

# Is your organisation compliant with Child Protection Law?

## STEP 1

### Do you provide a service to children?

If so, you may be described under the Children First Act 2015 as a relevant service and have particular obligations.

Examples of relevant services, include but are not limited to hospitals, schools, religious groups, recreational facilities



## STEP 2

### Do you have a child safeguarding statement?

If you are a relevant service, you must circulate this to all employees and make it available to your clients / customers.



If you do not have your child safeguarding statement completed, your name may be included in a non compliance register held by Tulsa, which can be accessed by the public

### If I make a mandated report, is that the end of my obligation?

No, if the nature of the concern refers an alleged crime against a child, including assault, rape, child trafficking or child pornography, you are required to make an urgent and separate report to the gardai.



## STEP 4

See Criminal Justice Act 2012 (withholding of information on offences against children and vulnerable persons) for more details

## STEP 3

### Are you or any of your employees mandated persons?

If yes, you must ensure that you have clear guidelines on:

- What is the threshold for a mandated report?
- Who do I report it to?
- What if I do not report?



Mandated persons include, but are not limited to doctors, teachers, social workers, nurses, psychologists, gardai

## STEP 5

### How can my organisation mitigate risk to children?

- Vetting of all staff who have regular contact or access with children.
- Having a clear policy on how to report child protection concerns.
- Outlining clear implications for employees if they do not comply with legal requirements in child protection, which may include disciplinary action.
- Ensure all mandated persons have availed of appropriate training. All other employees should have clear information on who to report child protection concerns to.



## About Us

We are a law firm with 90 partners and offices in Dublin, London, New York and San Francisco.

Our legal services are grounded in deep expertise and informed by practical experience. We tailor our advice to our clients' business and strategic objectives, giving them clear recommendations. This allows clients to make good, informed decisions and to anticipate and successfully navigate even the most complex matters.

Our working style is versatile and collaborative, creating a shared perspective with clients so that legal solutions are developed together. Our service is award-winning and innovative. This approach is how we make a valuable and practical contribution to each client's objectives.

## Awards



## What Others Say About Us

### Our Team



*"Level of expertise, attention to detail, compassion, support and understanding are second to none."*

Chambers & Partners, 2019

## Our Team



**Brian Horkan**  
*Partner, Dispute Resolution*  
 +353 1 614 2320  
 bhorkan@mhc.ie



**Sonya Bruen**  
*Senior Associate, Dispute Resolution*  
 +353 1 614 2472  
 sbruen@mhc.ie

Dublin

London

New York

San Francisco

