

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Phádraic Cailíní 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 Scoil Phádraic Cailíní 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 Ciara Greene.
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Michelle Barry.
- 4 The Relevant Person is Ciara Greene.
(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. In a school setting the relevant person shall be the designated liaison person.)
- 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;
- fully cooperate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters;
- adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

The school will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adult pupil with a special vulnerability.

6 The following procedures/measures are in place:

- In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child attending the school, the school adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the school adheres 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 available on the gov.ie website.
- In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to staff in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) the school-
 - Ø Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ø Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement

- Ø Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - Ø Encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training
 - Ø The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training
- In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, all school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)*, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
 - All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.
 - 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 _____ [date].

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on ___[most recent review date].

Signed: _____ *Lisa English* _____

Signed: _____ 9/09/24 _____

Chairperson of Board of Management

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: _____ *Ciana Greene* _____

Date: _____ 9/09/24 _____

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment
Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Phádraic Cailíní, Donabate, Co. Dublin

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 8 of *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools* (revised 2023) , the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Scoil Phádraic Cailíní. .

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 statement
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Harm not recognised/not reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES procedures made available to all staff DLP and DDLP to attend PDST training All staff to engage with TUSLA training module & any other relevant training offered by PDST School retains records of staff and BOM training GDPR
One-to-one teaching	Harm by school personnel	Staff training in Child Protection matters SEN Policy Glass window in LS areas SNA support for behavioural concerns
Care of pupils with SEN including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	Toilets in most classrooms Toilet doors remain open Class teacher present
Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour Pupil locked in toilet Pupils accident/fall	Procedures in place for use of toilets not in classrooms during teaching times (rooms 3,4 and 5) Supervision policy

		<p>Break times (pupils on yard) - use hall toilets where Main door remains open</p> <p>Training for Senior pupils <i>Cara programme</i> from 6th class</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Procedures to Adopt in the Event of an accident/injury</p> <p>First Aid Responders</p>
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE in particular RSE/Stay Safe	Non teaching of same	SPHE programmes implemented in full including Stay Safe Programme
Arrival and Dismissal of pupils	<p>Harm from other pupils</p> <p>Adults on the campus</p> <p>Road traffic</p> <p>Inappropriate behaviour</p>	<p>Arrival and Dismissal procedures - Supervision Policy</p> <p>Traffic Management - School Warden</p> <p>Health and Safety Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Procedures to Adopt in the Event of an accident/injury</p>
Pupil's Break times	<p>Bullying</p> <p>Harm not recognised and/or not properly reported</p>	<p>Supervision Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Procedures to Adopt in the Event of an accident/injury</p> <p>First Aid Responders</p>
Classroom Toilets	Toilets not in classroom	<p>Classroom Procedures for toilet access</p> <p>SNA support when needed and when available</p> <p>When appropriate, nearest available teacher supervises with both classroom doors open</p>
Class Teacher Required Elsewhere	Pupil harm	<p>Supervision Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p>
One-to-one Assessment by outside agency eg OT, NEPS	<p>Harm by external agency staff</p> <p>Protection for external agency staff</p> <p>Confidentiality</p>	<p>SEN policy</p> <p>Glass in door of Learning Support areas</p> <p>GDPR</p>

Outdoor Teaching Activities on Campus by school staff	Accident/injury to pupil	Code of Behaviour Teachers notify relevant staff where class will be located Support of SNA or Special Education teacher where appropriate and where practicable Procedures to Adopt in the Event of an accident/injury First Aid Responders (FAR)
PE Activities - external Coach	Injury to pupil Pupil unwell Inappropriate Footwear	PE Policy Uniform Policy Procedures to Adopt in the Event of an accident/injury First Aid Responders
School Tours/Events off site	Injury to Pupil Pupil unwell Supervision External Staff Travel to and from the venue Photographs/videos recording event	School Tour Policy Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Class teachers remain with pupils School staff have contact details for pupils and school Procedures to Adopt in the Event of an accident/injury First Aid mobile kit Administration of Prescribed Medications Policy GDPR and IT Policy
Sports Day	Supervision Injury Accident to pupil Inclusion External coaches	PE Policy Supervision Policy Garda Vetting Procedures to adopt in the event of injury/illness Special Educational Needs Policy SNA support Code of Behaviour First Aid Responders
Fundraising Events involving pupils	Supervision Injury to pupil Pupil Illness Child Protection	Sanction by BOM for event Supervision Policy Garda Vetting for External volunteers GDPR

		Code of Behaviour Procedures to Adopt in the Event of Injury Illness
Swimming Lessons- second and third class	Child Protection Supervision Pupil injury/accident/unwell Inclusion Travel to and from the pool	Swimming Policy School Tour Policy Administration of Prescribed Medication Policy Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour SNA support Special Educational Needs Policy Procedures to Adopt in the Event of Injury Illness
Pupils with SEBD	Self-harm Harm to pupils Harm to staff Child Protection Supervision	Special Educational Needs Policy Code of Behaviour Supervision Policy SNA Support Procedures to Adopt in the Event of Injury Illness
Care of Pupils with Vulnerabilities including but not limited to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Migrants ● Ethnic minorities ● Religious minorities ● Disadvantaged pupils ● LGBTQIA+ pupils 	Harm to pupil Bullying Inclusion	Pastoral Care Practices Special Education Team SNA support SPHE Programme Code of Behaviour Anti-bullying Policy Wellbeing Initiatives NEPS Child Protection Notification System TUSLA <i>Cara</i> Programme
School Teams (GAA, Hockey)	Pupil Injury/accident	Supervision Policy

etc)	Child Protection (changing into kit) Travel to and from matches Training after school	Code of Behaviour Procedures to Adopt in the Event of Injury/ Illness Administration of Prescribed Medication Policy Staff Coach has contact information for pupils and school PE Policy Parental Permission
Administration of Prescribed Medications	Harm to pupil Protection for staff Confidentiality	Administration of Prescribed Medication Policy Procedures to Adopt in the Event of Injury Illness Indemnification for staff Aladdin coded system for medical needs GDPR
Recruitment of (including but not limited to) School Personnel Substitutes, Coaches, Volunteers, Visitors, Contractors. Cleaners, ancillary staff, Hot Lunch Team	Harm to Child	Garda Vetting Signing in/out Procedure Supervision Policy Child First Procedures Supervision by Caretaker of Contract Workers
Religious Ceremonies/Activities off School Campus	Harm to Child	Supervision Policy Child Protection Procedures Procedures for Travel to and from the church Administration of Prescribed Medication Policy Procedures to Adopt in the Event of Injury Illness Code of Behaviour
Use of IT by pupils	Bullying Harm to pupil Non-adherence to policy and procedures by staff	Acceptable Use Policy Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour GDPR
Transition Year Work	Harm to primary pupil	Garda vetting

Experience Programme	Child Protection Harm to TY student Supervision Confidentiality	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Child Safeguarding Statement SEN Policy GDPR
Student Teacher Placement	Harm to pupil Child Protection Supervision Confidentiality	Garda vetting Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Child Safeguarding Statement SEN Policy GDPR Procedures to Adopt in the Event of Injury Illness
Volunteers	Harm to pupils Confidentiality	Vetting Procedures Policy for Parents/Volunteers
Use of IT to record School Activities/Events	Data Protection Child Protection	Acceptable Use Policy Parental Permission for use of images GDPR
Pupil Bullying	Harm to pupils Inclusion	Anti-Bullying Policy Positive Behaviour Reinforcement Supervision Policy <i>Cara</i> Programme Code of Behaviour Special Educational Needs Policy
After School Activities (External Agency)	Child Protection Harm to Pupil Data Protection	Garda Vetting External Agency Insurance External Agency Policies and Procedures Collection of pupils supervised by External Agency Staff

Use of School Premises by Other Agencies during the school day eg Hot Lunch Programme, SHERPA Childcare	Harm to pupil Harm to external agency Staff Child Protection Supervision	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Procedures to Adopt in the Event of Injury/Illness SNA Support where appropriate and available for Hot Lunch Programme Garda Vetting External agency policies and procedures External Agency Insurance
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Important Note: It should be noted that risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of “harm” 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 *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools* (revised 2023).

In undertaking this assessment the Board of Management has endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to Scoil Phádraic Cailíni and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified. While it is not possible to foresee and manage 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 risk assessment was endorsed by the Board of Management September, 2024. It will be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its safeguarding statement.

Signed **Lisa English** Date 9/09/2024
Chairperson , Board of Management

Signed **Ciara Greene** Date 9/09/2024
Principal, Scoil Phádraic Cailíni

