



CHEERSPORT
I R E L A N D

**DESIGNATED LIAISON PERSON
(DPL) & CHILDRENS ROLES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES POLICY**

1. Introduction

Cheer Sport Ireland (CSI) is committed to safeguarding all children and young people involved in cheerleading. This policy outlines the duties, expectations, and structures for Designated Liaison Persons (DLPs) and Children's Officers (COs) at both National and Club levels.

2. Purpose of the Policy

This policy defines the roles and responsibilities of the National DLP, Deputy DLP, National Children's Officer, and Club-level Children's Officers and DLPs, ensuring consistent safeguarding practices across all CSI-affiliated clubs.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all CSI-affiliated clubs, their officers, volunteers, coaches, safeguarding personnel, and the CSI Board.

4. Key Safeguarding Roles

The following roles form the safeguarding structure within CSI: National DLP, Deputy DLP, National Children's Officer, Club Children's Officer, and Club DLP.

5. Role of the National Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

The National DLP is responsible for receiving and managing all safeguarding concerns escalated from clubs, liaising with Tusla, Gardaí, and statutory agencies, maintaining national safeguarding records, and ensuring CSI meets its legal obligations.

6. Responsibilities of the National DLP

Key responsibilities include:

7. Role of the Deputy DLP

The Deputy DLP supports the National DLP and assumes duties in their absence. They ensure continuity of safeguarding processes.

8. Role of the National Children's Officer

The National CO promotes the welfare of children at national level, advocates for child-centred policy development, supports club safeguarding personnel, and monitors safeguarding implementation across CSI.

9. Responsibilities of the National Children's Officer

These include:

10. Role of Club Children's Officer (CCO)

The CCO ensures a child-centred environment within their club and acts as the first point of contact for concerns relating to children's welfare (non-protection issues). They promote safeguarding awareness among members.

11. Responsibilities of Club Children's Officer

These include:

12. Role of the Club Designated Liaison Person (Club DLP)

The Club DLP is responsible for managing child protection concerns within the club. They receive protection-related reports and determine whether concerns should be reported to the National DLP or statutory services.

13. Responsibilities of the Club DLP

Responsibilities include:

14. Required Training

National and Club safeguarding personnel must complete the relevant Safeguarding 1, 2, or 3 courses and refreshers every three years or as required.

15. Confidentiality Requirements

All safeguarding personnel must maintain strict confidentiality, store records securely, and share information only on a need-to-know basis.

16. Collaboration Between Roles

DLPs and COs must work collaboratively to ensure concerns are addressed promptly and that children's voices are prioritised in all decisions.

17. Accountability

Failure to fulfil the duties outlined in this policy may result in disciplinary action by CSI and could have legal implications under mandated reporting laws.

18. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or following significant legislative or organisational changes.

19. Approval

This policy was approved by the Board of Cheer Sport Ireland on: 11/07/2026

Signed:

FIONA COLLUMB, President/Chairperson

JOAN HEAPES, National Children's Officer