

The types of Personal Data processed:

Identification data:

- Name.
- Age.
- Gender.
- Contact details.

Information on:

- Family.
- Lifestyle.
- Personal and social circumstances.

Information relating to:

- Health.
- Welfare.
- The child sexual abuse.

Depending on the circumstances, the following Personal Data may also be processed:

- Education, employment, immigration and financial Information.
- Information on racial and ethnic origin, religion or political opinions.
- Data relating to criminal convictions, offences or court orders.

Information may be shared with:

- Health care professionals.
- Guardian ad Litem.
- Interpreter (if required).
- External intermediary, who assist with communicating with the justice system so that children understand and are understood.
- Office of Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).
- Courts and legal representatives.
- Service providers involved with the child and family.
- If necessary, Tusla for the Child Abuse Substantiation Procedure (CASP).

Purpose and Legal Basis

Our purpose of processing personal data is to provide a Barnahus response to children and young people.

The organisations involved in Barnahus nationally (Tusla, AGS, HSE & CHI) rely on the following legal bases under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR):

- Article 6(1)(c) and (e) – Processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation or in the public interest to which the controller is subject, namely:
 - Section 8 of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013.
 - Section 3 of the Child Care Act 1991 (as amended).
 - Sections 14-18 of the Children First Act 2015.
 - Sections 6(1) and 6(2) of the Children's Health Act 2018.
 - Health Act 2004.
 - Law Enforcement Directive (EU 2016/680).
 - Sections 41, 47 & 52 of the Data Protection Act 2018.
- Article 6(1)(d) - to protect the vital interests of a child for the purposes of protection and welfare.
- Article 9(2)(h) GDPR - provision of health and social care, treatment and management.



BARNAHUS
IRELAND

Data Protection Notice



**A Guide for Parents
and Caregivers**

Introduction

Barnahus is a safe and child-friendly place where a team of trained professionals work together with the child and family when there is a concern or disclosure of child sexual abuse (CSA). The agencies responsible for child protection, criminal investigation, medical care, and therapy services work together and deliver a coordinated and effective response that is guided by the child's best interests. The **Barnahus** model, originating in Iceland and meaning 'Children's House', has become a beacon for services across Europe.

Barnahus is delivered by **Tusla**, An Garda Síochána (**AGS**), the Health Services Executive (**HSE**), and Children's Health Ireland (**CHI**). These agencies can refer the child, with parental/guardian agreement to Barnahus when there is a concern or disclosure of CSA. These interagency partners come together to co-ordinate a response in the child's best interest and agree on the next steps.

The Barnahus processes, summarised below, includes:

The Child Protection Room

When someone raises a concern about the safety and welfare of a child, including abuse or neglect, Tusla's job is to work with children, young people, and families to make sure they are safe and well cared for. After speaking with the parent or caregiver, the child, and the important people in their life, Tusla will come up with a plan to keep the child and other children safe.

Criminal Investigation Room

As part of the evidence collection process and when a child feels ready to speak about what has happened, they can meet with specially trained interviewers. These interviewers are Social Workers from Tusla or CHI and Gardaí who work together in pairs. Specialist interviewers are highly trained to gather the best evidence when speaking with children. The evidence the child gives will be recorded and may be used in court.

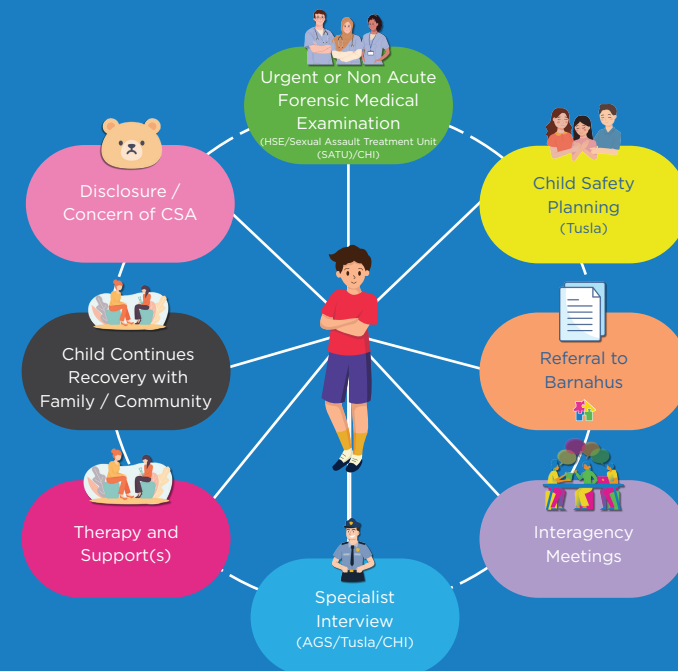
The Medical Room

Some children who come to Barnahus will require a medical examination. The team offer both medical and forensic medical examinations. Supportive, specially trained doctors and nurses from CHI, HSE or SATU carry out these child-friendly medical examinations when it is agreed to be in the child's best interest.

Therapy Room

We know that protective caregivers have an important role in helping their child. We will support parents and caregivers by providing advice about looking after their own and their child's emotional well-being. If a child has therapeutic needs, our therapists will get to know them, listen to them, and help them. We can decide with the child and their parents/caregivers as to what could best support them.

The child's journey through Barnahus may include in any order depending on the individual needs of the child and their circumstances, the following steps:



Individuals have legal rights to their personal data. To exercise these data rights, contact each of the organisations as follows:

[Tusla](#)

[CHI](#)

[HSE](#)

[AGS](#)