ Carers will be aware of the expected behaviour of their child / vulnerable adult while attending activities in Nenagh Leisure Centre
- We expect parental / guardian / carer support of action by the staff to encourage good behaviour

Behaviour management procedure

- Initially the teacher or activity provider will try to deal with the situation
- If unsuccessful the Leisure Centre Supervisor will try to deal with the situation and remove the child / vulnerable adult from the activity for a period of time with the aid of a witness and then returned to the activity
- If the unacceptable behaviour does not cease the parent / guardian / carer will be involved and requested to remove the child / vulnerable adult
- If the unacceptable persists on a further occasion the child / vulnerable adult will be suspended from all activities after consultation with Management

Garda Vetting

All staff at Nenagh Leisure Centre, are vetted in accordance with the National Vetting Bureau (Children & Vulnerable Persons), Act 2012
The National Vetting Bureau – Liaison Person for Tipperary County Council is Marie O’Gorman

Nominated Child Officer Nenagh Leisure Centre

Tom Mackey (Manager)
Deputies Breda Barry, Corla Taplin

Designated Liaison Person Tipperary County Council

Padraig Ryan TCC Social Worker