

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.

Procedures and Measures in Place

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance 2017*, and *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed.* (Tusla, 2024), and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- > **Procedure for the Management of Allegations of Abuse or Misconduct against School Personnel Relating to a Child Availing of Our Service**
 - ~ Where any member of school personnel is the subject of any investigation in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in relation to a child attending the school, the school is required to adhere to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website

- > **Procedure for the Safe Recruitment and Selection of School Personnel to Work With Children**
 - ~ The school is required to adhere to the requirements of the Vetting Act. The selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, requires the school to adhere to the statutory vetting requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016, and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and Youth and available on the gov.ie website and as outlined in Chapter 10 of the procedures.
 - ~ A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons.
- > **Procedure for Provision of and Access to Child Safeguarding Training and Information, Including the Identification of the Occurrence of Harm**
 - ~ The school provides information and training to members of school personnel in relation to the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) as follows:
 - ~ The school has provided each member of school personnel, including any new members of school personnel, (employees and volunteers, board of management members, student teachers and those on work experience) with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.
 - ~ The school ensures that members of school personnel have availed of relevant training and completed child protection training.
 - ~ The school encourages board of management members to avail of any relevant training and complete child protection training.
 - ~ The board of management ensures that records of all staff and board member child protection training are maintained.
- > **Procedure for the Reporting of Child Protection or Welfare Concerns to Tusla**
 - ~ All members of school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, in relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla. Mandated reporting applies to all registered teachers and any other mandated person who may be employed by the school, for example a chaplain or nurse. A full list of those people who are mandated persons is set out in Appendix 1 procedures.
- > **Procedure for Maintaining a List of the Persons (if any) in the Relevant Service Who Are Mandated Persons**
 - ~ There is a procedure in place to maintain a list of mandated persons. Schools may on occasion employ additional staff who are mandated by virtue of their profession. This list will include all registered teachers and identify additional employees that are not registered teachers.
- > **Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person (In schools this person is the DLP)**
 - ~ There is a procedure in place for appointing a relevant person.

The various procedures referred to in this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, the board of management has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school's procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.

Note: The procedures and measures in place outlined above, are not intended as exhaustive list. Individual boards of management shall also include in this section such other procedures and measures that are of relevance to the school.

This statement has been published on the school's website or will be made available on request by the school. It has been provided to all members of school personnel, the parents' association (if any), the patron and parents. A copy of this statement and risk assessment will be made available to Tusla and the department if requested.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

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 students	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; bullying or inappropriate peer interaction.	Supervision schedule in place; teachers on duty; designated entry/exit arrangements; directed routes for students leaving the school; Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta procedures apply.
2.	Recreation breaks for students	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; bullying; students accessing unsupervised areas.	Supervision rota in place; clear supervision areas; staff visible during breaks; Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta procedures apply.
3.	Locker rooms / locker access	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; bullying or inappropriate behaviour between students.	Regular supervision; students allocated appropriate times to access lockers; Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta procedures apply.
4.	Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in School/Dome	Risk of harm due to bullying or inappropriate behaviour; inappropriate phone/device use; inadequate supervision of associated areas.	Corridor supervisors regularly check bathroom areas as part of supervision duties while respecting privacy; mobile phone policy applied; appropriate supervision arrangements for changing areas.
5.	Classroom teaching	Risk of student being harmed by another student or member of school personnel; inadequate supervision; inappropriate relationship/communication.	Teachers arrive promptly and maintain supervision; school personnel adhere to Child Protection Procedures 2025, Code of Behaviour and professional conduct requirements; concerns reported appropriately.
6.	Specialist rooms including science laboratories, art rooms and kitchens	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision or inappropriate interaction where students access specialist rooms without supervision.	Rooms locked when not in supervised use; students supervised by a teacher when using specialist rooms; supervising staff check restricted rooms during breaks.
7.	One-to-one teaching	Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching; inappropriate behaviour, relationship or communication.	School procedures for one-to-one teaching apply; professional boundaries maintained; suitable visibility arrangements used where practicable; Child Protection Procedures 2025 apply.
8.	One-to-one learning support	Risk of harm in one-to-one learning support; inappropriate behaviour, relationship or communication.	School one-to-one procedures apply; professional boundaries and suitable room/visibility arrangements maintained; Child Protection Procedures 2025 apply.
9.	One-to-one counselling	Risk of harm in one-to-one counselling; inappropriate relationship/communication; safeguarding disclosure not reported properly and promptly.	School procedures for one-to-one counselling apply; professional boundaries and appropriate confidentiality maintained; child protection concerns reported under the 2025 procedures.
10.	Outdoor teaching activities	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; risk of harm by another student or adult.	Appropriate staff supervision and activity-specific arrangements; Code of Behaviour and Child Protection Procedures 2025 apply.

Additional pages may be added to the Risk Assessment as required.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
11.	Online teaching and learning remotely	Risk of inappropriate use of remote-learning platforms, unauthorised access, unsupervised breakout rooms or inappropriate digital communication.	Acceptable Use Policy and remote-learning procedures apply; approved school platforms/accounts used; appropriate teacher oversight and professional communication boundaries maintained.
12.	Sporting, extracurricular and co-curricular activities, including Saturday morning sporting activities	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; inappropriate physical contact/communication; bullying; harm by external personnel.	Appropriate supervision; external coach procedures and vetting requirements where required; Code of Behaviour and child protection procedures; appropriate changing-room arrangements.
13.	School outings	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; student becoming separated; harm by another student, school personnel or another person.	School outing procedures; trip planning; parental consent where required; appropriate supervision/group management; emergency/contact procedures.
14.	School trips involving overnight stay	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; inappropriate interaction; risks associated with accommodation and less supervised periods.	Detailed trip planning; appropriate supervision/accommodation arrangements; clear boundaries and behaviour expectations; parental consent and emergency contacts.
15.	School trips involving foreign travel	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; inappropriate interaction; unfamiliar environments, accommodation or transport.	Detailed trip planning and supervision; parental consent; accommodation, transport and emergency arrangements considered in advance; Code of Behaviour and child protection procedures.
16.	Annual Wellbeing Week and other special school events	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; bullying; inappropriate interaction with external personnel; inappropriate photography/media use.	Event-specific supervision; visitor/external-person procedures; Code of Behaviour, Bí Cineálta and media/ICT procedures apply.
17.	Fundraising events involving students	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision or inappropriate contact with adults/other students.	Appropriate staff supervision and event arrangements; visitor procedures; Code of Behaviour and Child Protection Procedures 2025 apply.
18.	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision; harm by personnel or other persons at an external facility.	Activity-specific supervision and planning; external-provider arrangements considered; school outing and Child Protection Procedures 2025 apply.
19.	School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision, bullying or inappropriate interaction during school-organised transport.	Appropriate transport/supervision arrangements; behaviour expectations; incidents followed up under school procedures; child protection concerns referred to DLP.
20.	Care of students with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed	Risk of harm to students with SEN/AEN who have particular vulnerabilities; harm while receiving intimate care where applicable.	SEN/AEN procedures and individual support planning; appropriate supervision; agreed intimate-care procedures/plans where required; concerns reported to DLP.

Additional pages may be added to the Risk Assessment as required.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
21.	Care of vulnerable adult students, including intimate care where needed	Risk of harm to a vulnerable adult student; harm while receiving intimate care.	Relevant individual support and intimate-care procedures; appropriate supervision and professional boundaries; safeguarding procedures applied.
22.	Care of students with specific vulnerabilities/needs	Risk of harm, bullying, racism, discrimination or failure to recognise/report a concern affecting a student with particular vulnerabilities.	Individual support and pastoral systems; AEN, Guidance, Year Head and DLP communication as appropriate; Bí Cineálta, SPHE/Wellbeing and inclusion measures; concerns reported to DLP.
23.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst students, including appropriate use of restraint where required	Risk of harm to a student or others; inappropriate response or physical intervention.	Relevant Department guidance on behaviours of concern/crisis situations; Code of Behaviour; appropriate trained/proportionate responses; safeguarding concerns reported to DLP.
24.	Management of provision of food and drink	Risk of harm/neglect where known medical, allergy or dietary needs are not appropriately managed.	Relevant medical/allergy information managed on a need-to-know basis; appropriate supervision and school procedures; welfare concerns referred through child protection procedures.
25.	Administration of Medicine	Risk of harm through failure to follow agreed procedures or inappropriate one-to-one interaction.	School medication procedures; appropriate personnel and records; parent/guardian communication as required; safeguarding concerns reported to DLP.
26.	Administration of First Aid	Risk of harm through inappropriate contact or failure to follow agreed procedures; safeguarding concern arising during treatment.	First Aid procedures; appropriate personnel; records maintained; privacy balanced with safeguarding; concerns reported to DLP.
27.	Curricular provision in respect of SPHE and RSE	Risk of harm not being recognised or disclosed; safeguarding disclosure not reported properly and promptly.	School implements SPHE and RSE; school personnel follow Child Protection Procedures 2025 and reporting requirements; DLP notified of child protection concerns.
28.	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst students	Risk of harm due to bullying, including cyberbullying, racism, harassment and identity-based bullying.	Bí Cineálta procedures/policy and Code of Behaviour; supervision and pastoral systems; SPHE/Wellbeing; reporting/response procedures; safeguarding concerns referred to DLP.
29.	Training of school personnel in child protection matters	Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly; personnel not appropriately trained.	All school personnel receive the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment; relevant child-protection training completed/encouraged and recorded; DLP/DDLP roles communicated.
30.	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Risk of harm by external personnel; inappropriate content, communication or unsupervised contact.	School procedures for external persons; purpose/content agreed; supervision by school personnel; Garda vetting where required; visitor controls and safeguarding procedures.

Additional pages may be added to the Risk Assessment as required.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
31.	Use of external personnel to support sports and other extracurricular activities	Risk of harm by an external coach/person; inappropriate physical contact/communication; inadequate supervision.	School procedures for external coaches/personnel; Garda vetting where required; staff oversight; codes of conduct and safeguarding expectations.
32.	Recruitment of school personnel including teachers, SNAs, caretakers, secretaries, receptionist, cleaners and sports coaches	Risk of unsuitable persons obtaining access to students; required vetting/recruitment safeguards not completed.	National Vetting Bureau legislation and relevant Department recruitment requirements followed; recruitment checks applied; Child Safeguarding Statement provided to new personnel.
33.	External tutors / guest speakers	Risk of harm through inappropriate content, communication, interaction or unsupervised access.	External-personnel procedures; staff oversight; visitor sign-in/access arrangements; vetting where required; safeguarding expectations apply.
34.	Volunteers / parents in school activities	Risk of harm through inappropriate or unsupervised contact with students.	Roles and supervision arrangements defined; Garda vetting where required; relevant safeguarding information provided; access limited to agreed activity.
35.	Visitors / contractors present in school during school hours	Risk of student being harmed by a visitor/contractor; unsupervised adult access.	Sign-in/access procedures; supervision/accompaniment as appropriate; access restricted to required areas; Garda vetting where required.
36.	Visitors / contractors present during after-school activities	Risk of inappropriate contact between students and adults; unclear access/supervision arrangements.	Defined access and supervision arrangements; responsible staff/organisation identified; access controlled; safeguarding concerns reported to school management/DLP.
37.	Participation by students in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision or inappropriate contact with adults outside the school.	Appropriate staff supervision and planning; school outing and Child Protection Procedures 2025 apply.
38.	Use of Information and Communication Technology by students in school, including social media	Risk of cyberbullying; inappropriate access/use of computers, social media, phones/devices; inappropriate contact or sharing of information/images.	Acceptable Use Policy; mobile phone/device policy; supervised/monitored use where appropriate; digital citizenship/online safety education; safeguarding concerns reported.
39.	Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention and confiscation of phones	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision or inappropriate interaction in detention; safeguarding issues arising from devices.	Code of Behaviour and mobile-phone/device procedures; defined supervision for detention; safeguarding concerns/material dealt with under child-protection procedures.
40.	Students participating in work experience in the school	Risk of inappropriate or unsupervised contact with students; person on placement not understanding safeguarding obligations.	School procedures for work experience in the school; induction and safeguarding information; appropriate supervision; Garda vetting requirements where required.

Additional pages may be added to the Risk Assessment as required.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
41.	Students from the school participating in work experience elsewhere	Risk of student being harmed by an adult/other person in placement; inadequate supervision; inappropriate contact; concern not reported.	School work-experience procedures; placement/contact arrangements; students and parents informed of reporting routes; concerns reported to school/DLP and managed under child-protection procedures.
42.	Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Risk of harm through inappropriate interaction/communication or unsupervised access; student teacher not understanding safeguarding procedures.	Student-teacher placement procedures; induction; Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment provided; supervising-teacher arrangements; Garda vetting requirements satisfied.
43.	Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Risk of inappropriate capture, use, sharing or publication of images/video; image-based bullying or privacy/safeguarding concerns.	School consent/media and ICT procedures; controlled publication/storage; mobile phone/device rules; no inappropriate recording in private areas; concerns reported.
44.	After-school use of school premises by other organisations	Risk of inappropriate contact between students and adults from other organisations; unclear safeguarding responsibility/access.	Defined access arrangements; responsible organisation/adult identified; separation of activities where practicable; safeguarding expectations and access controls.
45.	Use of school premises by other organisations during school day	Risk of inappropriate or unsupervised contact between students and adults from other organisations.	Defined access/supervision arrangements; visitor controls; access restricted to required areas; safeguarding expectations communicated.
46.	Evening study	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision, isolated areas, bullying or inappropriate adult/student interaction.	Defined supervision and attendance arrangements; access to unused areas restricted; Code of Behaviour applies; departure arrangements managed; concerns reported to DLP.

Additional pages may be added to the Risk Assessment as required.

Examples of Activities, Risks and Procedures

The examples listed in this document are provided to assist schools in undertaking their risk assessment under the Children First Act, 2015. Schools should note that this list of examples is not intended to be exhaustive, and that the inclusion of an example of a policy or procedure on these lists does not make it mandatory. It is the responsibility of each school to ensure, as far as possible, that any other risks and procedures that are relevant to its own particular circumstances are identified and specified in the written risk assessment and that adequate procedures are in place to address all risks identified.

It is acknowledged that schools already have in place a range of policies, practices and procedures to mitigate the risk of harm to children while they are participating in the activities of the school and that some school activities will carry low or minimal risks of harm compared to others. In the context of the risk assessment that must be undertaken by schools, the Children First Act, 2015 refers to risk as “any potential for harm”.

Therefore, it is important that, as part of its risk assessment process, each school lists and reviews all of its various activities (which shall include identifying those that may carry low risk of harm as well as those that carry higher risks of harm). Doing so will help the school to:

- > Identify, as required under the Children First Act, 2015, any risks of harm that may exist in respect of the school's activities.
- > Identify and assess the adequacy of the various procedures already in place to manage those risks of harm.
- > Identify and put in place any such additional procedures as are considered necessary to manage any risk identified.

Online Safety

The Addendum to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 published in January 2019 clarifies that organisations providing relevant services to children should consider the specific issue of online safety when carrying out their risk assessment and preparing their Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

The Guidance on Continuity of Schooling for primary and post-primary schools (April 2020) advises of the importance of teachers maintaining the safe and ethical use of the internet during distance learning and assisting parents and guardians to be aware of their role also. Schools should ensure that their Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) informs and guides remote or distance learning activity.

Risk in the context of this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is the risk of “harm” as defined in the Children First Act 2015 and not general health and safety risk. The definition of harm is set out in the Children First Act 2015: “harm” means, in relation to a child— (a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health, development or welfare, or (b) sexual abuse of the child, whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise.

Examples of School Activities which schools may draw from, as appropriate

1. Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
2. Recreation breaks for pupils
3. Classroom teaching
4. One-to-one teaching
5. One-to-one learning support
6. One-to-one counselling
7. Outdoor teaching activities
8. Online teaching and learning remotely
9. Sporting activities
10. School outings
11. School trips involving overnight stay
12. School trips involving foreign travel
13. Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools
14. Provision of residential facilities for boarders
15. Annual Sports Day
16. Fundraising events involving pupils
17. Use of off-site facilities for school activities
18. School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
19. Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed
20. Care of any vulnerable adult students, including intimate care where needed
21. Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required
22. Management of provision of food and drink
23. Administration of medicine
24. Administration of First Aid
25. Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe
26. Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
27. Training of school personnel in child protection matters
28. Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
29. Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities
30. Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs
31. Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants
32. Members of the Traveller community

33. Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children
34. Pupils perceived to be LGBT
35. Pupils of minority religious faiths
36. Children in care
37. Children on Tusla's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)
38. Children with medical needs
39. Recruitment of school personnel including teachers/SNAs, caretakers/secretaries/cleaners and sport coaches
40. External Tutors/Guest Speakers
41. Volunteers/Parents in school activities
42. Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours
43. Visitors/contractors present during after-school activities
44. Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
45. Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media
46. Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.
47. Students participating in work experience in the school
48. Students from the school participating in work experience elsewhere
49. Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
50. Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
51. After-school use of school premises by other organisations
52. Use of school premises by other organisations during school day
53. Breakfast club
54. Homework club/evening study
55. Children attending boarding schools or living away from home

Examples of Risks of Harm

1. Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel
2. Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel
3. Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training
4. Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
5. Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child
6. Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school

7. 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
8. 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
9. Risk of harm due to bullying of a child
10. Risk of harm due to racism
11. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school
12. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities
13. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult
14. Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
15. Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities
16. Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care
17. Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
18. Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situations
19. Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device, or other manner
20. Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
21. Risks where children are living away from home or attending boarding facilities

These are examples of policies and procedures that may be used to address Risks of Harm

1. All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's *Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment*
2. The *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* are made available to all school personnel
3. 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*
4. A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons
5. The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme
6. The school implements in full the Social, Personal, and Health Education (SPHE) curriculum

7. The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle
8. 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*
9. The school has complied with the *Understanding Behaviours of Concern and Responding to Crisis Situations* developed by the Department of Education and Youth to address uncertainty for staff on how to respond when facing crisis situations where there are concerns regarding physical safety
10. The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives
11. The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.
12. The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings
13. The school has a health and safety policy
14. The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation
15. The school adheres to the relevant Department of Education and Youth circulars in respect of recruitment
16. The school has a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff)
17. The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff
18. The school has a special educational needs policy
19. The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care
20. The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils
21. The school has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment
22. The school ensures all new personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment
23. The school encourages personnel to avail of relevant training
24. The school encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training
25. The school maintains records of all personnel and board member training
26. The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid
27. The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils
28. 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
29. The school has in place a policy governing the use of smartphones and tablet devices in the school by pupils as per *Circular 38/2018* and the national guidelines
30. The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
31. The school has in place a Home School Liaison policy and related procedures

32. The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum
33. The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches
34. The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities
35. The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to-one counselling
36. The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements
37. The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils undertaking work experience in the school
38. The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils of the school undertaking work experience in external organisations
39. The school has in place a policy in relation to assisting members of school personnel in respect of disclosures of retrospective abuse
40. The school has considered the questions in *Appendix 1 of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities Associated with Recognised Schools 2023* and implemented the necessary risk mitigation measures

In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 9 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, the following is the written Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

In undertaking this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment, the board of management has endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to this school and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified. While it is not possible to foresee and remove all risk of harm, the school has in place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was reviewed by the board of management on 1/10/2026 (most recent review date).

Signed:*



Date:

1/10/2026

Chairperson of the board of management

Signed:*



Date:

1/10/2026

Principal/Secretary to the board of management

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

1/10/2027

(expected review date).

* Document to be printed and signed with original signatures