

CSS1

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

For:	Dunshaughlin CNS
At:	Drumree Road, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath

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):

Yvonne Slevin

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

Jake Love

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

Name of Relevant Person

Yvonne Slevin

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

0868522070	yslevin.dns@lmetb.ie
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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:

Martin O' Brien

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 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

The school undertakes this risk assessment in line with the Children First Act 2015, identifying potential risks of harm across all school activities, including those considered low risk. This assessment is not exhaustive and is reviewed regularly to reflect the school's specific circumstances. Existing policies, procedures and practices are evaluated to ensure they effectively manage these risks, and additional procedures are implemented where necessary to address any gaps and safeguard all children participating in school activities.

	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 due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or unknown person on school grounds • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel	• Supervision policy • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Safety Statement Policy • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Training and awareness for all staff in child safeguarding
2.	Recreation breaks for pupils.	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of a child • Risk of harm due to racism • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel	• Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Safety Statement Policy
3.	Classroom teaching	• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of a child • Risk of harm due to racism • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult	• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • SPHE and Stay Safe Programme implementation • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Special Educational Needs Policy • Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	
4.	One-to-one learning support	• Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching situations • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Supervision and visibility arrangements (e.g. open doors, glass panels where appropriate) • Special Educational Needs Policy • Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns • Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel
5.	Outdoor teaching activities	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or unknown person while outdoors • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	• Supervision Policy • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Safety Statement Policy • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Special Educational Needs Policy
6.	Online teaching and learning remotely.	• Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning platforms (e.g. uninvited access, lack of supervision in breakout rooms) • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult • Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via digital platforms	• Acceptable Use Policy (including provisions for remote teaching and learning) • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Training and awareness for all staff in safeguarding and appropriate online practice • Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) addressing online/cyberbullying

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel	
7.	School outings	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, staff of another organisation, or other persons during the outing • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	• LMETB Policy and procedures in respect of school outings/tours • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Safety Statement Policy (including risk assessments for trips) • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel and external providers • Special Educational Needs Policy • Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns
8.	Annual Sports Day	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or unknown person on school grounds • Risk of harm due to bullying of a child • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	• Supervision Policy • Safety Statement Policy (including risk assessment for the event) • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Garda Vetting procedures for any external personnel/volunteers • Special Educational Needs Policy • Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns
9.	Fundraising events involving pupils.	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of child being harmed by a visitor, volunteer or unknown person involved in the event • Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	• Supervision Policy (including supervision during events) • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Safety Statement Policy (including event risk assessments) • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	• Code of Conduct for school personnel • Garda Vetting procedures for volunteers and external participants • Policy and procedures for the use of external persons/volunteers • Special Educational Needs Policy • Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns
10.	Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools	• Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of harm to a child while receiving intimate care • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	• Intimate Care Policy/Plan • Supervision Policy(including supervision of toilets/changing areas where appropriate) • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Safety Statement Policy • Special Educational Needs Policy • Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel • Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns
11	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending off-site activities • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of child being harmed by staff of another organisation or other persons at the facility • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	• Policy and procedures in respect of school outings / use of external facilities • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Safety Statement Policy(including risk assessments for off-site activities) • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Garda Vetting procedures (including for external providers where applicable) • Special Educational Needs Policy • Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns
12	Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care	• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities • Risk of harm to a child while receiving intimate care	• Special Educational Needs Policy • Intimate Care Policy/Plan • Policy and procedures for the administration of medication • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
	where needed,	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school	• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Safety Statement Policy • Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel • Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns • Supervision and care planning procedures appropriate to individual pupil needs
13	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required.	• Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel (inappropriate use of restraint) • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Understanding Behaviours of Concern and Responding to Crisis Situations guidance • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Special Educational Needs Policy • Safety Statement Policy • Training and awareness for all staff in behaviour management and safeguarding • Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel
14	Administration of Medicine	• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities • Risk of harm due to inappropriate administration or storage of medication • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel (through error or inappropriate practice) • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school	• Policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Safety Statement Policy • Special Educational Needs Policy • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Training and awareness for staff in administration of medication and recognising medical needs • Record-keeping and parental consent procedures • Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel
15.	Administration of First Aid	• Risk of harm due to inadequate or inappropriate delivery of first aid	• Policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of harm to children with particular vulnerabilities, including medical needs • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel (through error or inappropriate practice) • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school	• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Safety Statement Policy • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Special Educational Needs Policy • Training for staff in First Aid and emergency response • Record-keeping and reporting procedures • Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel
16	Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult • Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour during sensitive topics • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	• Full implementation of the SPHE curriculum • Full implementation of the Stay Safe Programme • RSE policy in line with Department guidelines • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Special Educational Needs Policy • Training and guidance for staff in delivering sensitive curricular content • Procedures for responding to disclosures arising from lessons
17.	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils.	• Risk of harm due to bullying of a child • Risk of harm due to racism • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour	• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • SPHE curriculum and Stay Safe Programme implementation • Anti-racism awareness initiatives • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Training and awareness for staff in recognising, preventing and responding to bullying
18	Training of school personnel in child	• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly	• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment provided to all staff

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
	protection matters.	- by members of school personnel - Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training	- Induction procedures for all new staff - Ongoing training and upskilling for school personnel in child protection - Maintenance of records of all staff training - Encouragement of staff and Board of Management to avail of relevant training - Clear reporting procedures in line with Children First guidance
19.	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum.	- Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or external person delivering activities - Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children - Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult - Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel	- Garda Vetting procedures for all external personnel where applicable - Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance - Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant external personnel - Code of Conduct for school personnel and expectations for visitors - Supervision arrangements for all activities involving external personnel - Safety Statement Policy - Training and awareness for staff regarding safeguarding responsibilities and oversight of external providers
20	Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities.	- Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or external coach/instructor - Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children - Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult - Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel - Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities	- Garda Vetting procedures for all external personnel where applicable - Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance - Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant external personnel - Code of Conduct for school personnel and expectations for external providers - Supervision arrangements for all activities involving external personnel - Safety Statement Policy - Special Educational Needs Policy - Training and awareness for staff regarding safeguarding responsibilities and oversight of external providers
21	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as: Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants	- Risk of harm due to racism - Risk of harm due to bullying of a child - Risk of child being harmed by another child - Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel - Risk of harm due to inappropriate	- Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) - Anti-racism awareness initiatives - Special Educational Needs Policy - Policy and procedures for the administration of medication - Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
	- Members of the Traveller community - Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children - Pupils perceived to be LGBT. - Pupils of minority religious faiths - Children in care - Children with medical needs	- relationship/communications between a child and an adult - Risk of harm to children with particular vulnerabilities, including medical needs, children in care, and those from minority or marginalised groups	- Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff - Code of Conduct for school personnel - SPHE curriculum and Stay Safe Programme implementation - Training and awareness for staff in recognising and responding to vulnerability and safeguarding concerns
22	Recruitment of school personnel including - - Teachers/SNA's /Cleaners - Sports coaches - External Tutors/Guest Speakers - Volunteers/Parents in school activities - Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours - Visitors/contractors present during after school activities.	- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel - Risk of child being harmed by a visitor, volunteer, contractor or external provider - Risk of harm due to inadequate vetting or recruitment procedures - Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel - Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of visitors/contractors on school premises	- Adherence to Garda Vetting legislation for all personnel, volunteers and relevant visitors - Compliance with Department of Education recruitment circulars and procedures - Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance - Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant external personnel - Code of Conduct for school personnel and clear expectations for visitors/contractors - Policy and procedures in respect of visitors, volunteers and external personnel in the school - Supervision arrangements for visitors/contractors during school hours - Training and awareness for staff in safeguarding responsibilities and reporting procedures
23	Use of Information and Communication Technology by	Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers,	- Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for ICT and internet use - Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta), including cyberbullying

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
	pupils in school, including social media	- social media, phones and other devices - Risk of harm due to bullying of a child (including cyberbullying) - Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult - Risk of harm due to racism (including online behaviour) - Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel	- Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance - Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff - Code of Conduct for school personnel - SPHE curriculum and Stay Safe Programme implementation - Training and awareness for staff in online safety, safeguarding and reporting concerns - Procedures for monitoring, reporting and responding to online incidents
24	Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour.	- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour - Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel (through inappropriate or disproportionate sanctions) - Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel - Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult - Risk of child being harmed by another child (e.g. during detention or unsupervised sanction periods) - Risk of harm to children with particular vulnerabilities	- Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) - Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance - Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff - Code of Conduct for school personnel - Special Educational Needs Policy - Training and awareness for staff in fair, proportionate and safe behaviour management - Clear procedures for recording and reporting incidents
25	Students participating in work experience in the school.	- Risk of child being harmed by a student on work placement - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils - Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and a student on placement - Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel or the student on placement - Risk of child being harmed by another child	- Policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school - Appropriate Garda Vetting procedures where applicable - Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance - Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant students on placement - Supervision arrangements for all activities involving students on placement - Training/briefing for students on child safeguarding responsibilities and reporting procedures - Safety Statement Policy

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
26	Student teachers undertaking training placement in school.	• Risk of child being harmed by a student teacher • Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of teaching activities • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by the student teacher • Risk of child being harmed by another child	• Policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements • Garda Vetting procedures where applicable • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and student teachers • Code of Conduct for school personnel (applicable to student teachers) • Mentoring arrangements by qualified teaching staff • Provision of safeguarding briefing/training for student teachers, including reporting procedures • Safety Statement Policy
27	Use of video/photography/other media to record school events.	• Risk of inappropriate use or sharing of images of children • Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using digital devices or media • Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult via media • Risk of harm due to bullying of a child (including misuse of images online) • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel	• Acceptable Use Policy (including use of images, video and digital media) • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta), including cyberbullying • Procedures for parental consent and appropriate storage/use of images
28	Storage and distribution of food and drink.	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children during meal times • Risk of harm to children with particular vulnerabilities, including medical and dietary needs (e.g. allergies) • Risk of harm due to inappropriate handling or distribution of food • Risk of child being harmed by another child (e.g. during meal times) • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel	• Safety Statement Policy (including food safety and hygiene procedures) • Policy and procedures relating to the storage and distribution of meals • Policy and procedures for the administration of medication (including response to allergic reactions) • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Special Educational Needs Policy (including dietary/medical needs) • Record-keeping and communication with parents regarding dietary requirements

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
29	Pupils of minority religious faiths	• Risk of harm due to racism or religious discrimination • Risk of harm due to bullying of a child • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of harm due to inadequate recognition of cultural or religious needs • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel	• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Anti-racism and inclusion awareness initiatives • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Conduct for school personnel • GMGY, SPHE curriculum and Stay Safe Programme implementation • Policies promoting inclusion, equality and respect for diversity • Procedures for reporting, recording and addressing incidents of discrimination or bullying
30	Sporting activities	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel or external coach • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities • Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult	• Safety Statement Policy (including risk assessment for sporting activities) • Supervision Policy • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel and external coaches • Special Educational Needs Policy
31	Children with medical needs	• Risk of harm to children with medical vulnerabilities • Risk of harm due to incorrect administration of medication or treatment • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision or response to medical emergencies • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel (through error or inappropriate practice)	• Policy and procedures for the administration of medication • Safety Statement Policy (including emergency response procedures) • Special Educational Needs Policy (where relevant to medical needs) • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance • Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff • Code of Conduct for school personnel • Individual healthcare/medical care plans for pupils where required

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			Record-keeping and communication with parents/guardians regarding medical needs
32	External Tutors/Guest Speakers	- Risk of child being harmed by an external tutor or guest speaker - Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children - Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel - Risk of child being harmed by another child	- Procedures for the use of external personnel to supplement curriculum delivery - Garda Vetting procedures for external tutors/guest speakers where applicable - Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance - Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant external personnel - Code of Conduct for school personnel and clear expectations for visitors - Supervision arrangements for all sessions involving external tutors/guest speakers - Safety Statement Policy - Training and awareness for staff regarding safeguarding responsibilities and oversight of external personnel - Previewing the script of the speaker before delivery of talk/workshops
33	Volunteers/Parents in school activities	- Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer or parent - Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children - Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel - Risk of child being harmed by another child	- Policy and procedures for the involvement of volunteers/parents in school activities - Garda Vetting procedures for volunteers/parents where applicable - Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance - Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant volunteers/parents - Code of Conduct for school personnel and clear expectations for volunteers/parents - Supervision arrangements for all activities involving volunteers/parents - Safety Statement Policy - Training/briefing for volunteers/parents regarding safeguarding responsibilities - Procedures for reporting concerns in line with Children First guidance
34	Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours	- Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or contractor - Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult	- Policy and procedures in respect of visitors and contractors in school - Garda Vetting procedures where applicable - Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Children First Act 2015 compliance

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of visitors/contractors • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by another child	• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant visitors/contractors • Code of Conduct for school personnel and clear expectations for visitors/contractors • Supervision and sign-in/sign-out procedures during school hours • Safety Statement Policy • Awareness for staff regarding safeguarding responsibilities and monitoring of visitors

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.

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 26-05-2026 (most recent review date)

Signed:*

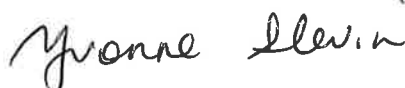


Chairperson of the board of management

Date:

26/5/26

Signed:*



Principal/Secretary to the board of management

Date:

26/5/26

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on _____ (expected review date)

Appendix - Location of copies of the Child Protection Procedures and Children First Guidance

This may be in the form of specifying the online location for the procedures (Department of Education and Youth website www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools and/or the school website), providing a link to the Children First National Guidance 2017 [Children First National Guidance 2017.pdf](#), and stating the number and location of hard copies of these procedures available in the school.

(2)
Copies are available in the Principal's office and on the staff Teams online drive.