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Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

For: St. Peter Apostle Junior National School
At: Neilstown, Clondalkin, Dublin 22. D22AK09

This school is a: (tick appropriate)



Primary

☐

Post-primary

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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):

Laura Hannon

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

Kathy Gleeson

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

Name of Relevant Person

Laura Hannon

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

Phone: 01-4572811

Email: laura.hannon@stpeterapostlejns.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, or in an ETB school the Chief Executive or their delegate:

Mr. Vivion Powney

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.



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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.

1 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:

1.1 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](https://www.gov.ie) website



1.2 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 absent from school for child safeguarding reasons.

1.3 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.

1.4 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 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.

1.5 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.

1.6 Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person (In schools, this person is the DLP)

- ~ There is a procedure in place for appointing a relevant person.



1.7 Protocol authorising immediate action

~ There is a written protocol in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for school in line with Appendix C of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools, 2025

The various procedures referred to in this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be accessed via the school's website, the [gov.ie](https://www.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.

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.

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.

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.



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Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

School Personnel		
List of school Activities	The school has identified the following Risk of Harm	The school has the following procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Failure to identify a child protection concern Failure to report a concern in an appropriate and/or timely manner	- Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff (revised 2025) - When the child safeguarding statement has been reviewed, all staff complete a survey in which they indicate that they have received child safeguarding statement, that they are aware of its contents, that they know who the DLP and DDLP are and what to do should a child safeguarding issue present itself to them. - Child protection is kept in focus through brief recaps on policy at each staff meeting - All Staff to engage with Tusla training module & any other training offered to schools - BOM records all data pertaining to staff and board training
Recruitment of school personnel including teaching and non-teaching staff	Prior history that deems them unsuitable to work with children Failure to identify a child protection concern Failure to report a concern in an appropriate and/or timely manner	- All new staff must supply the school with Garda vetting, a statutory declaration and a form of undertaking - The statutory declaration and form of undertaking is only valid for 12 months (we will treat the new academic year as the beginning of a new year). - DLP and DDLP will ensure new members of staff know who they are through communications sent, prior to the sub working in the school, - Child safeguarding statement is readily available (on display in school foyer, a copy is in each classroom, a copy can be supplied upon request, a copy is available online)
Classroom teaching One-to-one support One-to-one teaching	Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situations Risk of accusation	- Adherence to the Child Safeguarding Statement, Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment and child protection procedures. - Appropriate consent and safeguarding measures in place for 1:1 teaching. 1:1 sessions take place in observable settings with visibility into the room. - School toileting procedures followed at all times. - Appropriate supervision, clear boundaries and regular head counts maintained.



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One-to-one counselling Outdoor teaching	Risks associated with behaviours of concern Child injury, separation from group, unauthorised departure, harm by an adult, false allegation, adverse weather or medical emergency	• Outdoor areas checked prior to use and activities adapted to weather conditions. • Behaviours of Concern Policy, individual support plans and risk assessments implemented where required. • Staff follow NCSE Relate guidance and agreed school procedures. • Preventative and de-escalation strategies used; incidents recorded and reviewed. • First aid, healthcare and emergency procedures implemented as required. • All responses are child-centred and in line with the Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy.
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm to a child by school personnel while receiving intimate care Risk of accusation	• Intimate Care Policy implemented at all times. • Intimate care support provided in accordance with pupils' Additional Care Needs Plans. • The minimum level of intervention necessary is used. • Where practicable, intimate care is provided with another adult nearby while respecting the child's dignity and privacy. • Intimate care interventions are recorded in line with school procedures, including details of support provided, personnel present and outcomes. • Appropriate records are maintained and reviewed in accordance with the Intimate Care Policy.
Toilet areas in classrooms (Butterfly suite and mainstream) Use of changing/shower areas in school (Butterfly suite)	Harm to a child by school personnel while receiving intimate care Risk of accusation	• Full implementation of the Intimate Care Policy and individual intimate care plans. • Intimate care and showering support provided only by appropriately trained and Garda-vetted staff. • Where practicable, two adults are present while maintaining the child's dignity, privacy and independence. • Support is provided only to the extent necessary and in accordance with the child's identified care needs. • All intimate care procedures are followed in line with school policy. • Appropriate health and safety measures are implemented at all times. • All concerns, incidents and interventions are recorded and managed in accordance with school safeguarding procedures.



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School Transport arrangements, including the use of a Bus Escort	Harm by School Personnel Risk of accusation	• All staff will complete Child Protection and Safeguarding training. • All staff will be appropriately vetted and provide the required documentation to the school. • Vetted staff will be provided with and will adhere to the school's Child Safeguarding Statement. • Where practicable, at least two adults will remain with children during collection and drop-off times. • Collection and drop-off times are in public view • Staff will adhere to all relevant school policies, including the Bí Cineálta Policy, the Code of Behaviour, and the Health and Safety policies. • The school will deliver age-appropriate preventative and wellbeing programmes, including SPHE, RSE, the Stay Safe Programme, and Incredible Years.
LGBT Children/ Pupils perceived with LGBT and/or ethnic minorities, religious minorities, and/or pupils with SEN	Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Bullying	• Adherence to the school's Bí Cineálta Policy and Code of Behaviour, with all incidents of bullying, including homophobic, biphobic, and transphobic bullying, addressed promptly and in line with school procedures. • Delivery of preventative and wellbeing programmes, including: ◦ SPHE ◦ RSE ◦ Stay Safe Programme ◦ Incredible Years ◦ Fun Friends • Parental consent will be retained on file where a child is opting out of any programme. • Promotion of an inclusive school culture that respects diversity and different family structures. • Individual or group targets to develop social skills, empathy, emotional regulation, and anti-bullying behaviours for children who require additional support. • Use of social stories, visual supports, and explicit teaching of expected social behaviours for children with autism and other additional needs. • Staff will challenge and address discriminatory language, stereotypes, and exclusionary behaviour when observed.



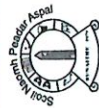
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		Ongoing supervision of pupils in classrooms, yards, and other school activities to promote positive peer interactions and reduce opportunities for bullying.
External personnel involved with children Personnel for extra-curricular activities (on-going) e.g. violins, dance, play/art therapists, counsellors	Failure to identify a child protection concern Failure to report a concern in a timely manner Risk of harm to children by Personnel who are engaged to work with children in the school Risk of accusation	- All external personnel must be appropriately Garda vetted, and the school must receive the required documentation or written confirmation from their employer before work commences. - The school's Child Safeguarding Statement, Risk Assessment, Child Protection Procedures, and details of the DLP/DDLP will be made available to external personnel. - Parents/guardians will be informed and written consent obtained before any regular one-to-one sessions take place. - All visitors and external personnel will wear a visitor lanyard while on school premises. - Where feasible, one-to-one sessions will take place in rooms with a glass panel in the door; otherwise, doors will remain open where appropriate. - External personnel will adhere to all relevant school safeguarding and child protection procedures, and staff will maintain appropriate oversight of their work with pupils.
Curricular Policies		
List of School activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe	Failure to teach SPHE and the Stay Safe Programme	- Delivery of SPHE curriculum, including personal safety and help-seeking. - Delivery of the Stay Safe Programme in accordance with the school plan. - Teaching of respectful relationships, inclusion, anti-bullying and online safety. - Opportunities for pupils to seek support from trusted adults. - Identity of DLP/DDLP prominently displayed. - Child-friendly safeguarding information displayed and reinforced through assemblies. - Monitoring of SPHE and Stay Safe delivery by school leadership. - Staff adherence to Child Protection Procedures in the event of a disclosure. - Staff access to relevant training and guidance.



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Prevention and Dealing with Bullying amongst pupils	Risk of child being harmed by another child Failure to identify a child protection concern Failure to report a concern in a timely manner	• Implementation and regular review of the Code of Behaviour. • Implementation of the Bí Cineálta Policy. • Delivery of social, emotional and anti-bullying programmes (e.g. Incredible Years, SPHE). • Weekly assemblies promoting respect, kindness and inclusion. • Active supervision of pupils during break times. • Recording and monitoring of behavioural incidents on the yard clipboard. • Timely investigation and follow-up of bullying concerns. • Promotion of pupil voice and reporting of concerns to trusted adults. • Regular communication with parents regarding behavioural and wellbeing concerns. • Consistent application of restorative and positive behaviour approaches by staff
Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	Harm to pupils, staff or others; inappropriate intervention; false allegation; emotional distress Risk of accusation	• Implementation of the Code of Behaviour, Child Safeguarding Statement, Health & Safety Policy and Bí Cineálta Policy. • Behaviours of Concern Policy, individual behaviour support plans and risk assessments implemented where required. • Positive behaviour promoted through consistent routines, clear expectations, positive reinforcement and a child-centred approach. • Staff adhere to NCSE Relate guidance and use Occupational Therapy-recommended regulation strategies and sensory supports where appropriate. • Appropriate supervision levels maintained based on identified pupil needs and assessed risks. • Preventative and de-escalation strategies are prioritised, with restrictive interventions used only where necessary and in accordance with school policy. • Where in place, behaviour support plans are reviewed regularly in consultation with parents/guardians and relevant professionals. • Incidents are recorded, monitored and reviewed to identify patterns, inform interventions and support continuous improvement in practice.
Administration of Medicine	Non-Compliance with Policy	• Adherence to the Health and Safety Policy and Administration of Medication procedures.



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Administration of First Aid	Harm by personnel	• Annual staff briefing on medication administration, first aid procedures and medical needs. • Individual Care Needs Plans developed and reviewed for pupils with medical conditions, allergies or medication requirements. • Care Needs Plans accessible to relevant staff, with photographs displayed where parental consent has been obtained. • Medication stored securely, appropriately labelled and readily accessible in an emergency. • Where required, staff are trained in the administration of prescribed medication and use of emergency medication. • Clear procedures in place for responding to medical emergencies, accidents and injuries. • Parental consent obtained for the administration of medication and first aid interventions, as appropriate. • Medical incidents, medication administration and first aid treatment recorded and communicated to parents. • Where intimate care or temperature checking is required, this is carried out with due regard to safeguarding procedures and, where practicable, in the presence of a second adult.
Online Safety Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Bullying Cyber Bullying Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social	• Adherence to the ICT Policy/Acceptable Use Policy, Code of Behaviour, Digital Learning Plan and Bí Cineálta Policy. • Internet access monitored and filtered in accordance with school procedures. • Staff supervision of pupils when using digital technologies and online resources. • Explicit teaching of online safety, digital citizenship, responsible technology use and cyberbullying prevention. • Promotion of respectful online behaviour through the Bí Cineálta Policy and Code of Behaviour. • Pupils taught how to recognise, report and respond to cyberbullying and online safety concerns. • Use of age-appropriate digital platforms and educational resources.



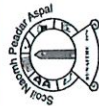
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	media, texting, digital device or other means Risk of due to children inappropriately accessing /using computers and other devices while at school	• Protection of personal data in accordance with GDPR and school procedures. • AI tools used only under staff supervision and without identifiable pupil information. • Clear procedures for reporting, recording and addressing concerns relating to cyberbullying and inappropriate technology use. • Engagement with parents regarding safe and responsible use of technology. • Ongoing review of digital safety practices, emerging technologies and online risks. • Staff access to relevant training and guidance in relation to online safety and digital safeguarding.
Use of video/photography/ other media to record school events	Images used by others in harmful way Social Media Commentary	• Parental consent obtained and recorded for photography, video recording and media use. • Images used only for legitimate educational and school-related purposes. • Staff to familiarise themselves with the wishes of parents (indicated in their enrolment forms which are filed in Lorraine's office) as to wishes regarding the use of media for websites etc. • School-owned devices and approved platforms used for storage and sharing of images. • Parents and visitors reminded not to post images of children other than their own on social media. • Parents and visitors reminded not to comment on, identify or discuss other children online. • Staff supervision maintained during school events.
Use of AI	Pupils accessing inappropriate or harmful content through AI tools AI generating inaccurate or misleading information that may confuse children Sharing of personal or sensitive information with AI platforms	• Adherence to ICT Policy, Acceptable Use Policy, Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy. Staff supervision of pupils when using digital technologies. • Use of filtered, monitored and school-approved online platforms. • Staff use Microsoft Copilot only through the school-approved Microsoft platform and in accordance with the school's Acceptable Use Policy, GDPR requirements and data protection procedures • Prohibition on entering personal or sensitive information into AI tools. • Teacher review of AI-generated content before use with pupils. • Digital citizenship and online safety education for pupils.



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			Regular review of AI use and emerging risks by school management.
Events and Activities			
List of school activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment	
Unstructured play	Inadequate supervision of pupils during recreation breaks Bullying, exclusion or inappropriate peer interactions Accidents, injuries or unsafe play Pupils becoming distressed, vulnerable or requiring additional support Pupils leaving supervised areas Medical, allergy or food-related incidents Reduced supervision during wet-day breaks	- Staff supervision rota in place for teachers and SNAs. - Staff assigned to identified supervision areas. - Teachers remain on duty until all pupils have returned to class. - Teachers do not send pupils to yard until supervision is in place. - Adherence to Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy. - Prompt intervention and follow-up by staff. - Pupils encouraged to seek help from a trusted adult - Playground supervision and regular safety checks. - Accident reporting and first aid procedures in place. - Adherence to the Health and Safety Policy - Staff monitor pupil wellbeing during breaks. - SNA support provided where required - Individual support plans implemented as appropriate. - Clearly defined yard boundaries. - Secure perimeter and gate procedures. - Adult supervision during eating times. - Staff aware of medical needs and emergency procedures. - Wet-day supervision arrangements in place for classrooms, corridors and the Butterfly Suite as required.	



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Entrance doors to school	Unauthorised access to pupils or school corridors by non-vetted persons Unauthorised access through side entrances (e.g. main yard doors) Pupils opening doors to the public or leaving the building unsupervised	• Access camera and buzzer system at main entrance. • All visitors report to reception, are signed in, directed by staff and wear a visitor lanyard. • Access to pupil areas restricted and monitored by staff. • Side and corridor doors closed during the school day. • Butterfly Suite protected by keypad access. • Designated entrances (Main door) only used for late arrivals. • Door release mechanisms inaccessible to pupils. • Hall doors supervised by staff. • Teachers ensure external doors are secured following entry, break times and transitions.
Early Collection of Pupils by Parents/Guardians /Others	An unknown or unauthorised person collecting a pupil from school Pupil collected by an inappropriate or unsupervised person	• Parents/Guardians must notify the school if there is a change to collection arrangements. • Staff verify collection arrangements where necessary. • Persons collecting pupils must be at least 17 years of age. • Pupils are released only to authorised persons known to the school or identified by the Parent/Guardian • Second Class pupils may only be collected by a pupil from the senior school where written parental permission has been provided. • Collection arrangements are communicated to relevant staff. • Any concerns regarding collection are referred to school management before the pupil is released.



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Toileting – Catheterisation	Injury during catheterisation Breach of trust or false allegation Injury at catheterisation site	• Side rails secured and wheelchair brakes applied as appropriate. • Only trained and authorised staff carry out the procedure. • Two staff members present at all times. • Two staff members present at all times. • All staff Garda vetted. • Adherence to safeguarding, intimate care procedures and health and safety policy. • Procedure carried out only by staff with appropriate training and competency approval. • Individual healthcare plans followed.
Toileting breaks at yard time, in the church, swimming, sports days, school tours and school events	Harm to a child by a member of school personnel False allegation against a member of staff	• Only school personnel support pupils requiring assistance. • Where possible, pupils are escorted to toilets in groups of two or more. • If a child requires individual support, another child accompanies the group where appropriate. • No adult enters a toilet cubicle or toilet area alone with an individual child unless required under an agreed intimate care plan. • Staff adhere to the Child Safeguarding Statement and Intimate Care Policy. • All staff are Garda vetted. • Staff avoid one-to-one situations where possible. • Toileting arrangements are carried out in open, observable environments. • More than one child accompanies staff to the toilet area where possible. • Any intimate care needs are managed in line with agreed school procedures and individual care plans. • Concerns, incidents or accidents are recorded and reported appropriately.
Children changing in the changing room	Harm to a child False allegation	• Only school personnel supervise changing areas. • Staff avoid one-to-one situations where possible. • Assistance is provided only where necessary and in an open and observable manner, with parents informed. • Parents of pupils with agreed care needs support their own child in a private cubicle.



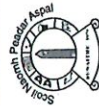
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	Inappropriate behaviour between children Breach of privacy in changing areas	- Children are actively supervised and are not permitted in unsupervised areas out of sight of adults unless accompanied by a parent. - All staff are Garda vetted and adhere to safeguarding procedures.
School tours	Harm to a child by an external adult Harm to a child during transport Child becoming lost or separated from the group Injury, illness or medical emergency Bullying or inappropriate behaviour between pupils	- The school seeks confirmation that staff employed by venues/providers who will have contact with pupils are appropriately Garda vetted (or subject to equivalent vetting procedures where applicable). - At least two members of school staff accompany groups participating in activities led by external personnel. - Pupils remain under the supervision of school personnel at all times. - Children are never left alone with a bus driver or transport provider. - Only school personnel assist children with seating and safety restraints where required. - Staff supervise boarding and disembarking. - Appropriate staff-to-pupil ratios maintained. - Regular headcounts conducted. - Pupils supervised during all transitions and activities. - Relevant medical information, healthcare plans and emergency contacts available to staff. - Appropriate first aid arrangements in place. - Active supervision by staff. - Adherence to the Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy. - Behaviour expectations communicated to pupils in advance.
Fundraising Events involving pupils e.g. School Disco – after school hours.	Unauthorised access to pupils by visitors or members of the public	- Visitors and volunteers are supervised by school personnel and access to pupils is monitored and restricted. - Staff avoid one-to-one situations where possible, activities take place in open and observable environments, pupils remain under the supervision of school personnel, and volunteers working directly with pupils are appropriately vetted where required.



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	Harm to a child by an adult / False allegation against a staff member or volunteer Child becoming lost, separated from supervision or collected by an unauthorised person Bullying or inappropriate behaviour between pupils Use of external providers or entertainers	• Appropriate supervision and collection arrangements are in place and pupils are monitored throughout the event. • Active supervision is provided and the Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy are implemented. • The school seeks confirmation that relevant personnel are appropriately Garda vetted where applicable, and pupils remain under the supervision of school personnel at all times.
Summer Programme	Inadequate supervision of pupils Harm to a child by a member of school personnel / False allegation against a staff member Bullying or inappropriate behaviour between pupils Child becoming distressed, vulnerable or dysregulated Child becoming lost or collected by an unauthorised person Harm arising from visitors, volunteers or external providers	• Appropriate staff-to-pupil ratios maintained and pupils remain under the supervision of school personnel at all times. • Staff avoid one-to-one situations where possible, activities take place in open and observable environments, and all staff are Garda vetted. • Active supervision is provided and the Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy are implemented. • Activities are tailored to pupils' needs and appropriate supports and care plans are implemented where required. • Appropriate supervision and collection procedures are in place and pupils are released only to authorised persons. • The school follows its Behaviours of Concern Policy, individual support plans and risk assessments where required, and provides appropriate supervision and support. • Staff adhere to the NCSE <i>Relate</i> guidance and follow agreed school procedures. • Preventative and de-escalation strategies are used, incidents are recorded and reviewed, and parents are informed where appropriate. • Responses are child-centred and in line with the Child Safeguarding Statement, Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy



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	Injury, illness or medical emergency	- The school seeks confirmation that relevant personnel are appropriately Garda vetted where applicable and pupils remain under the supervision of school personnel at all times. - Adherence to our Health and Safety Policy. - Where required, relevant risk assessments, care plans, first aid and emergency procedures are in place.
External Personnel		
External Personnel	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
External personnel who interact with children	Harm to pupils by an external person visiting the school Failure to identify a child protection concern Failure to report a concern in a timely manner	- The school seeks confirmation that external personnel who have contact with pupils are appropriately Garda vetted where applicable, and all interactions take place under the supervision of school personnel - Statutory declarations and forms of undertaking are secured where required - External personnel are informed of relevant school policies and safeguarding expectations and are supervised while on site. - Identity of DLP and DDLP prominently displayed along with Child Safeguarding Statement. - One-to-one situations are avoided where possible, and activities take place in open and observable environments. - Responsibility for pupil supervision remains with school personnel and appropriate staff-to-pupil ratios are maintained.
External personnel who do not work with children directly, such as visitors, repair	Failure to identify a child protection concern Failure to report a concern in a timely manner	- Visitors must make themselves known upon arrival and where required produce identification. - Visitors will wear a visitor identification lanyard while on school premises. - Visitors will be supervised as appropriate and will not have unsupervised access to pupils - Staff will remain vigilant and challenge any adult who is not known to them and is not displaying visitor identification.



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personnel, contractors, etc	Harm to a child in the school by a person visiting the school Risk of accusation	- School staff will maintain appropriate oversight of visitors while they are on the premises, and any concerns will be reported immediately in line with safeguarding procedures. - Areas where visitors are working will be managed to ensure the safety, welfare, and protection of all pupils.
Student Teachers undertaking Teaching Practice in school	Harm to a child by a student teacher False allegation against a student teacher Lack of awareness of safeguarding responsibilities Inappropriate use of technology or recording devices	- Student teachers are vetted by their College of Education and the school receives appropriate documentation. - Student teachers are made aware of the Child Safeguarding Statement and the identities of the DLP and DDLP. - Student teachers are supervised and supported by the class teacher and adhere to the school's child safeguarding procedures. - Student teachers are briefed on safeguarding, professional boundaries and school procedures. - One-to-one situations are avoided where possible and activities take place in open and observable environments - Student teachers are informed of the named liaison person between the college and the school. - Student teachers are to familiarise themselves with the school's policies on child protection practices, including toileting and intimate care procedures. - Student teachers are not permitted to use personal laptops, phones or electronic devices when working with pupils unless authorised by the school and in accordance with school policies.
Other students participating in other work experience in the school.	Harm to a child by a work experience student False allegation against a work experience student or member of staff	- Vetted by Secondary Schools/Colleges and DLP, DDLP informed of named Person acting as a Liaison Person between College and School - Students are provided with the Child Safeguarding Statement, and supervised by school personnel at all times. - Students are to familiarise themselves with the school's policies on child protection practices, including toileting and intimate care procedures.



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	Lack of awareness of safeguarding responsibilities Inappropriate use of technology	• No unsupervised one-to-one interaction between a work experience student and an individual pupil. • Students are informed of the identities of the DLP and DDLP and briefed on child protection and school procedures, including toileting arrangements. • Personal devices may not be used in connection with pupils unless authorised by the school and in accordance with school policy.
Volunteers/Parents	Harm to a child by a parent volunteer False allegation against a parent volunteer or member of staff Lack of awareness of safeguarding responsibilities	• Parent volunteers who interact with pupils are appropriately vetted where required, informed of safeguarding procedures, and supervised by school personnel. • One-to-one situations with pupils are avoided where possible and volunteers work under the direction of school personnel. • Parent volunteers are provided with relevant safeguarding information, including the Child Safeguarding Statement and the identities of the DLP and DDLP, and are briefed on child protection and toileting procedures.
Use of school premises by other organisation during and after school.	Harm to a child by personnel from external organisations Unauthorised access to pupils or school facilities Lack of awareness of safeguarding responsibilities Failure to follow school safeguarding procedures	• External organisations are advised of the requirement for appropriate vetting and compliance with Child Protection Procedures when working with children. • Gate and door access codes are not shared with external personnel. • Access to the building is managed in accordance with school procedures. • External organisations are provided with relevant safeguarding information and are required to adhere to the conditions set out in the School Hall Hire Agreement. • Use of school premises is conditional on adherence to the requirements of the School Hall Hire Agreement and relevant child safeguarding obligations.



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Distance Learning		
Distance Learning	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Distance collaboration	Exposure to sensitive content about a child if sharing screens or if working from home	School-approved platforms only, with two-factor authentication, teacher approval of content, and adherence to the AUP, ICT and GDPR policies.
Video calls	Harm by personnel – images used in a harmful way Observing a reason for concern in the background of a video Disclosure by the child Failure to report a concern Risk of accusation	- Video calls take place through approved platforms only, in line with AUP protocols (including parental involvement where appropriate and no recording of calls). - All staff are Garda vetted, have completed Children First training and follow Child Safeguarding Procedures.
Uploading of material	Inappropriate content Failure to report such activity	Work is uploaded through approved platforms only, privacy settings prevent pupils accessing other pupils' work, parents are encouraged to review work before upload, and GDPR and AUP requirements are followed
Child Safeguarding concerns arising from online interactions	Failure to recognize the need to act when working through electronic means	All staff are aware that any child protection concern arising during distance learning is managed in accordance with Child Safeguarding Procedures and reported immediately to the DLP/DDLP/Chairperson or directly by the teacher if urgent or if these school personnel are unavailable.
Repurposing works		
Presence of contractors on site	Pupils coming into contact with contractors, delivery personnel or other non-school personnel.	All contractors to adhere to their companies sign in procedures; wear identification; remain within designated work areas; receive safeguarding information; no unsupervised contact with pupils permitted.



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Construction works adjacent to school activities	Pupils may inadvertently enter work areas or come into contact with tools, materials or machinery.	Secure fencing/hoarding around work areas; locked access points; daily inspection of barriers; pupils regularly reminded that construction areas are out of bounds.
Access to autism classes via external route	Pupils may become separated from staff, abscond, or encounter hazards while moving between locations.	Pupils to be accompanied by staff at all times; designated walking routes established; additional supervision provided where necessary; gates and access points kept secure.
Autism classes temporarily separated from the main school building	Reduced staff visibility and increased safeguarding concerns due to physical separation.	Clear communication systems established; regular staff check-ins; supervision plans reviewed; designated procedures for movement between buildings.
Construction traffic and deliveries	Risk of injury from moving vehicles and machinery.	Deliveries scheduled where possible outside peak pupil movement times; clearly marked exclusion zones; contractor supervision of vehicle movements; staff informed of significant deliveries.
Closure of the infant yard	Loss of normal play area for Early Start, Junior Infants	Alternative play areas identified; revised supervision arrangements implemented; temporary boundaries clearly communicated to pupils and staff.
Noise from construction works	Distress, anxiety or sensory overload, particularly for pupils with additional need	Advance notice of particularly noisy works; additional sensory supports provided; access to quieter areas where required; staff to monitor pupil wellbeing.
Dust and general disruption	Impact on pupil comfort, wellbeing and learning environment.	Contractors to implement dust control measures; work areas sealed where possible; regular cleaning and monitoring.



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Emergency evacuation during construction	Confusion regarding evacuation routes or assembly points.	Temporary evacuation procedures developed and communicated; updated maps displayed; fire drills conducted during the works; contractors included in emergency arrangements.
Temporary changes to school routines	Lack of awareness of temporary arrangements may create safeguarding concerns	Regular updates issued to staff and parents; significant changes communicated promptly; safeguarding arrangements included in staff briefings.
External movement during wet or adverse weather	Increased risk of slips, trips and falls.	Routes kept clear and maintained; pupils supervised closely; additional care taken during adverse weather conditions.
Pupil curiosity regarding building works	Pupils attempting to observe or access work zones.	Construction areas screened where possible; pupils reminded regularly about safety rules; enhanced supervision during break times and transitions



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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

15-10-26

on (most recent review date).

Signed <i>Louise Hannon</i> Principal	Date: 15/10/26
Print name:	

Signed Chairperson Board of Management <i>Viv Powney</i>	Date: 15/10/26
Print name: <i>Viv Powney</i>	

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

October 27



Appendix 1 Location of copies of the Child Protection Procedures and Children First Guidance

Child Protection Procedures

A copy of the Child Protection Procedures can be found at the following address:

https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/09fe3ad4/Child_Protection_Procedures_for_Schools_2025.pdf

Two hard copies of the procedures are also located in Laura Hannon's Office

A pdf of the procedures is also saved in the shared teacher folder on Teams – Academic Year 2026-2027

Children First Act 2015

Information on Children First Act can be found at this web address

<https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-the-taoiseach/organisation-information/children-first-act-2015/>

Children First National Guidance 2017 can be found at this web address:

https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Children_First_National_Guidance_2017.pdf

A pdf of Children First National Guidance 2017 is also available on teacher team – Academic year 2026-2027 – Child Protection docs

A hard copy of Children First National Guidance 2017 is available in Laura Hannon's office