

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

St. Joseph's NS, Kilcock, Co. Kildare

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

St. Joseph's N.S. is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

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 \(2019\)](#), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools \(revised 2023\)](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of St. Joseph's N.S. has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Úna O' Kelly
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Ciarra McNickle
- 4 The Relevant Person is Úna O' Kelly
(The relevant person is one who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. This person can also be the DLP)
- 5 The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, 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;

- In accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and the Addendum to Children First (2019), the Board 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.

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


Note: The above is not intended as an exhaustive list. Individual Boards of Management shall also include in this section such other procedures/measures that are of relevance to the school in question.

- 7 This statement has been published on the school's website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents' Association (if any) and the patron. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and the Department if requested.
- 8 This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on 19th September 2024

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on September 2024.

Signed: 
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: 
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 19/09/24

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Intimate Care	Harm by school personnel.	Intimate Care procedures in place 2 adult supervision always. Sports Teams are reminded to change in classroom before match starts	
Coaches/volunteers / Clubs and Work Experience	Harm to pupils. Harm by coach/volunteer/student.	Policy on Visiting/ After School Coaches and procedures in place Vetting for all 16 and over Túsla Online Training and certification Staff member always present during school day. No one coach should ever be left alone with individual children	
One on One Teaching/work if required	Harm by school personnel.	Policy and procedures in place No 1:1 teaching allowed but if must happen: Sit opposite the child, not alongside. All 1:1 work/teaching/supervision in the child's classroom. All substitute teachers must work in the classroom	
Visitors	Harm to pupils.	Procedures in place: Visitors Book – sign in/out, Badge while visiting stating day, appropriate signage No unauthorised access to school and all staff to query unknown people Regular visitors must have vetting in place	
Daily arrival and dismissal of children	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground.	Supervised by teachers and SNA's with procedures in place: Accompany all children to gate and dismiss to designated person as indicated by parents/guardians. <i>Class list indicating same in case of your absence.</i> All children to be collected from designated areas.	
Major school events, Sports Day, Grandparents, Day, Celli Mór etc.	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults in the school.	Procedure Children are never left unsupervised by their teacher at these events. Limit 'time' access of adults and/or older children. Specific areas of access to school only throughout event.	

Important Note: It should be noted that 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. The definition of harm is set out in chapter 4 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools* (revised 2023).