

Child Safe Guarding Policy

The Maths4All project aims to enhance the quality of mathematics education through the provision of high quality professional development and classroom resources. The Maths4All project includes a website, consisting of lesson plans, video clips and professional development materials that will support Irish mathematics educators implementing the proposed new Mathematics Curriculum. The project also involves online and face-to-face professional development activities with teachers. This research-informed approach uses research to ensure the quality of the resources and activities that we produce.

The Maths4All Child Protection Policy includes a written Risk Assessment which highlights areas of potential risk of harm and how to address these risks. The Risk Assessment covers: Garda Vetting, Incident Reporting, and Video images.

Our Vision

Our work is underpinned by a commitment to treat educators and children with respect. We see all children are capable of engaging in mathematical thinking. Similarly, we see all educators as capable of engaging in high-quality mathematics teaching. We endeavour to develop 'growth mindsets' in both educators and children. We strive to work in partnership with educators in ways that will develop their agency, authority and mathematical identity and that of their students.

Our Roles and Responsibilities

The Maths4All project team is responsible for this Child protection policy which consists of the Child Safeguarding and the Risk Assessment documents. The project lead, [Siun Nic Mhuiri](#) will ensure that all personnel involved in the project are aware, have read, and understand the Maths4All Child Protection policy.

For school-based Maths4All project activities, permission will be obtained from management, relevant teachers, parents or guardians of children involved, and from the children. For school-based activities which are to be researched by the project team, ethical permission will be sought from the DCU Research ethics committee. Procedures for obtaining consent/assent and use of videography will be those approved by the DCU Research ethics committee. Maths4All Child Safeguarding and reporting procedures are operational from the start of a recording class until the video recording is destroyed. All Maths4All activities will align with the policies outlined by the schools that the activities take place within.

Principles and Procedures

The following procedures are put in place to ensure the safety of children participating in the project.

- A risk assessment has been completed, identifying potential risks and how these risks can be minimized and subsequently dealt with appropriately.
- The personnel involved in the project activities who have direct contact with children are all Garda Vetted.
- Project activities involving children will all take place in a classroom setting with a supervising teacher. Risks to children are minimised as project activities only minimally modify standard classroom practice.
- Compliance with policies provided by the schools involved (Anti-Bullying Policy, Child Protection Policy, School Visitor Policy).

Risk Assessment

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, organisations providing a relevant service, must undertake a risk assessment to consider the potential for harm to children. This risk assessment considers the potential for harm while children are engaged with the Maths4All project. A risk assessment is an exercise where the organisation examines all aspects of its service from a safeguarding perspective, to establish whether there are any practices or features of the service that have the potential to put children at risk.

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

- Identify potential risks
- 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

Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage identified risk
1	There is a risk that Maths4All project members are not Garda vetted.	The Maths4All team will generate and maintain a record of Garda vetting. This register will record name, organisation, training status, garda vetting status (where applicable). This record will also confirm who has read the Maths4All Child Safeguarding Statement
2	There is a risk that Maths4All project members are not aware of child	Maths4All team members are recruited carefully. All current team members have worked as

	safeguarding procedures and the risks associated with the project activities.	teachers and have professional knowledge of child safeguarding procedures. All new staff will be asked to read the child safeguarding statement and will be given opportunities to discuss same with the project lead.
3	There is a risk that participants/parents and guardians are unaware as to how to report an online or an offline bullying or safety incident which occurs in a Maths4All project.	The policy and reporting procedure will be available on the Maths4All website. Contact details of the project lead are provided for all queries. Participants/parents and guardians will be briefed on the Maths4All Incident Reporting Procedure should they have concerns with the Maths4All project.
4	Children may be identifiable in videos made available on the website, and may not wish to have their images published.	Any videos that are to be shared on the website will first be shared with school management, the relevant teachers, parents/guardians and children. All members have the right to request that the videos not be published, or indeed to request that the video is removed from the website post-publication.
5.	Website videos may be used for purposes other than professional development.	All website users will have to register and agree to the rules outlined before viewing the video data on the website. These rules and procedures have been developed based on those found at the University of Michigan 'Teaching Works' website http://www.teachingworks.org/ . This is a well-established website which uses video data of real classrooms to support professional development for teachers. Terms and conditions of website use are available here .

After the risk assessment has been completed, organisations are then required to develop a Child Safeguarding Statement (see page 6 below) which outlines the policies and the procedures which are in place to manage the risks that have been identified during the risk assessment.

Incident Report Procedure

Should an incident happen, the following procedure for reporting should be followed:

Item	Description
1	If you think that you observed a child protection issue during a Maths4All activity then contact our DLP at: Siun.NicMhuiri@dcu.ie , 01- 7009178. School of STEM Education and Global Studies C408 DCU St Patrick's Campus D09 DY00
2	All safeguarding issues are dealt with in a confidential manner by the project team leader.
3	The DLP for Maths4All will also report to the DLP of the school involved. The DLP of the school will follow the procedures set out by the school's policy.

Incident Response Procedure

Should an incident happen, the following procedure for responding to a report should be followed:

Item	Description
1	Incidents identified in an Maths4All activity will be recorded at the time of the incident using the Incident Report Form (below).
2	All safeguarding issues are dealt with in a confidential manner by the project team leader
3	Where a hard copy Incident Report Form is used, an email of the form should be sent to the Designated Liaison Officer to notify them of the reported incident and then the hardcopy should also be submitted.
4	Where the online Incident Report form it is sent to the Designated Safeguarding Liaison Officer

5	Where an Incident Report Form has been completed, the Designated Liaison Officer will review and contact the school DLP within a time frame appropriate to the severity of the incident. The school's incident response procedure will then be implemented by the school.
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Incident Report Form

Maths4All Incident Reporting Form 2022

Date: _____ Location: _____

Time Incident Occurred: _____

Incident (Please Describe):

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Child Safeguarding Statement

The Maths4All project aims to develop a website, consisting of lesson plans, video clips and professional development materials that will support Irish mathematics educators implementing the proposed new Mathematics Curriculum. This involves researching the quality of lesson plans and the nature of planning using the new draft curriculum documents. Mathematics lessons will be developed and then recorded.

The Maths4All Safeguarding Statement has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements. The Maths4All project team decided the following:

The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Siún Nic Mhuirí.

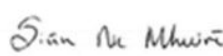
The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Aisling Twohill.

The Maths4All team recognises that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations. This is demonstrated with the team's commitment to;

- Fully comply with the statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;
- Fully cooperate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters;
- Adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect Maths4All team members from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse;
- Develop a practice of openness with parents/guardians and encourage parental/guardian involvement in the education of their children; and
- Fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

This Child Safeguarding Statement aligns with the Children First Act 2015 and the Maths4All team is committed to implementing this Child Safeguarding Statement.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Maths4All team on _____ [date].

Signed:  _____
Project Lead (DLP)

Signed:  _____
Deputy DLP

Date: _____19th October 2022____

Date: 19th October, 2022

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in 24 months, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: Siún Nic Mhuirí (Provider)

[Provider's name and contact details]

For queries, please contact Siún Nic Mhuirí, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.