

CSS 1

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

For: (School Name)

At: (School Address)

This school is a: (tick appropriate)

- primary post-primary special school

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the Addendum to Children First (2019) and 2025, Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed.* (Tusla, 2024), the board of management has adopted the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment set out in this document.

The board of management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the department's *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Name of the Designated Liaison Person (DLP):

Name of the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP/DDLP):

In the absence of the DLP, the Deputy DLP shall assume responsibilities of the DLP

Name of Relevant Person

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

(insert phone & email)

Under the Children First Act 2015 Relevant Person means a person who is appointed by a provider of a relevant service to be the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement. This person is nominated by the board of management to manage and provide oversight of child protection concerns/allegations of child abuse.

Name of Chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the Chief Executive or their delegate:

In the event that both DLP and DDLP are absent and unavailable, and where there is no staff member formally acting in their role, the chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the chief executive or their delegate, assumes the role of DLP.

The board of management recognises that child protection and safeguarding permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In all of these, the school 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, regardless of all other considerations.
- Fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children.
- 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 happening to children and protect members of school personnel from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of child abuse.
- Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.
- Fully respect confidentiality requirements as set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* in dealing with child protection matters.
- Adhere to the above principles in relation to any vulnerable adult.


(Chairperson)

Date: 12/02/2026.



12/2/26

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

| | List of School Activities | Risks Identified Against Each School Activity | Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk |
|----|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. | Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils | Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel | The school has a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) |
| 2. | Recreation breaks for pupils | Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child | The school has a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils |
| 3. | Classroom teaching | Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school | All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities. |
| 4. | One-to-one teaching | Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel | The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities. |
| 5. | One-to-one learning Support | Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel | The school has a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities. |
| 6. | Outdoor teaching activities | Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school | The school has a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) |

| | | | |
|-----|--|--|---|
| 7. | Online teaching and learning remotely | Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform, such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms. | <p>The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform, such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms</p> |
| 8. | Sporting activities | Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in out-of-school activities, e.g. school trip, swimming lessons | The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches |
| 9. | School outings | Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in out-of-school activities, e.g. school trip, swimming lessons | The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of school outings |
| 10. | Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools | <p>Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child</p> | <p>The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme</p> <p>The school implements in full the Social, Personal, and Health Education (SPHE)</p> |

| | | | |
|-----|---|--|---|
| 11. | Annual Sports Day | <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of school activities</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school</p> | <p>The School has a health and safety policy</p> <p>The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities</p> |
| 12. | Use of offsite facilities for school activities | <p>Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school</p> | <p>The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum</p> <p>The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings</p> |
| 13. | Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed | <p>Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities.</p> <p>Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care</p> | School has a special education needs policy |
| 14. | Administration of medicine | <p>Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training</p> <p>Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities</p> | The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration medication to pupils |
| 15. | Administration of First Aid | <p>Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities</p> | <p>The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid</p> <p>The School has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils</p> |


| | | | |
|-----|--|--|--|
| 16. | Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe | Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult | <p>The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme</p> <p>The school implements in full the Social, Personal, and Health Education (SPHE) curriculum</p> |
| 17. | Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils | Risk of harm due to bullying of a child | <p>School authorities have a code of behaviour and an anti-bullying policy in place in accordance with the department's "Bí Cineálta" procedures to prevent and address bullying in schools and as outlined in Circular 55/2024</p> |
| 18. | Training of school personnel in child protection matters | Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training | <p>All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.</p> <p>The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel</p> <p>School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</p> |

| | | | |
|-----|--|--|---|
| 19. | Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum | Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school | The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum |
| 20. | Use of external personnel to support sports and other extracurricular activities | Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school | The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches |
| 21. | Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants | Risk of harm due to racism | The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives |
| 22. | Members of the Traveller community | Risk of harm due to racism | The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives |
| 23. | Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children | Risk of harm due to bullying of a child | The school implements in full the Social, Personal, and Health Education (SPHE) |
| 24. | Pupils perceived to be LGBT | Risk of harm due to prejudicium (homophobia) & transphobia | The school implements in full the Social, Personal, and Health Education (SPHE) |
| 25. | Pupils of minority religious faiths | Risk of harm due to racism | The school implements in full the Social, Personal, and Health Education (SPHE) |
| 26. | Children in care | Risks where children are living away from home or attending boarding facilities | The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan |
| 27. | Children on Tusla's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) | Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel | The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan |
| 28. | Children with medical needs | Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training. | The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils |

| | | | |
|-----|--|---|--|
| 29. | Recruitment of school personnel including teachers/SNAs, caretakers/secretaries/cleaners and sport coaches | Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training | The school ensures all new personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment |
| 30. | External Tutors/Guest Speakers | Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school | The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches |
| 31. | Volunteers/Parents in school activities | Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school | The School has a Bí Cinealta Policy |
| 32. | Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours | Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school | The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum |
| 33. | Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school | Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities | The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings |
| 34. | Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media | Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform, such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms | The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents |
| 35. | Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc. | Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour | The school has in place a policy governing the use of smartphones and tablet devices in the school by pupils as per Circular 30/2018 and the national guidelines |
| 36. | Students participating in work experience in school | Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult | The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils undertaking work experience in the school |
| 37. | Student teachers undertaking training placement in school | Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult | The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teachers undertaking work experience in the school |

| | | | |
|-----|--|---|---|
| 38. | Use of video/photography/other media to record school events | Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school. | The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents. |
|-----|--|---|---|

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was reviewed by the board of management on _____

Signed:  Chairperson of the board of management

Date: 12/02/26

Signed:  Principal/Secretary to the board of management

Date: 12/2/26

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on FEB. 2027
