



Lime Tree Theatre | Belltable

Child Protection Statement

I Our Organisation

The Lime Tree Theatre Limerick Limited manages and programmes two arts venues: the Lime Tree Theatre, located on campus at Mary Immaculate College, Limerick and Belltable, located at 69 O'Connell Street, Limerick. Throughout this document, the organisation will be referred to as Lime Tree Theatre | Belltable.

The Arts Council and local authority supported organisation seeks to make a distinctive contribution to cultural experience throughout Limerick and the mid-west by providing high quality, nationally-valued performance spaces, and a richly varied programme that facilitates creative engagement between our communities and the performing arts.

II Why we have a Child Protection Statement

The Lime Tree Theatre | Belltable presents work for audiences of all ages, including for audiences under 18 years of age. The organisation also presents work performed by children under the age of 18, either in a local community performing group context or within a school context. We are committed to a child-centred approach in its work with children and young people. It undertakes to provide a safe environment and experience, where the welfare of the child/young person is paramount. It is fully committed to adhere to all requirements of Children First: National Guidance and any other child protection guidelines issued by the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, or any guidelines issued by Tusla concerning Child Safeguarding Statements under section 11(4) of the Children First Act 2015.

Staff

The Lime Tree Theatre | Belltable has 7 full time staff and 24 part-time / casual staff. 3 full-time staff are based at Belltable, with the remainder at the Lime Tree Theatre with the part-time & casual staff based across both locations.

III Risk Assessment

The Lime Tree Theatre | Belltable engages with children in three ways:

1. As audience members, attending events in the theatres. The vast majority of these bookings are made by parents or teachers and the children attend with parents/guardians and/or teachers as supervisors/chaperones.
2. As workshop participants, attending without parents
3. As performers, either with local community performing groups or with their schools.

	Risk
Audience	Child on his/her own in foyer or auditorium Child in bathroom alone Child on steps for forum alone Child playing on steps in forum Child attending event without a parent/guardian Child leaving the building without a parent/guardian
Workshops	Child alone with an adult not their parent/ guardian Child needing to use the bathroom Child using tools, where applicable Child leaving the building without a parent/guardian
Performances	Child alone with an adult not their parent/guardian Child sharing dressing rooms with other children Child sharing dressing rooms with adults Child needing to make quick costume change at side of stage Children in dressing rooms without adult supervision Access to dressing rooms areas where children are based Presence of adults in dressing rooms and backstage area Child leaving the building without a parent/guardian

A risk assessment is prepared under the following matrix:

Risk Matrix	Impact				
	Score				
	Negligible (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Extreme (5)
Almost certain (5)	5	10	15	20	25
Likely (4)	4	8	12	16	20
Possible (3)	3	6	9	12	15
Unlikely (2)	2	4	6	8	10
Rare / Remote (1)	1	2	3	4	5

High Risk is scored between 15 and 25 and coloured RED

Medium Risk is scored between 6 and 12 and coloured AMBER

Low Risk is scored between 1 and 5 and coloured in GREEN

IV Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice.

In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons in the relevant service who are mandated persons
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person

All procedures listed are available on the organisation's website or upon request.

Signed by:



Louise Donlon
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Mary Immaculate College, Limerick

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