

CSS 2

Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 require that the board of management must undertake a review of its Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment. The following template must be used for this purpose. The review must be completed every calendar year or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the Child Safeguarding Statement refers. Undertaking an annual review will ensure that a school also meets its statutory obligation under section 11(8) of the Children First Act 2015, to review its Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment every two years.

As part of the overall review process, boards of management should also assess relevant school policies, procedures, practices and activities and their adherence to the principles of best practice in child protection and welfare as set out in the school's Child Safeguarding Statement, the Children First Act 2015 and Children First National Guidance 2017, the Addendum to Children First (2019) and 2025, Children First National Guidance 2017, the Addendum to Children First (2019) and (2025), and the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025.

Designated Liaison Person

Name:	Mairéad Finucane
Date Appointed:	12.03.2026 (last appointed)

Relevant Person

(In schools this is the DLP)

Name:	Mairéad Finucane
Contact details:	Email- principal@scoilpol.ie / Telephone- 083 416 5944
Date Appointed:	12.03.2026 (last appointed)

Deputy Designated Liaison Person

Name:	Eoin Walsh
Date Appointed:	12.03.2026 (last appointed)

Contact details for Tusla

Contact Name

Limerick North & West Duty Social Worker	Limerick South & East Duty Social Worker
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Address

St. Josephs Hospital, Mulgrave St., Limerick V94 159V	Civic Offices, Limerick Road, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, E45A099
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Contact Number

061 607100	067 46660
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Contact details for An Garda Síochána

Contact Name

Duty Secretary / Sergeant

Address

Kilmallock, Co. Limerick

Contact Number

06398018

Checklist for review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

1. When did the board first formally adopt a Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment in accordance with the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025? For most schools this will be March 2018, as outlined in Section 9.9 of the procedures.

Date first Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment adopted by the school:

March 2018

- 2(a) Where is the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment displayed in the school? For example, in a prominent place near the main entrance to the school.

The main entrance to the school

- (b) Is there a student-friendly version, with a photograph of the Designated Liaison Person, displayed beside the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment?

Yes

- (c) Other than displaying in a prominent place near the main entrance to the school, how have students been made aware of the student-friendly version?

Displayed at all student entrances

On school website

School journal

Other: (please state)

Communicated at Student Year Group Bí Cineálta/ Safeguarding Assemblies

3. Has the board used the most recent Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template and formally adopted, without modification, the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025?

Yes

What is the date of the previous review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment?

Date: 25th August 2025

4. Has the Board included a written assessment of risk as required under the Children First Act 2015? (This includes considering the specific issue of online safety as required by the Addendum to Children First (2019)?)

Yes

5. Is there a written protocol in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons in line with Appendix C of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025?

Yes

6. Has the Board reviewed and updated the written assessment of risk as part of this overall review (for example, to include shower facilities, changing rooms, swimming, online engagements to facilitate learning). Boards should refer to the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template for examples.

Yes

Date of this review: 12th March 2026

7. How has the Board ensured that the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is provided to the patron, the parents' association and all parents of children in the school? Give dates of emails/letters/texts/links provided.

On March 13th, 2026, following the meeting of the Board of Management, the CSS and CRA will be forwarded to the patron, emailed to the Chair of the Parents' Association

and the Chair of the Student Council, shared on the school website, posted on the staff Teams page, and published on the parents' Unique School information app.

8. How has the Board sought the feedback of parents, students and school personnel (teaching and non-teaching) on the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment?

Has the school engaged with each of the above through, for example, a meeting or survey. The support documents CSS 5, CSS 6 and CSS 7 can be used to support this engagement. Details of how feedback was sought should be outlined below.

(a) Parents

A focus group worked through the Questionnaire prompts along with reviewing the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

(b) Students

A focus group worked through the Questionnaire prompts along with reviewing the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

(c) School Personnel

A focus group of staff worked through the Questionnaire prompts. All staff were consulted and invited to review the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment via email on 03.02.2026

9. Outline any aspects of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment and/or its implementation that require further improvement, including any complaints or suggestions for improvements, which the Board has identified:

No changes identified

10. Outline details of how areas for improvement have been adequately addressed including whether an action plan with appropriate timelines has been put in place:

No changes identified- N/A

11. Has the template for Notification regarding the board of management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment been used to inform the school community and relevant parties that they have fulfilled their statutory obligation to annually review the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment?

Yes No N/A

Training

12. Give details of when the DLP and DDLP most recently attended child protection training for DLP/DDLPs:

DLP: Mairéad Finucane	Date:06.10.2025
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DDLDP: Eoin Walsh	Date:06.10.2025
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13. Give details of child protection training attended by any members of the Board and dates attended:

<p>Training Attended- 11th February 2026</p> <p>BOM Representative- Chairperson Sr Eileen Kelly</p> <p>Provider- JMB - Child Protection Procedures for Schools Training Cork</p>

14. How has the Board ensured that all school personnel (including new school personnel, temporary staff and substitutes) have been made aware of their responsibilities under the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and the Children First Act 2015? For example, completing e-learning or other training, use of department's supports for school personnel when reviewing the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment, induction/mentoring system for new personnel, or other measures. How are records of the training completed maintained by the school?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School has adopted CSS template 8 regarding record keeping. ▪ All new staff are mentioned regarding CSS responsibilities. ▪ Annual reminders at beginning of school year workshops. ▪ All staff required to complete Tusla Children First E-Learning certification annually. ▪ The DDLP keeps a record of staff completion and certification of the Children First E-Learning Programme at the start of each academic year.

Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR)

15. Has the Board received a Principal's Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR) at every ordinary meeting of the Board held since the last review of the Child Safeguarding Statement was undertaken which contains all the information required under each of the four headings set out in Section 12.3 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025?

- Yes No

16. Since the Board's last review of the Child Safeguarding Statement, if there have been cases presented for oversight as part of the CPOR, has the Board been provided with and reviewed all records relevant to the CPOR?

- Yes No N/A

17. Have these cases been anonymised and redacted as necessary?

Yes No N/A

18. Since the Board's last review Child Safeguarding Statement, if there have been cases presented for oversight as part of the CPOR, do the minutes of the board meeting:

(a) specify the anonymised documents provided to the board as part of the CPOR

Yes No N/A

(b) use unique codes to record child protection matters?

Yes No N/A

19. The board has undertaken the review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment and has issued/published notification confirming same.

Yes No N/A

Reporting

20. Where are all records relating to child protection filed and stored in a secure manner? For example, stored securely in the principal's office in such a manner as only the DLP and DDLP and the chairperson when acting as DLP will have access to these records.

Stored securely in the principal's office in a locked cabinet. DDLP/Chairperson aware of access mode.

21. How does the Board ensure that child protection procedures in relation to reporting to Tusla/An Garda Síochána are followed in full? The Board should indicate that the DLP follows the procedures outlined in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 for reporting of all child protection concerns.

The DLP follows the procedures as outlined in CPP for Schools 2025.

Curriculum

22. The Board should outline the steps it has taken to ensure that the SPHE, RSE, and Wellbeing curriculum is appropriately planned for and delivered to the children and young people in the school.

Board of Management Statement

Planning and Delivery of SPHE, RSE and Wellbeing Curriculum

The Board of Management of Scoil Pól is satisfied that the SPHE, RSE and Wellbeing curriculum is appropriately planned for, resourced and delivered to all students in the school. The following measures are in place to ensure compliance with Department of Education requirements and to support high-quality provision for children and young people.

1. Timetabling of SPHE – Junior Cycle

- SPHE is **formally timetabled for each year of the Junior Cycle** (First, Second and Third Year).
- Provision is made for SPHE within the school's **Wellbeing Programme**, ensuring continuity and progression across the three Junior Cycle years.
- Timetables are reviewed annually by school leadership to ensure ongoing compliance.

2. Compliance with Circular 28/2023

- The school provides SPHE **in accordance with Circular 28/2023**, which outlines the mandatory provision of Wellbeing, including SPHE, at Junior Cycle.
- Scoil Pól meets the required **minimum Wellbeing time allocation**, with SPHE forming a core component of the overall Wellbeing Programme.
- Planning documentation reflects the integration of SPHE within the broader Wellbeing framework.

3. Provision of RSE – First Year to Sixth Year

- Scoil Pól implements a **whole-school RSE programme for all students from First Year to Sixth Year**, in line with national policy and Departmental guidance.
- **Outline programmes of work have been prepared and approved for:**
 - **SPHE (First, Second and Third Year)** at Junior Cycle
 - **RSE (Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Year)** at Senior Cycle
- These programmes are reviewed regularly by the SPHE/RSE coordinator and school leadership to ensure age-appropriateness and curriculum alignment.

4. Timetabled RSE Provision

- A **minimum of five to six timetabled periods per school year** is assigned to RSE within the relevant SPHE and RSE plans at both Junior and Senior Cycle.
- RSE provision is clearly identified within teachers' planning and school timetables.

5. Content of the RSE Programme

- The school's overall RSE plan provides structured opportunities for the exploration of all **key aspects of Relationships and Sexuality Education**, including:
 - Relationships and respectful communication
 - Gender identity
 - Sexual orientation
 - Consent
 - The impact of pornography and online content
- Teaching and learning in RSE is developmentally appropriate, inclusive, and aligned with the values and ethos of Scoil Pól, while reflecting national policy and best practice.

6. Oversight and Review

- The Board of Management receives assurance from school leadership that SPHE, RSE and Wellbeing are effectively implemented.
- Policies and programmes are reviewed on a scheduled basis and updated in response to Department of Education circulars, curricular developments and the needs of students.

For primary schools, it should confirm that:

- Aspects of all three strands (SPHE, RSE, Wellbeing) are covered each year.
- The Stay Safe programme is taught in its entirety in one year – at least once during infants, 1st/2nd class, 3rd/4th class, and 5th/6th class. Schools will be informed if, in the future, the Department approves an alternative or replacement to the Stay Safe Programme.
- The school plan outlines provision for RSE across each of the different class levels/stages.
- The date of the most recent policy review or curricular implementation is noted.

For post-primary schools, it should confirm that:

- The Wellbeing Programme for Junior Cycle is being implemented.
- RSE and SPHE are being appropriately delivered.
- The date of the most recent policy review or curricular implementation is noted.

Vetting and Recruitment

The board should be satisfied that procedures to ensure that all statutory requirements in relation to vetting, statutory declarations and forms of undertaking are met. The board should refer to the school's recruitment procedures about how references of all school personnel are checked and how vetting outcomes are managed before appointment or work in the school is undertaken. Schools under the aegis of Education and Training Boards (ETB) should outline how they adhere to ETB recruitment processes.

If joint agreements are used for the visiting coaches or for school placement students, this should be included. If the school is part of teacher sharing arrangements (see section 10.2 of the procedures), the vetting oversight actions taken should be included.

23. The Board should indicate how it is satisfied that:

- (a) the statutory requirements for Garda Vetting are met.

The school meets its statutory requirements regarding Garda Vetting, the Board has sight of the physical copy of all school vetting.

- (b) the department's requirements in relation to the provision of a child protection related statutory declaration and associated form of undertaking are met.

The school undertakes a statutory declaration and form of undertaking for each employee at time of employment.

- (c) thorough recruitment and selection procedures are applied by the school in relation to all school personnel (employees and volunteers).

Every employee is subject to vetting and academic qualification and is ratified by a meeting of the Board of Management.

Statement by the Board

The Board should make an overall statement as to its satisfaction that the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment and child protection procedures are being fully and adequately implemented by the school.

The Board of Management of Scoil Pól Kilfinane formally confirms its satisfaction that the Child Safeguarding Statement, Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment and all child protection procedures are being fully, consistently and appropriately implemented by the school, in accordance with the Child Protection Procedures for Schools (2025). The Board, having reviewed the relevant documentation and received assurances from the Principal and Designated Liaison Person, is satisfied that the school is meeting its statutory obligations and that robust safeguarding and child protection practices are embedded across the school community.

Signed*:

Sister Eileen Kelly

Chairperson of the board of management

Date:

12/3/2026