



## DCU LS JUNIOR PROGRAMMES CHILD PROTECTION POLICY STATEMENT

DCU LS recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, practices and activities.

Accordingly, in agreement with ACELS Regulations and in accordance with *Children First: National Guidance*, DCU LS Junior Programmes has implemented the following child protection policy:

1. DCU LS has adopted and will implement fully a document containing Child Protection Procedures for Junior Programmes.
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Erin O'Byrne. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Dimitra Stefanopoulos.
3. All aspects of our child protection policy will be reflected in our Teacher Inductions, Code of Behaviour, Anti –Bullying policy and supervision of students during activities and excursions. The department has ensured that the necessary policies, protocols or practices as appropriate are in place in respect of each of the above listed items. All staff have an obligation to be familiar with these policies and procedures and adhere to them.
4. There is a standard reporting procedure for all incidents.
5. In its policies, practices and activities, DCU LS Junior Programmes will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare: The school will:
  - Recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance
  - Fully co-operate 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 workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect
  - Develop a practice of openness with group leaders and agents
  - Fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters
  - Ensure that all DCU LS Junior Programme staff are aware that they have a duty of care towards all the young learners in the programme
  - Ensure that best practices are undertaken to recruit and vet potential staff
  - The rights of all children will be protected and they will be treated with respect, listened to and have their views taken into consideration
6. This policy will be reviewed by the Junior Programme Manager every 2 years or more regularly if required..