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Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

For:	Coláiste De Lacy	(School Name)
At:	Ashbourne Education Campus, Ashbourne, Co Meath, A84TW90	(School Address)

This school is a: (tick appropriate) ☐ primary ☒ post-primary ☐ 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):

Janice Ui Bheoláin

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

Barry O'Higgins

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

Name of Relevant Person

Janice Ui Bheoláin

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

01 5241075	Jcorrigan.cdl@lmetb.ie
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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:

Martin O'Brien (CE LMETB) & Fiona Kindlon (Director of Schools, LMETB & CE Delegate)
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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.

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.

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.

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 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 (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.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
	<i>Please note that for each of the list of school activities listed below the following risks are identified <u>in all activities</u>:</i> • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour • Risk of harm due to non-reporting by children. <i>Please note that for each of the list of school activities and risks identified below the following procedures/measures <u>are in place to mitigate all risks</u>:</i> • All school personnel (new and existing) are provided with a copy of the school's <i>Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment</i> • 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>Child 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 it's addenda including <i>The Addendum to Children First 2019 & 2025</i> • The school encourages personnel to avail of relevant training • The school encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training • The school maintains records of all personnel and Board of Management member training • 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 • The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for all pupils • The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan • The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum • The school implements in full a Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle • The school authorities have a Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy in place in accordance with the Departments <i>Bí Cineálta</i> procedures to prevent and address bullying in schools as outlined in Circular 55/2024 • The school has a <i>Health & Safety Statement</i> that is reviewed at least annually • The school adheres to the requirements of Garda vetting legislation • The school adheres to the relevant Department of Education and Youth circulars in respect of recruitment • The Teaching Council and the LMETB have a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff • The school has a special educational needs policy	

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
	The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid. Additional specific measures/procedures in relation to listed activities are included below.		
	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1.	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of unauthorised individuals gaining access to the school building and students Risk of child being harmed in school by another child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Accurate recording of attendance in each lesson, School Attendance Strategy, Attendance Officer, students sign-in and sign-out at reception, junior students must be collected from school if signing out early, good classroom management when students are entering and leaving learning spaces, school uniform, all visitors must sign in a reception, main doors to reception and Solas Centre are time-locked and fobbed
2.	Recreation breaks for pupils	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism Risk of a child being harmed by another child Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, iPads, phones, other devices, social media while at school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during breaks and in respect of specific areas of the school Bí Cineálta Policy (staff and student version) Various anti-bullying workshops, including peer education Various anti-racism events Students are not permitted to use their phones/lpads during break times/lunches (exception: Supervised use

Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment 2026-2027

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			of the Ipad is permitted in the library at recreation breaks) 2 or more students are not permitted to be in a toilet cubicle together
3.	Classroom teaching	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism Risk of a child being harmed by another child Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, iPads, phones, other devices, social media while at school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has an Acceptable Usage Policy in place and has communicated this policy to students and parents Student I pads are to be placed face down on the student desk and only used when students are instructed to do so Viewing panels in the door/door frame of all classrooms
4.	One-to-one learning support	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Viewing panels in the door/door frame of all classrooms Creation of events in Compass for scheduled meetings The school has in place a procedure for one-to-one learning support, i.e. learning support must take place in a room with a viewing panel
5.	One-to-one counselling	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Viewing panels in the door frame of general classrooms Creation of events in Compass for scheduled meetings The school has in place a procedure for one-to-one

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			counselling, i.e. counselling must take place in a room with a viewing panel
6.	Outdoor teaching activities	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer/visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism Risk of a child being harmed by another child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Creation of events in Compass for recording attendance The organising teacher/group leader must carry out a specific risk assessment for outdoor teaching activities The school/ETB has a policy in place and clear procedures in respect of school outings
7.	Sporting activities	Risk of being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in out-of-school activities, e.g. school trip, match, etc. Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer/visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism Risk of a child being harmed by another child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Creation of events in Compass for recording attendance The organising teacher/group leader must carry out a specific risk assessment for outdoor teaching activities The school/ETB has a policy in place and clear procedures in respect of school outings
8.	School outings	Risk of being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in out-of-school activities, e.g. school trip, match, etc.	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Creation of events in Compass for recording attendance The organising teacher/group leader must carry out a specific risk

Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment 2026-2027

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer/visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism Risk of a child being harmed by another child	assessment for outdoor teaching activities The school/ETB has a policy in place and clear procedures in respect of school outings
9.	School trips involving overnight stay	Risk of being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in out-of-school activities, e.g. school trip, match, etc. Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer/visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism Risk of a child being harmed by another child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Creation of events in Compass for recording attendance The organising teacher/group leader must carry out a specific risk assessment for outdoor teaching activities The school/ETB has a policy in place and clear procedures in respect of school outings
10.	School trips involving foreign travel	Risk of being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in out-of-school activities, e.g. school trip, match, etc. Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer/visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Creation of events in Compass for recording attendance The organising teacher/group leader must carry out a specific risk assessment for outdoor teaching activities The school/ETB has a policy in place and clear procedures in respect of school outings

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		Risk of a child being harmed by another child	
11.	Use of toilet/changing areas in school	Risk of a child being harmed by another child Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> In accordance with the school Code of Behaviour, 2 or more students are not permitted to be in a toilet cubicle together Toilets/changing areas are unsupervised, and consequently these areas are high risk locations for harm to students. To reduce the risk of harm, toilet areas (area outside the toilet cubicle) and/or changing areas are checked by teachers. Teachers (of any gender) may enter the toilet area (of any gender) and/or changing areas once they knock and announce their intention to enter the relevant area. The frequency of students leaving lessons to use toilets is logged on Compass. Students are not permitted to use phones, smart devices, iPads, cameras, recording devices in toilets
12.	Fundraising events involving pupils	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of a child being harmed by another child Risk of being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in out-of-school activities, e.g. fundraising activity	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Creation of events in Compass for recording attendance The organising teacher/group leader must carry out a specific risk assessment for fundraising activities The organising teacher/leader must ensure that students are

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			always supervised during the fundraising activity
13.	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Risk of being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in off-site activities, e.g. PE lessons, match, etc. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending off-site activities Risk of a child being harmed by another child Risk of harm to pupils while moving between sites	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Creation of events in Compass for recording attendance The school has a specific risk assessment regarding walking to Donaghmore-Ashbourne GAA for PE/training
14.	School transport arrangements	Risk of being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in out-of-school activities, e.g. school trip, match, etc. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism Risk of a child being harmed by another child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The organising teacher/group leader must carry out a specific risk assessment for school outings The school/ETB has a policy in place and clear procedures in respect of school outings
15.	Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed	Risk of harm to a child who is receiving intimate care Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of a child being harmed by another child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has an intimate care policy and procedures in respect of students who require such care The school/ETB has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils.

Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment 2026-2027

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities	
16.	Care of vulnerable adult with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed	Risk of harm to a vulnerable adult with special educational needs who is receiving intimate care Risk of vulnerable adult with special educational needs being harmed by another member of school personnel Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of vulnerable adults with special educational needs in school Risk of harm due to bullying of a vulnerable adult with special educational needs Risk of a vulnerable adult with special educational needs being harmed by another child Risk of harm to vulnerable adults with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has an intimate care policy and procedures in respect of students who require such care The school/ETB has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils.
17.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of child being harmed in school by another child Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has complied with the <i>Understanding Behaviours of Concern and Responding to Crisis Situations</i> developed by the DEoY to address uncertainty for staff on how to respond when facing crisis situations and where there are concerns regarding physical safety
18.	Administration of medicines	Risk of harm to a child who is receiving medication	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of a child being harmed by another child Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities	The school/ETB has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils.
19.	Administration of First Aid	Risk of harm to a child who is receiving First Aid Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of a child being harmed by another child Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has many staff trained as PHECC First Aid Responders
20.	Curricular provision in respect to SPHE & RSE	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism Risk of a child being harmed by another child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has an RSE Policy in place and has communicated this policy to students and parents The school has engaged in training to build the capacity of teachers re. the teaching of SPHE & RSE
21.	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has a Bí Cineálta Team who meet weekly and have specific responsibility for implementing the Bí Cineálta Policy
22.	Training of school personnel in child protection matters	Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel Risk of harm not being reported properly and	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The principal has contacted Oide re. training for staff who were on leave

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		promptly by members of school personnel Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training	during the whole-school training in November 2025 and Oide have responded that additional training for such staff will be provided in the 2026-2027 academic year The principal requests proof of completion of the Tusla online Children First training for all new staff
23.	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Risk of child being harmed by external personnel/visitor to the school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> In accordance with Circular Letter 0043/2018, all external speakers are approved by the Board of Management
24.	Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities	Risk of child being harmed by external personnel to the school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> External personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities are supervised by teachers
25.	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs	Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer/visitor to the school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> External personnel who visit the school are supervised by teachers
26.	Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants	Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives
27.	Members of the Traveller Community	Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school undertakes anti-discrimination awareness initiatives

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
28.	Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual or Transgender children (LGBT)	Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school undertakes anti-discrimination awareness initiatives
29.	Pupils perceived to be LGBT	Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school undertakes anti-discrimination awareness initiatives
30.	Pupils of minority religious faiths	Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school undertakes anti-discrimination awareness initiatives
31.	Children in care	Risks where children are living away from home	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school attends/contributes to <i>Child in Care Reviews</i> when requested to do so by Tusla
32.	Children on Tusla's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)	Risks where children are living away from home	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school attends/contributes to <i>Child in Care Reviews</i> when requested to do so by Tusla
33.	Children with medical needs	Risk of harm to a child who is receiving medication Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school/ETB has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils.

Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment 2026-2027

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
34.	Recruitment of school personnel including teachers, SNA's, Caretakers, Secretaries, Cleaners, Sports Coaches	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph</i>
35.	External tutors/guest speakers	Risk of child being harmed by external tutors/guest speakers	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> In accordance with Circular Letter 0043/2018, all external speakers are approved by the Board of Management External personnel who visit the school are supervised by teachers
36.	Volunteers/parents in school activities	Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer/visitor to the school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> External personnel who visit the school are supervised by teachers The ETB has a <i>Volunteering and Work Experience Policy</i>
37.	Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours	Risk of child being harmed by visitor/contractor	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Visitors/contractors who visit the school are supervised by teachers/caretakers All visitors must sign in at reception, and they are given a visitor badge. The name of the DLP and DDLP are listed on the back of the visitor badge.

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38.	Use of information and communication technology by pupils in school, including social media	Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has an Acceptable Usage Policy in place, to include provision for online conduct The school has in place a policy governing the use of smart phones and smart devices in the school by pupils as per Circular 0038/2018 and the relevant national guidelines The Teaching Council and the LMETB have a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) The school supports students in the safe use of technology through digital induction sessions, talks about online safety, promoting and monitoring of devices and screen free bedrooms through the schools <i>Twilight Agreement</i> with parents The iPads are on a managed service The school has a firewall to filter inappropriate content
39.	Application of sanctions under the schools Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Viewing panels in the door/door frame of all classrooms Parents/guardians are given notice of detentions so that they can arrange for students to get to and from the school Two or more teachers supervise detentions at once

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			The school has a Mobile Phone Policy which is communicated to parents/guardians and students. It is also available on the school website. This policy outlines the school's graduated response to repeated infractions of the policy, including the confiscation of phones.
40.	Students from this school participating in work experience elsewhere	Risk of harm to the child due to unsafe work environment/work practices Risk of harm to the child by a member of work experience personnel Risk of harm to other children/vulnerable adults by children from this school on work experience	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The work experience employer is required to provide a risk assessment and safety statement in advance of the work experience commencing. Students who are over 16 years of age are Garda Vetted by the school in advance of relevant work experience, e.g. work experience in a primary school
41.	Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism Risk of a child being harmed by another child Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, iPads, phones, other Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school devices, social media while at school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has an Acceptable Usage Policy in place and has communicated this policy to students and parents. Student iPads are to be placed face down on the student desk and only used when students are instructed to do so. Viewing panels in the door/door frame of all classrooms. The ETB has a <i>Volunteering and Work Experience Policy</i>. The school requires proof of Garda Vetting by ITE provider in advance of

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			commencement of work experience
42.	Use of video/photography /other media to record school events	Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> The school has an Acceptable Usage Policy in place, to include provision for online conduct The school has in place a policy governing the use of smart phones and smart devices in the school by pupils as per Circular 0038/2018 and the relevant national guidelines The Teaching Council and the LMETB have a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) The school supports students in the safe use of technology through digital induction sessions, talks about online safety, promoting monitoring of devices and screen free bedrooms through the schools <i>Twilight Agreement</i> with parents The iPads are on a managed service, and the school has a firewall to filter inappropriate content In accordance with LMETB's <i>Data Protection Policy</i> , consent is sought from parents/guardians and from students who are over 18 years of age with regards to storing and sharing of personal data including images/video
43.	Supervised Study	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i>

Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment 2026-2027

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to bullying of a child Risk of harm due to racism Risk of a child being harmed by another child Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, iPads, phones, other devices, social media while at school	The school has an Acceptable Usage Policy in place and has communicated this policy to students and parents Student Ipad's are to be placed face down on the student desk and only used when students are instructed to do so Viewing panels in the door/door frame of all classrooms
44.	After-school additional tuition for class groups, e.g. coursework, preparation for practical exams, etc	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of a child being harmed by another child	<i>Procedures/measures as identified in opening paragraph and</i> Viewing panels in the door/door frame of all classrooms Parents/guardians are given notice of after school additional tuition for class groups so that they can arrange for students to get to and from the school

Additional pages may be added as required

Examples of Activities, Risks and Procedures

The examples listed in this document are provided to assist schools in undertaking their risk assessment under the Children First Act, 2015. Schools should note that this list of examples is not intended to be exhaustive, and that the inclusion of an example of a policy or procedure on these lists does not make it mandatory. It is the responsibility of each school to ensure, as far as possible, that any other risks and procedures that are relevant to its own particular circumstances are identified and specified in the written risk assessment and that adequate procedures are in place to address all risks identified.

It is acknowledged that schools already have in place a range of policies, practices and procedures to mitigate the risk of harm to children while they are participating in the activities of the school and that some school activities will carry low or minimal risks of harm compared to others. In the context of the risk assessment that must be undertaken by schools, the Children First Act, 2015 refers to risk as 'any potential for harm'.

Therefore, it is important that, as part of its risk assessment process, each school lists and reviews all of its various activities (which shall include identifying those that may carry low risk of harm as well as those that carry higher risks of harm). Doing so will help the school to:

- > Identify, as required under the Children First Act, 2015, any risks of harm that may exist in respect of the school's activities.
- > Identify and assess the adequacy of the various procedures already in place to manage those risks of harm.
- > Identify and put in place any such additional procedures as are considered necessary to manage any risk identified.

Online Safety

The *Addendum to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017* published in January 2019 clarifies that organisations providing relevant services to children should consider the specific issue of online safety when carrying out their risk assessment and preparing their Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

The Guidance on Continuity of Schooling for primary and post-primary schools (April 2020) advises of the importance of teachers maintaining the safe and ethical use of the internet during distance learning and assisting parents and guardians to be aware of their role also. Schools should ensure that their Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) informs and guides remote or distance learning activity.

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.

Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment 2026-2027

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 10th June 2026.

Signed:*		Date: 10 th June 2026
<i>Chairperson of the board of management</i>		

Signed:*		Date: 10 th June 2026
<i>Principal/Secretary to the board of management</i>		

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on 10th June 2027.

** Document to be printed and signed with original signatures*

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

This may be in the form of specifying the online location for the procedures (Department of Education and Youth website www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools and/or the school website), providing a link to the Children First National Guidance 2017 [Children First National Guidance 2017.pdf](#), and stating the number and location of hard copies of these procedures available in the school.

There are two hard copies of the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools* in the school: one in the DLP office and one in the DDLP office. Another hard copy has also been given to the Chairperson of the Board of Management.

A soft copy of the following documents is emailed to all staff at the start of each academic year and uploaded to the staff MS Teams (Child Safeguarding channel):

- *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*
- *CDL Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment*
- Notification Regarding the Board of Managements Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment
- The relevant Circular Letter regarding Child Safeguarding (Circular Letter 0041/2025)
- An overview of the role of the Mandated Person (Tusla)

A soft copy of the following documents is uploaded to the school website (post-review) each year:

- *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*
- *CDL Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment (latest)*
- Notification Regarding the Board of Managements Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment (relevant)

The *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* (Department of Education and Youth website www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools).

The *Children First National Guidance 2017* is available by clicking on the following link [Children First National Guidance 2017.pdf](#).