

# Presentation Girls' School, Maynooth



## Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

March 2026

# Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

<b>For:</b>	<b>Presentation Girls' School</b>	
<b>At:</b>	<b>Maynooth</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):**

Cora McGorry

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

Nicola Brady

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

## **Name of Relevant Person**

Cora McGorry

*(In schools this person is the DLP)*

## **Relevant Person can be contacted on:**

01 6286034

principal@presgirlsmaynooth

*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:**

Doreen Duignan

*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

- All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment
- The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school staff
- School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda including the addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025.
- School requires all personnel to undertake mandatory Child Safeguarding Training every three years.
- The school adheres to the relevant Department of Education and Youth circulars in respect of recruitment of all school personnel e.g teachers, snas, bus escorts, secretaries and caretakers

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1.	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	<p>Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils in school</p> <p>Risk of harm outside school ground before/ after official arrival and dismissal times</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent reminders to parents about safety at these times</li> <li>• Letter issued around insurance and supervision cover by BOM annually.</li> <li>• Gates locked until 8.50am when pupils are supervised by school staff</li> <li>• Teachers accompany pupils to the exit point at dismissal time</li> <li>• Pupils are taught to return to the school reception if there is a delay in collection</li> <li>• The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils at arrival and dismissal times.</li> </ul>
2.	Recreation breaks for pupils	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child</p> <p>Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</p> <p>Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate</p>	<p>The school has the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervision Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> </ul> <p>The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum.</p> <p>The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme</p>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		supervision of pupils in school	
3.	Classroom teaching	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child</p> <p>Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</p> <p>Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training</p>	<p>The school has in place the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> </ul> <p>The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum.</p> <p>The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme</p> <p>The school informs staff at the beginning of the school year of the Teaching Council requirement to adhere to the <i>Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers</i></p>
4.	One to one teaching	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between a child and an adult</p> <p>Risk of harm in one- to one teaching / coaching situations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school has in place clear procedures for one to one teaching activities.</li> <li>• Glass panels in doors of all support rooms</li> <li>• Mandatory vetting by Teaching Council for all staff members</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement &amp; DEY Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school staff</li> <li>• DLP&amp; DDLP have attended specific face to face training for role of DLP/DDLP</li> <li>• All staff have completed Tusla training on Child Safeguarding</li> <li>• All staff have submitted signed confirmation of their awareness and understanding of Child Safeguarding</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Records of staff training are retained</li> </ul>
5.	One to one learning support	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between a child and an adult</p> <p>Risk of harm in one- to one teaching / coaching situations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school has in place clear procedures for one to one teaching activities.</li> <li>• Glass panels in doors of all support rooms</li> <li>• Mandatory vetting by Teaching Council for all staff members</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement &amp; DEY Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school staff</li> <li>• DLP&amp; DDLP have attended specific face to face training for role of DLP/DDLP</li> <li>• All staff have completed Tusla training on Child Safeguarding</li> <li>• All staff have submitted signed confirmation of their awareness and understanding of Child Safeguarding Procedures</li> <li>• Records of staff training are retained</li> </ul>
6.	One to one support	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between a child and an adult</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school has in place clear procedures for one to one teaching activities.</li> <li>• Glass panels in doors of all support rooms</li> <li>• Mandatory vetting by Teaching Council for all staff members</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement &amp; DEY Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school staff</li> </ul>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		Risk of harm in one- to one teaching / coaching situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DLP&amp; DDLP have attended specific face to face training for role of DLP/DDLP</li> <li>• All staff have completed Tusla training on Child Safeguarding</li> <li>• All staff have submitted signed confirmation of their awareness and understanding of Child Safeguarding Procedures</li> <li>• Records of staff training are retained</li> </ul>
7.	Outdoor teaching activities	<p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils in school</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child</p>	<p>The school has in place the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> <li>• Health and Safety</li> </ul> <p>The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum.</p> <p>The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme</p> <p>The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils.</p>
8.	Online learning activities	Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing / using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school	<p>The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place to include provision for online teaching and learning and has made this policy available on school website for parents.</p> <p>The school has a policy in place (AUP) governing the use of smart phones and tablet devices by pupils as per Circular 28/2018 and the National Guidelines</p> <p>The school has in place a Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy in place.</p> <p>The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum.</p> <p>The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme</p>

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
9.	Sporting activities	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils in school</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school</p>	<p>The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation</p> <p>The school has in place a Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy in place.</p> <p>The school has in place procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum.</p> <p>The school has in place procedures for the use of external sports coaches.</p>
10.	School outings	<p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils while attending out of school activities</p> <p>Risk of child 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 trips, swimming lessons</p> <p>Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</p>	<p>The school has in place the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> <li>• School outings</li> </ul> <p>The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils.</p>

11	Use of toilet changing areas in school	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child</p>	The school has clear procedures in place to ensure appropriate supervision of children in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing areas etc
12.	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	<p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils while attending out of school activities</p> <p>Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</p> <p>Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel</p>	<p>The school has in place the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of behaviour</li> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> <li>• School outings</li> </ul> <p>The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils.</p>
13	Annual Sports Day	<p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils</p> <p>Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</p>	<p>The school has in place the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of behaviour</li> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> </ul> <p>The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils. The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation for all volunteers and Parents' Association members Access restricted to school staff and PA members</p>
14.	School transport arrangements including use of bus escort	<p>Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed by another child</p>	<p>The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils. The school has in place a comprehensive School Outings Policy The school requires bus escort to avail of Tusla Child Safeguarding Training Bus escort has submitted signed confirmation of her awareness and understanding of Child Safeguarding Procedures</p>

			A records of staff training is retained
15.	Care of children with special educational needs including intimate care where needed	<p>Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities including medical vulnerabilities</p> <p>Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care</p>	<p>The school has in place a Special Educational Needs Policy</p> <p>The school has an Intimate Care Plan in respect of pupils who require such care.</p>
16.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils including appropriate use of restraint where required	<p>Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities including medical vulnerabilities</p> <p>Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between a child and another child or adult</p>	<p>The school has in place the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a Code of Behaviour which addresses appropriate management of challenging behaviour</li> <li>• Bí Cineálta policy</li> <li>• Health and Safety</li> </ul> <p>The school informs staff at the beginning of the school year of the Teaching Council requirement to adhere to the <i>Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers</i></p> <p>The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for staff</p> <p>The school has complied with the <i>Understanding Behaviours of Concern and Responding to Crisis Situations</i>, developed by the Department of Education and Youth to address uncertainty for staff on how to respond when facing crisis situations where there are concerns regarding physical safety</p>
17.	Administration of medicine	<p>Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities including medical vulnerabilities</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</p>	The school has in place a policy for the Administration of Medication to pupils

18.	Administration of first aid	Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training	The school has in place procedures for the administration of first aid.
19.	Curricular provision in respect of SPHE / RSE/ Stay Safe	Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school	The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum. The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme The school has in place procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum.
20.	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour  Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils  Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between a child and another child or adult	The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum. The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme  The school has in place the following policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> <li>• Bí Cineálta policy</li> <li>• Acceptable User Policy</li> </ul> The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils.
21.	Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training	The school requires school personnel to undertake Tusla Child Safeguarding training every 3 years.  The school retains records of staff personnel training  The school has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.
22.	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum -External teachers/facilitators e.g. Intel, Kildare Library Service, Science workshop, retreats, PE/Sports coaches	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school	The school has in place procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum.

23	External education/ welfare agency personnel ( NEPS, TUSLA, CDNT, NCSE)	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school  Risk of harm in one- to one teaching / coaching situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When one-to one interaction with personnel from an external education / welfare agency takes place there is regular oversight by a staff member</li> <li>• Glass panels in doors of all support rooms</li> </ul>
24	Use of external personnel to support sports and extra-curricular activities	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils  Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school	The school has in place procedures for the use of external sports coaches  The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils.
25	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities and needs	Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities including medical vulnerabilities  Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	The school has in place the following policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Educational Needs Policy</li> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> </ul> The school has an Intimate Care Plan in respect of pupils who require such care.
26	Pupils from ethnic minorities / migrants	Risk of harm due to racism  Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	The school undertakes inclusion initiatives  The school has the following policies in place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> </ul> The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum.
27	Members of the traveller community	Risk of harm due to racism  Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	The school undertakes inclusion initiatives  The school has the following policies in place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> </ul> The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum.

28	Lesbian, gay, bi-sexual or transgender children	Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	<p>The school undertakes inclusion initiatives</p> <p>The school has the following policies in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> </ul> <p>The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum.</p>
29	Pupils perceived to be LGBT	Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	<p>The school undertakes inclusion initiatives</p> <p>The school has the following policies in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> </ul> <p>The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum.</p>
30	Pupils of minority religious faiths	Risk of harm due to bullying of a child	<p>The school undertakes inclusion initiatives</p> <p>The school has the following policies in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> </ul>
31	Children in care	<p>Risk of harm due to bullying of a child</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school</p> <p>Risk of harm in one- to one teaching / coaching situations</p>	<p>The school has the following policies in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bí Cineálta Policy</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour</li> <li>• When one-to one interaction with personnel from an external education / welfare agency takes place there is regular oversight by a staff member</li> <li>• Glass panels in doors of all support rooms</li> </ul> <p>The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils.</p> <p>The school has in place clear procedures for one to one teaching activities.</p>

33	Children on TUSLA's Child Protection Notification List (CPNS)	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school</p> <p>Risk of harm in one- to one teaching / coaching situations</p>	<p>When one-to one interaction with personnel from an external education / welfare agency takes place there is regular oversight by a staff member</p> <p>Glass panels in doors of all support rooms</p> <p>The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils.</p> <p>The school has in place clear procedures for one to one teaching activities.</p>
34	Recruitment of school personnel including teachers / SNAS/ caretakers/ cleaners and sports coaches	<p>Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training</p>	<p>The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation for all volunteers and Parents' Association members Access restricted to school staff and PA members</p> <p>All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment</p> <p>The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school staff</p> <p>School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda including the addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025.</p> <p>School requires all personnel to undertake mandatory Child Safeguarding Training every three years.</p> <p>The school adheres to the relevant Department of Education and Youth circulars in respect of recruitment of all school personnel e.g teachers, SNAs, bus escorts, secretaries and caretakers</p>
35	External tutors / guest speakers	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school	The school has in place procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum.

36	Volunteers/ parents in school activities	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school	<p>The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils.</p> <p>The school has in place procedures for the use of volunteers to supplement delivery of the curriculum.</p>
37	Visitors / contractors in school during school hours	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school	<p>The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils.</p> <p>The school has in place clear procedures for visitors/ contractors in school during school hours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign in at reception</li> <li>• Wear a visitors badge</li> <li>• Accompanied by a staff member at all times e.g caretaker</li> </ul>
38	Visitors / contractors in school during after school activities	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a visitor /contractor in the school	Children are only permitted on school premises after school hours if they are under the supervision of a responsible adult / organiser of an after school activity
39	Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies / religious instruction external to the school	Risk of child 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	<p>The school has in place clear procedures in respect of supervision of pupils.</p> <p>The school has in place a School Outings Policy</p>
40	Use of ICT by pupils in school	<p>Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing / using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school</p> <p>Risk of harm caused by a member of school communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner</p>	<p>The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place to include provision for online teaching and learning and has made this policy available on school website for parents.</p> <p>The school has a policy in place (AUP) governing the use of smart phones and tablet devices by pupils as per Circular 28/2018 and the National Guidelines</p> <p>The school has in place a Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy</p> <p>The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum.</p>

			The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme
<b>41</b>	Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between a child and an adult</p>	<p>The school has in place a Code of Behaviour and the correct procedures, detailed therein, are followed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school has in place clear procedures for one to one interactions between adults and children.</li> <li>• Glass panels in doors of support rooms where detention may take place</li> <li>• Mandatory vetting by Teaching Council for all staff</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement &amp; DEY Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school staff</li> <li>• All staff have completed Tusla training on Child Safeguarding</li> <li>• All staff have submitted signed confirmation of their awareness, and understanding, of Child Safeguarding Procedures</li> </ul>
<b>42</b>	Students participating in work experience in the school	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils	<p>The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of TY student undertaking work experience in the school</p> <p>The school requires garda vetting documents in respect of all TY students on work placements ( submitted by the school in advance of placement of commencing)</p> <p>The school has in place a Supervision Policy</p>
<b>43</b>	Student teachers undertaking placement in the school	Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel	<p>The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements</p> <p>The school requires garda vetting documents in respect of all students on student teacher placements ( this is normally carried out by the university they attend)</p>

			The school has in place a Supervision Policy
44	Use of video/ photography / other media to record school events	<p>Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel circulating school related ( photos/ videos) material via social media, digital device or other manner</p> <p>Risk of harm caused by a member of school community ( parent/ guardian or family member) circulating school related ( photos/ videos) material via social media, digital device or other manner</p>	<p>The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place.</p> <p>The school informs staff at the beginning of the school year of the Teaching Council requirement to adhere to the <i>Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers</i></p> <p>The school community are aware of the school's Acceptable Use Policy and audiences are reminded that photos / recordings taken during a performance must be private and cannot be shared on any social media platform.</p>
45	After school use of school premises by other organisations	Risk of child being harmed by a member of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in after school activities	Any individual / organisation who wishes to hire school facilities must submit Child Safeguarding Statement to the Board of Management, prior to approval being given
46	Before and after school use of classrooms / premises for activities provided on a voluntary basis by school personnel approved by BOM	<p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed on school premises by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between a child and another child or adult</p>	<p>The school informs staff at the beginning of the school year of the Teaching Council requirement to adhere to the <i>Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandatory vetting by Teaching Council for all staff members</li> <li>• Child Safeguarding Statement &amp; DEY Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school staff</li> <li>• DLP&amp; DDLP have attended specific face to face training for role of DLP/DDLP</li> <li>• All staff have completed Tusla training on Child Safeguarding</li> <li>• All staff have submitted signed confirmation of their</li> </ul>

			<p>awareness and understanding of Child Safeguarding Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Records of staff training are retained</li> <li>• The school has in place the following policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Supervision policy</li> <li>➤ Code of Behaviour</li> <li>➤ Bí Cinealta</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>47</b>	<p>Before and after school use of classrooms / school premises for activities provided by school personnel on a commercial basis</p>	<p>Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed on school premises by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between a child and another child or adult</p>	<p>Any individual / organisation who wishes to hire school facilities must submit Child Safeguarding Statement to the Board of Management, prior to approval being given</p>

## 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.**

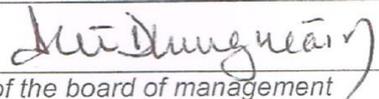
These are examples of policies and procedures that may be used to address Risks of Harm

1. 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
2. The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff
3. The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
4. The school has in place a policy in relation to assisting members of school personnel in respect of disclosures of retrospective abuse
5. The school has considered the questions in Appendix 1 of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities Associated with Recognised Schools 2023 and implemented the necessary risk mitigation measures

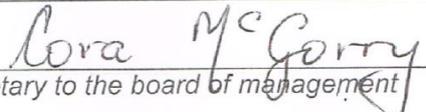
In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 9 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025, the following is the written Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

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 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026

<b>Signed:</b>		<b>Date:</b> 18.03.2026
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*Chairperson of the board of management*

<b>Signed:</b>		<b>Date:</b> 18.03.2026
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*Principal/Secretary to the board of management*

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again in March 2027.

## 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, and stating the number and location of hard copies of these procedures available in the school.

A link to Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 available for staff on Aladdin.

It is also available on Department of Education and Youth website [www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools](http://www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools) and the school website at [www.presgirlsmaynooth.ie](http://www.presgirlsmaynooth.ie)

A hard copy is retained by the DLP and the DDLP.

A link to the Children First National Guidance 2017 is also provide on Aladdin and on the school website. A hard copy is available from the DLP (Principal) or DDLP ( Deputy Principal)

