



Child Protection and Welfare

The Child and Family Agency (Tusla) is responsible in Ireland for the safety and well-being of children. An Garda Síochána (the Irish police) also have responsibilities for the safety and welfare of children under Irish law.

Everyone is responsible in Ireland for reporting if children with whom they are in contact may be suffering from abuse or neglect.

What to do if you witness a concern about a child

In Ireland Tusla should always be informed if you have reasonable grounds for concern that a child may have been, is being or is at risk of being abused or neglected. This also includes if you witness something in a group setting or accommodation centre. If you are worried about the welfare and safety of a child, you must contact Tusla without delay:

www.tusla.ie / info@tusla.ie or 01 7718500 is the National number or contact the local Social Work Department in the Kerry area:

KERRY SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT, Unit 7/8, Block 1, Reeks Gateway, Cleeney Roundabout, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 CTX9. Telephone: 064-6636030

How do I report a concern about a child?

You should always inform Tusla if you have reasonable grounds for concern that a child may have been, is being, or is at risk of being abused or neglected.

You can report your concern in person, by telephone or in writing to the local social work duty service in the area where the child lives. Here you can find contact details for the Tusla social work teams: <https://www.tusla.ie/children-first/contact-a-social-worker3/>

Child protection or welfare concerns can include:

- Evidence, for example an injury or behaviour, that is consistent with abuse and is unlikely to have been caused in any other way
- Any concern about possible sexual abuse
- Consistent signs that a child is suffering from emotional or physical neglect
- A child saying or indicating by other means that he or she has been abused
- Admission or indication by an adult or a child of an alleged abuse they committed
- An account from a person who saw the child being abused

An Garda Síochána (Irish Police) <i>(The national police service in Ireland)</i>	Telephone free phone number: 999 or 112 https://www.garda.ie/en/contact-us/station-directory/
Tusla, Child and Family Agency Duty Social Work Teams/ Dedicated Contact Points	Monday to Friday from 9am -5pm please contact 064-6636030 outside of these hours if you have a child protection concern, then contact the An Garda Síochána on 999 or 112 https://www.tusla.ie/get-in-touch/duty-social-work-teams/

Your personal data will be processed in compliance with all relevant Data Protection Legislation and other Legal Requirement to which Tusla is obliged to adhere. Full details of Tusla's Privacy Policy are available in the About Us Section of www.tusla.ie