



Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment

For: Scoil Pól
At: Kilfinane, Co. Limerick. V35 YH27

The school is a Post primary 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):

Ms. Mairéad Finucane

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

Mr. Eoin Walsh

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

Name of Relevant Person

Ms. Mairéad Finucane

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

083 416 5944

principal@scoilpol.ie

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:

Sr. Eileen Kelly

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 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 cooperate 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. CSS1 Page 3 of 12 Child Protection Safeguarding Booklet 8 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, 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.

Scoil Pól: Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Note:

- Risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of 'harm' as defined in the Children First Act, 2015 and not general health and safety risk.
- This list of school activities, associated risk(s) identified, and procedures/measures in place to mitigate these risk(s) is not exhaustive.

| | List of School Activities | Risks Identified Against Each School Activity | Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk |
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| 1 | Daily arrival and dismissal of students | Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students entering and leaving the school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The school uses teachers for the appropriate supervision of students during non-class times as per the allocation provided under the Supervision & Substitution (S&S) scheme as outlined by the DEY ▪ The school uses SNAs for appropriate supervision of students with Care needs ▪ Digital sign-in/sign-out system for late arrivals or early collections ▪ Permission to leave must be completed by parent/guardian using school app |
| 2 | Break time/ Lunchtime for students | <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students in school</p> <p>Risk of harm due to bullying of student in school</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The school uses teachers for the appropriate supervision of students during non-class times as per the allocation provided under the Supervision & Substitution (S&S) scheme as outlined by the DEY ▪ The school uses SNAs for appropriate supervision of students with Care needs ▪ School authorities have a code of behaviour and an antibullying policy in place in accordance with the department's "Bí Cineálta" procedures to prevent and address bullying in schools and as outlined in <i>Circular 55/2024</i> ▪ The school undertakes antiracism awareness initiatives |
| 3 | <p>Interactions between teachers/SNAs and students, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Classroom teaching | Risk of student being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outdoor teaching activities ▪ Sporting activities ▪ After school study ▪ Breakfast club ▪ Outdoor/indoor extra-curricular activities | Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a student and another adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019</i> and <i>2025</i> ▪ The school has in place a Code of Conduct for staff based on the Teaching Council's Code of Professional Conduct for teachers. ▪ Teachers registered with the Teaching Council adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct ▪ Glass panels in all classroom/meeting room doors for visibility ▪ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for students |
| 4 | <p>Interactions between students, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Movement between classes ▪ Structured transitions ▪ Use of toilet/ changing/ shower areas in school ▪ Sporting activities ▪ Outdoor teaching activities | <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students in school</p> <p>Risk of student being harmed in the school by another student</p> <p>Risk of harm due to bullying of student</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The school uses teachers for the appropriate supervision of students during non-class times as per the allocation provided under the Supervision & Substitution (S&S) scheme as outlined by the DEY ▪ The school uses SNAs for appropriate supervision of students with Care needs ▪ School authorities have a code of behaviour and an antibullying 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 ▪ The school undertakes antiracism awareness initiatives ▪ The school has clear procedures for movement between classes ▪ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour ▪ The school has procedures in respect of toilet/changing/shower areas in school |
| 5 | <p>One-to-one interactions with students including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ one-to-one teaching ▪ one-to-one learning support | Risk of harm in one-to-one staff-student situation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel |

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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> ▪ The school has in place procedures for one-to-one meetings between school personnel and students ▪ The school has in place a Code of Conduct for staff based on the Teaching Council's Code of Professional Conduct. ▪ Teachers registered with the Teaching Council adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct ▪ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour and child protection training for all staff |
| 6 | One-to-one counselling | Risk of harm in one-to-one counselling situation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> ▪ The school has in place a Code of Conduct for staff based on the Teaching Council's Code of Professional Conduct. ▪ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour and child protection training for all staff ▪ Glass panels in classroom doors for visibility |

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| 7 | <p>School off-site activities/ outings/ trips including but not limited to those involving:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Day ▪ Overnight stay ▪ Foreign travel | <p>Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a student is participating in out of school activities, e.g. school trip, swimming lessons, etc</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students while attending out of school activities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019</i> and <i>2025</i> ▪ The school has in place a School Trips and Tours policy and clear procedures in respect of same |
| 8 | Annual Sports Day | <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students while attending both in school and out of school activities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The school has in place a clear set of procedures for Sports Day inclusive of adequate supervision by school personnel |
| 9 | Use of off-site facilities for school activities | <p>Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a student is participating in out of school activities, e.g. school trip, swimming lessons, etc</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students while attending out of school activities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019</i> and <i>2025</i> ▪ The school has in place a School Trips and Tours policy and clear procedures in respect of same |
| 10 | School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts | <p>Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment |

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| | | <p>organisation or other person while a student is availing of school transport</p> <p>Risk of harm due to bullying of a student</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> ▪ School authorities have a code of behaviour and an antibullying policy in place in accordance with the department’s “Bí Cineálta” procedures to prevent and address bullying in schools and as outlined in <i>Circular 55/2024</i> ▪ The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives |
| 11 | <p>Care of students with special/additional educational needs, including but not limited to students with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ medical needs ▪ intimate care where needed <p>Risk of harm to students with special/additional educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities</p> <p>Risk of harm to student while a student is receiving intimate care</p> | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> ▪ The school has in place a Special Educational Needs policy ▪ The school has in place an Administration of Medicines policy and clear procedures in respect of same ▪ The school has in place a First Aid policy ▪ First Aid training has been provided to some staff and all SNAs ▪ The school has in place an Intimate Care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care |

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| 12 | Students with medical needs | Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> ▪ The school has in place an Administration of Medicines policy and clear procedures in respect of same ▪ The school has in place a First Aid policy ▪ First Aid training has been provided to some staff and all SNAs |
| 13 | Management of challenging behaviour amongst students including appropriate use of restraint where required | Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> |
| 14 | Management of provision of school lunches/breakfast club | Risk of student being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the |

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| | <p><i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children</i></p> | | |
| 15 | <p>Administration of medicine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> ▪ The school has in place an Administration of Medicine policy and clear procedure in respect of same | <p>Risk of student being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person</p> | |
| 16 | <p>Administration of First Aid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> ▪ The school has in place a First Aid Policy ▪ First Aid training has been provided to some staff and all SNAs | <p>Risk of student being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person</p> | |
| 17 | <p>Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Wellbeing, etc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment | <p>Risk of harm to student due to inadequate curricular provision</p> | |

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| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> ▪ The school implements in full age-appropriate Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE) curriculum ▪ The school implements in full the Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) programme in accordance with the DEY guidelines ▪ The school implements in full the Wellbeing programme at Junior Cycle (400h) ▪ Senior cycle students receive SPHE provision as per the DEY guidelines ▪ All programmes follow DEY approved frameworks and materials ▪ The school has in place an RSE policy ▪ Parent/guardians are informed of RSE content & withdrawal rights respected ▪ Staff trained to respond to disclosures appropriately ▪ DLP immediately informed of child protection concerns |
| 18 | Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst students | Risk of harm due to bullying of a student | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School authorities have a code of behaviour and an antibullying policy in place in accordance with the department's "Bí Cineálta" procedures to prevent and address bullying in schools and as outlined in <i>Circular 55/2024</i> ▪ The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives ▪ The school has in place a Pastoral Care policy ▪ The school has in place a code of behaviour policy ▪ The school uses teachers for the appropriate supervision of students during non-class times as per the allocation provided under the Supervision & Substitution (S&S) scheme as outlined by the DEY ▪ The school uses SNAs for appropriate supervision of students with Care needs |
| 19 | Training of school personnel in child protection matters | Risk of harm due to staff lacking knowledge of responsibilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment |

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| | | <p>Risk of harm due to staff failure to recognise/report abuse</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> ▪ Mandatory Children First training for all staff (online and in-person) ▪ Annual child protection refresher training ▪ Child Safeguarding Statement reviewed with staff annually ▪ BOM Chairperson/DLP/DDLP training updated regularly |
| <p>20</p> | <p>Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum &/or support sports and extra-curricular/ co-curricular activities, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sports coaches ▪ Auxiliary personnel (e.g. Musical, etc) ▪ External tutors/trainers ▪ Retreat personnel ▪ Guest speakers ▪ Volunteers/Parents in school activities | <p>Risk of student being harmed in the school by external personnel to the school</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The school has in place a Visitor to the school policy and clear procedures in respect of same ▪ School staff present during all sessions ▪ The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation |
| <p>21</p> | <p>Care of students with specific vulnerabilities / needs including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students from ethnic minorities/migrants • Members of the Traveller community | <p>Risk of harm due to bullying</p> <p>Risk of harm due to racism</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The school has in place a Pastoral care policy and procedures in respect of same ▪ School authorities have a code of behaviour and an antibullying policy in place in accordance with the department's "Bí Cineálta" procedures to prevent and address bullying in schools and as outlined in <i>Circular 55/2024</i> ▪ The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, + (LGBT+) students • Students perceived to be LGBT+ • Students of minority religious faiths • Students in Care • Students on Tusla's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The school implements in full age-appropriate Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE) curriculum ▪ The school implements in full the Wellbeing programme at Junior Cycle (400h) ▪ Senior cycle SPHE provision as per the DEY guidelines ▪ All programmes follow DEY approved frameworks and materials ▪ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for students |
| <p>22</p> | <p>Recruitment of school personnel including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers • SNAs • Admin staff • Caretakers • Cleaners/Facilities staff • Sport coaches • Bus drivers • Bus escorts | <p>Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel who has not been Garda vetted</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019</i> and <i>2025</i> ▪ The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation ▪ The school adheres to the relevant DEY circulars in respect of recruitment ▪ Comprehensive induction and training in Child protection |
| <p>23</p> | <p>Non-curricular visitors/contractors present in school during school hours</p> | <p>Risk of student being harmed by a non-curricular visitor/contractor to the school during school hours</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Child Safeguarding Statement is displayed prominently at the entrance of the school ▪ The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation ▪ Digital visitors sign in/sign out log in place ▪ Escort and supervision of visitors/contractors |

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| 24 | Non-curricular visitors/contractors present in school after school hours | Risk of student being harmed by a non-curricular visitor/contractor to the school after school hours | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Child Safeguarding Statement is displayed prominently at the entrance of the school ▪ The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation |
| 25 | Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) by students in school, including social media | <p>Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a student and another student or adult</p> <p>Risk of harm due to students inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones, and other devices while at school</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School authorities have a code of behaviour and an antibullying policy in place in accordance with the department's "Bí Cineálta" procedures to prevent and address bullying in schools and as outlined in <i>Circular 55/2024</i> ▪ The school has in place an Acceptable Use policy for students ▪ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for students ▪ Robust web filtering and monitoring on school network ▪ The school has in place a mobile phone/smart device policy ▪ Student photo consent and restrictions enforced |
| 26 | Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Detention ▪ Confiscation of phones ▪ Etc | Risk of student being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> |
| 27 | Students from the school participating in work experience | Risk of student being harmed by a member of staff of work experience placement or other person while student participating in work experience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The school has in place policy/procedures in respect of students of the school on work experience placements ▪ It is the full responsibility parent/guardian to organise work experience for their child |

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| 28 | Student teachers/Trainee SNAs undertaking training placement in school | Risk of student being harmed in the school by a student teacher/trainee SNA, undertaking training/placement in school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment ▪ The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel ▪ School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019</i> and <i>2025</i> ▪ Comprehensive induction provided to student teachers/trainee SNAs re: Child safeguarding statement, policies and reporting procedures and complete Child Protection training/Children First eLearning ▪ The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation ▪ The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher/trainee SNA placements |
| 29 | Use of video/photography/other media to, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ recording school events ▪ PR purposes | Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of student image by a third party | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour ▪ The school has in place an AUP ▪ The school has in place a Mobile Phone/Smart device policy ▪ Parental consent sought ▪ GDPR compliance |
| 30 | Use of school premises by other organisations either during the school day or after school | Risk of student being harmed by a member of another organisation or other person using the school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Child Safeguarding Statement is displayed prominently at the entrance of the school ▪ The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation |


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 **12th March 2026**

Signed: 

Date: 12th March 2026

Chairperson of the Board of Management

Signed: 

Date: 12th March 2026

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

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

30th September 2026