



# Safeguarding Children, Young People & Vulnerable Adults Policy Statement

**The Gaelic Athletic Association is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all young people who wish to participate in our Gaelic Games and activities. We shall take all practicable steps to protect them from discernable forms of abuse, from harm, discrimination or degrading treatment and shall respect their rights, wishes and feelings.**

## **We do this by;**

- Recognising that all children, young people & vulnerable adults have the right to be protected from harm.
- Ensuring that all our coaches and volunteers are carefully recruited and selected and that they accept responsibility for ensuring the wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults in their care.
- Responding swiftly and appropriately to protect the welfare of children and young people who participate in our games and related activities.
- Providing parents, children, young people & vulnerable adults with the opportunity to voice any concerns they may have.
- Appointing Children's Officers in each of our Clubs and at County Board level.
- Appointing a National Children's Officer to oversee the implementation of good child protection and welfare practices within the Association.
- Appointing a Designated Person in each Club and County who will liaise with the statutory authorities as appropriate.
- Appointing a National Designated Person to assist in the processing of child protection and welfare matters.

- Ensuring that all allegations of abuse of young people, and vulnerable adults, are confidentially dealt with in accordance the Associations Guidelines for Dealing with Allegations of Abuse (Fourth Edition 2009) and with statutory guidelines and relevant legislation.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of our Child Protection and Welfare procedures and policies on an ongoing basis.
- Ensuring that members, coaches, team mentors, administrators, parents/guardians and spectators sign-up to and adhere to our Code of Behaviour.

The Executive Committee of

## **THURLES GAELS GAA**

commit to ensuring that we follow the **GAA Our Games Our Code** and the **GAA Code of Behaviour for all Persons Working with Young People and Vulnerable Adults**. We have nominated the following people in the position of Children's Officer and Designated Person respectively. Full training has been provided in order to ensure full implementation of the club Child Protection and Welfare Policy.

Signed: Patricia Fogarty  
Childrens Officer - PATRICIA FOGARTY

Date: 01-04-2023

Signed: Siobhan Byron  
Designated Person - SIOBHAN BYRON

Date: 01-04-2023

Signed: Kieran O'Dwyer  
Chairperson - KIERAN O'DWYER

Date: 01-04-2023

Signed: Pat Flanagan  
Secretary - PAT FLANAGAN

Date: 01-04-2023