

CSS1

## Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

<b>For:</b>	<b>Cara Community Special School</b>
<b>At:</b>	<b>Enfield, Co. Meath</b>

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):**

Katie Callaghan

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

Ruairi McGorman

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

**Name of Relevant Person**

Katie Callaghan

*(In schools this person is the DLP)*

**Relevant Person can be contacted on:**

0862033403

Kcallaghan.css@lmetb.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:**

Miriam Hilliard

*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

The school undertakes this risk assessment in line with the Children First Act 2015, identifying potential risks of harm across all school activities, including those considered low risk. This assessment is not exhaustive and is reviewed regularly to reflect the school's specific circumstances. Existing policies, procedures and practices are evaluated to ensure they effectively manage these risks, and additional procedures are implemented where necessary to address any gaps and safeguard all children participating in school activities.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1.	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or unknown person on school grounds</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm from moving vehicle</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervision procedures communicated to all school and bus personnel</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in child safeguarding to be completed in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> </ul>
2.	Recreation breaks for pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to racism</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervision procedures communicated to all school and bus personnel</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
3.	Classroom teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to racism</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance.</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• SPHE and Stay Safe Programme implementation yearly.</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns.</li> <li>• Relate Training completed by all staff.</li> <li>• Sensory supports in classrooms to support regulation of pupils.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
4.	One-to-one learning support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching situations</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Supervision and visibility arrangements (e.g. open doors, glass panels where appropriate)</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Relate Training completed by all staff.</li> <li>• Sensory supports in classrooms to support regulation of pupils.</li> <li>• Extra SNA support for pupils of highest need.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
5.	Outdoor teaching activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervision Policy</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or unknown person while outdoors</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
6.	Online teaching and learning remotely.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning platforms (e.g. uninvited access, lack of supervision in breakout rooms)</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via digital platforms</li> <li>• Risk of children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acceptable Use Policy (including provisions for remote teaching and learning)</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in safeguarding and appropriate online practice to be completed in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta) addressing online/cyberbullying.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
7.	School outings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LMETB Policy and procedures in respect of school outings/tours</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<p>personnel, staff of another organisation, or other persons during the outing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety Statement Policy (including risk assessments for trips)</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel and external providers</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
8.	Annual Sports Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or unknown person on school grounds</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety Statement Policy(including risk assessment for the event)</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for any external personnel/volunteers</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
9.	Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school</li> <li>• Risk of harm to a child while receiving intimate care</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intimate Care Policy/Plan</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta).</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<p>properly by school personnel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<p>device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</p>
10.	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending off-site activities</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by staff of another organisation or other persons at the facility</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LMETB Policy and procedures in respect of school outings/tours</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance.</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy(including risk assessments for off-site activities)</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures (including for external providers where applicable)</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
11.	Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities</li> <li>• Risk of harm to a child while receiving intimate care</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationships/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intimate Care Policy/Plans appropriate to individual pupil needs</li> <li>• Policy and procedures for the administration of medication</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in recognising and reporting concerns.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	
12.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel (inappropriate use of restraint)</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Understanding Behaviours of Concern and Responding to Crisis Situations guidance</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in behaviour management and safeguarding</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel.</li> <li>• CPI completed by staff every 2 years.</li> <li>• Relate training received by all staff.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
13.	Administration of Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inappropriate administration or storage of medication</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel (through error or inappropriate practice)</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Training and awareness for staff in administration of medication and recognising medical needs</li> <li>• Record-keeping, parental consent procedures and correct labelling by pharmacy required for all medications.</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<p>device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</p>
14.	Administration of First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk of harm due to inadequate or inappropriate delivery of first aid</li> <li>Risk of harm to children with particular vulnerabilities, including medical needs</li> <li>Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel (through error or inappropriate practice)</li> <li>Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school.</li> <li>Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid.</li> <li>Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>Training for staff in First Aid and emergency response</li> <li>Record-keeping and reporting procedures</li> <li>Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel</li> <li>Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
15.	Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel</li> <li>Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel</li> <li>Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult.</li> <li>Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour during sensitive topics</li> <li>Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full implementation of the SPHE curriculum</li> <li>Full implementation of the Stay Safe Programme yearly.</li> <li>RSE policy in line with Department guidelines</li> <li>Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>Training and guidance for staff in delivering sensitive curricular content</li> <li>Procedures for responding to disclosures arising from lessons.</li> <li>Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> <li>Relate Training received by all staff.</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
16.	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to racism</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• SPHE curriculum and Stay Safe Programme implementation</li> <li>• Anti-bullying and inclusion awareness initiatives</li> <li>• Training and awareness for staff in recognising, preventing and responding to bullying.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
17.	Training of school personnel in child protection matters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment provided to all staff</li> <li>• Induction procedures for all new staff.</li> <li>• Ongoing training and upskilling for school personnel in child protection</li> <li>• Maintenance of records of all staff training</li> <li>• Encouragement of staff and Board of Management to avail of relevant training</li> <li>• Clear reporting procedures in line with Children First guidance</li> </ul>
18.	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or external person delivering activities</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children</li> <li>• Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all external personnel where applicable</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant external personnel</li> <li>• Supervision arrangements for all activities involving external personnel</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Training and awareness for staff regarding safeguarding</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>responsibilities and oversight of external providers.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
19.	Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or external coach/instructor</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children</li> <li>• Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all external personnel where applicable</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant external personnel</li> <li>• Supervision arrangements for all activities involving external personnel</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Training and awareness for staff regarding safeguarding responsibilities and oversight of external providers to be provided in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
20.	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants</li> <li>• Members of the Traveller community</li> <li>• Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to racism</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with particular vulnerabilities, including medical needs, children in care, and those from</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Inclusion awareness initiatives</li> <li>• Policy and procedures for the administration of medication</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• SPHE curriculum and Stay Safe Programme implementation</li> <li>• Training and awareness for staff in recognising and responding to vulnerability and safeguarding concerns.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils perceived to be LGBT.</li> <li>• Pupils of minority religious faiths</li> <li>• Children in care</li> <li>• Children with medical needs</li> </ul>	<p>minority or marginalised groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<p>accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</p>
21.	<p>Recruitment of school personnel including -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers/SNA's</li> <li>• /Cleaners</li> <li>• Sports coaches</li> <li>• External Tutors/Guest Speakers</li> <li>• Volunteers/ Parents in school activities</li> <li>• Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours</li> <li>• Visitors/contractors present during after school activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a visitor, volunteer, contractor or external provider</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate vetting or recruitment procedures</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of visitors/contractors on school premises</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adherence to Garda Vetting legislation for all personnel, volunteers and relevant visitors</li> <li>• Compliance with Department of Education recruitment circulars and procedures</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant external personnel</li> <li>• Supervision arrangements for visitors/contractors during school hours</li> <li>• Training and awareness for staff in safeguarding responsibilities and reporting procedures.</li> </ul>
22.	<p>Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to bullying of a child (including cyberbullying)</li> <li>• Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for ICT and internet use</li> <li>• Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta), including cyberbullying</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• SPHE curriculum and Stay Safe Programme implementation yearly.</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to racism (including online behaviour)</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
23.	Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel (through inappropriate or disproportionate sanctions)</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child (e.g. during detention or unsupervised sanction periods)</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Training and awareness for staff in CPI and Relate training.</li> <li>• Clear procedures for recording and reporting incidents.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
24.	Students participating in work experience in the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a student on work placement</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils</li> <li>• Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and a student on placement</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate Garda Vetting procedures where applicable</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant students on placement</li> <li>• Supervision arrangements for all activities involving students on placement</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>personnel or the student on placement</li> <li>Risk of child being harmed by another child.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information briefing for students on child safeguarding responsibilities and reporting procedures.</li> <li>Safety Statement Policy.</li> </ul>
25.	Student teachers undertaking training placement in school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk of child being harmed by a student teacher</li> <li>Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of teaching activities</li> <li>Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by the student teacher</li> <li>Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements</li> <li>Garda Vetting procedures where applicable</li> <li>Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and student teachers</li> <li>Mentoring arrangements by qualified teaching staff</li> <li>Provision of safeguarding briefing for student teachers, including reporting procedures.</li> <li>Safety Statement Policy</li> </ul>
26.	Use of video/photography/other media to record school events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk of inappropriate use or sharing of images of children</li> <li>Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using digital devices or media</li> <li>Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult via media</li> <li>Risk of harm due to bullying of a child (including misuse of images online)</li> <li>Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acceptable Use Policy (including use of images, video and digital media)</li> <li>Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>Code of Conduct for school personnel</li> <li>Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta), including cyberbullying</li> <li>Procedures for parental consent and appropriate storage/use of images</li> </ul>
27.	Storage and distribution of food and drink.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children during meal times</li> <li>Risk of harm to children with particular vulnerabilities, including medical and dietary needs (e.g. allergies)</li> <li>Risk of harm due to inappropriate handling or distribution of food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy and procedures for the administration of medication (including response to allergic reactions)</li> <li>Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child (e.g. during meal times)</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Record-keeping and communication with parents regarding dietary requirements for allergies.</li> </ul>
28.	Pupils of minority religious faiths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to racism or religious discrimination</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate recognition of cultural or religious needs</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Anti-racism and inclusion awareness initiatives</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• GMGY, SPHE curriculum and Stay Safe Programme implementation</li> <li>• Policies promoting inclusion, equality and respect for diversity</li> <li>• Procedures for reporting, recording and addressing incidents of discrimination or bullying.</li> </ul>
29.	Sporting activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel or external coach</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities</li> <li>• Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety Statement Policy (including risk assessment for sporting activities)</li> <li>• Supervision procedures</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel and external coaches</li> </ul>
30.	Children with medical needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm to children with medical vulnerabilities</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to incorrect administration of medication or treatment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy and procedures for the administration of medication</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy (including emergency response procedures)</li> <li>• Special Educational Needs Policy (where relevant to medical needs)</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision or response to medical emergencies</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel (through error or inappropriate practice).</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Record-keeping and communication with parents/guardians regarding medical needs</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student</li> </ul>
31.	External Tutors/Guest Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by an external tutor or guest speaker</li> <li>• Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procedures for the use of external personnel to supplement curriculum delivery</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for external tutors/guest speakers where applicable</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant external personnel</li> <li>• Supervision arrangements for all sessions involving external tutors/guest speakers</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Training and awareness for staff regarding safeguarding responsibilities and oversight of external personnel</li> <li>• Previewing the script of the speaker before delivery of talk/workshops</li> </ul>
32.	Volunteers/Parents in school activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer or parent</li> <li>• Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy and procedures for the involvement of volunteers/parents in school activities</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for volunteers/parents where applicable</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant volunteers/parents</li> <li>• Supervision arrangements for all activities involving volunteers/parents</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training/briefing for volunteers/parents regarding safeguarding responsibilities</li> <li>• Procedures for reporting concerns in line with Children First guidance</li> </ul>
33.	Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or contractor</li> <li>• Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and an adult</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of visitors/contractors</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy and procedures in respect of visitors and contractors in school</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures where applicable</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff and relevant visitors/contractors</li> <li>• Supervision and sign-in/sign-out procedures during school hours</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Awareness for staff regarding safeguarding responsibilities and monitoring of visitors</li> </ul>
34.	School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children.</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child.</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel or staff of another organisation.</li> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervision procedures communicated to all school and bus personnel.</li> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all personnel</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all staff in child safeguarding to be completed in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Bus escort training provided yearly.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> </ul>
36.	Children in care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by another child</li> <li>• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, staff of another organisation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children First Act 2015 compliance</li> <li>• Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 training to be completed by all staff in 2026/27.</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement communicated to all staff</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly by school personnel</li> <li>• Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Risk of child's needs not being met due to communication difficulties.</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety Statement Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy (Bí Cineálta)</li> <li>• Garda Vetting procedures for all school personnel.</li> <li>• Training and awareness for all school staff in recognising and reporting concerns.</li> <li>• Student communication strategies are supported by having all communication modes available and accepted, e.g. visuals, LAMH, AAC device, gestures, etc. and move with the student.</li> <li>• School meetings to require presence of both the parent(s) and care facility.</li> </ul>

## **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.**

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 \_\_\_\_\_ (most recent review date)

Signed:*	<i>M. O'Leary</i>	Date:	<i>17/6/2026</i>
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Chairperson of the board of management

Signed:*	<i>Katie Callaghan</i>	Date:	<i>17/6/26</i>
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Principal/Secretary to the board of management

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on *June 2027* (expected review date)

## 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](http://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.

- Cara CSS Website: [www.caracss.ie/](http://www.caracss.ie/)
- 2 hard copies: Principal's Office.