



# All Saints' National School

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Charitable status number: 20138929

## Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

### Child Safeguarding Statement

All Saints' National School is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

In accordance with the requirements of the [Children First Act 2015](#), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](#), [the Addendum to Children First \(2019\)](#), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of [insert school name] has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is **Andrea McAssey**.
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Aoife Kenny**.
- 4 The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The school will:

- recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
- fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;
- fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters;

- adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

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

5 The following procedures/measures are in place:

- In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child attending the school, the school adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the DE website.
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the school adheres to the statutory vetting requirements of the [National Vetting Bureau \(Children and Vulnerable Persons\) Acts 2012 to 2016](#) and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and available on the DE website.
- In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to staff in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) the school-
  - Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
  - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
  - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
  - Encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training
  - The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training
- In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, all school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
- In this school the Board has appointed the abovenamed DLP as the "relevant person" (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the schools child safeguarding statement.
- All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.

- In accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and the Addendum to Children First (2019), the Board has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school's procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.
- The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school's website, the DE website or will be made available on request by the school.

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

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

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Signed: Linda Dunne

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: Andrea McAssey

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

### Written Assessment of Risk of All Saints' National School

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirement of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of All Saints' National School.

1. List of school activities	2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all permanent and temporary staff including substitute teachers  DLP& DDLP to attend PDST face to face training All Staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST  BOM records all records of staff and board training
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel	Supervision Policy Open doors Custom and practice
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	Policy on intimate care
Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour	Usage and supervision policy
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Arrival and dismissal supervised by Teachers

Online teaching and remote learning	Keeping children safe from harm online	Stay Safe Programme Webwise Be Safe Online ICT Acceptable Usage Policy
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	Injury to pupils and staff	Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	Procedures in place Class teacher present at all times during lessons
Students participating in work experience	Harm by student	Work experience Policy Child Safeguarding Statement.
Recreation breaks for pupils in the playground and on wet days	Harm to Pupil	Supervision Policy
Sporting Activities – Soccer Blitz, Sports Day & Swimming	Harm to Pupil	Swimming Policy School Outings Policy
School outings Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies external to the school	Harm to pupil	School Outings Policy in place Supervision Policy
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	Harm to pupil	Safe storage of medicine and first aid Administration policies and record keeping
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Harm to Pupil	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of behaviour Friendship week events to promote positive relationships
Recruitment of school personnel including - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• SNA's</li> <li>• Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners</li> </ul>	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>		<p>Staff to view Tusla training module &amp; any other online training offered by PDST</p> <p>Vetting Procedures</p> <p>Procedures in place for Parents / Volunteers</p> <p>Procedures in place for Visiting Contractors</p>
<p>Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school</p> <p>Use of remote learning during exceptional closures - Seesaw and Zoom</p>	<p>Bullying</p> <p>Harm to pupils</p> <p>Inappropriate behaviour</p> <p>Risk of not being reported properly or promptly by school personnel</p> <p>Risks associated with internet usage</p> <p>Online safety</p>	<p>ICT policy</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Review Policy fully implemented</p> <p>See Data Protection &amp; Internet Acceptable Usage Policy</p> <p>Internet safety lessons completed &amp; Cyber Safety Day</p> <p>Parental involvement during lessons</p> <p>Stay Safe programme</p>
<p>Use of video/photography/other media to record school events</p>	<p>Harm to pupils</p>	<p>Parents requested to use photos and videos for personal use.</p> <p>No posting by parents to social media.</p> <p>Permission forms sought from parents on enrolment.</p> <p>School website and social media guidelines – names not assigned to individual photos. Group photos where possible.</p>
<p>Covid-19</p>	<p>Harm to pupils and staff</p>	<p>Please refer to our Covid-19 Response plan.</p>

**Important Note:** It should be noted that risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of “harm” as defined in the Children First Act 2015 and not general health and safety risk. The definition of harm is set out in Chapter 4 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post- Primary Schools 2017*

In undertaking this 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. Please note that this list of examples is not intended to be exhaustive.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018, reviewed on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2020, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021 & 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Signed: Linda Dunne

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: Andrea McAssey

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022