



## Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

**Gaelscoil Longfoirt** is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

In accordance with the requirements of the [Children First Act 2015](#), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](#), [the Addendum to Children First \(2019\)](#), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools \(revised 2023\)](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of **Gaelscoil Longfoirt** has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is **Andrée Nic Aonghusa**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Áine Ní Mhuirí**
- 4 The Relevant Person is **Andrée Nic Aonghusa**  
*(The relevant person is one who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. In a school setting the relevant person shall be the designated liaison person.)*
- 5 The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The school will:

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

- 6 The following procedures/measures are in place:
  - In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child attending the school, the school adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.
  - In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the school adheres to the statutory vetting requirements of the [National Vetting Bureau \(Children and Vulnerable Persons\)](#) Acts 2012 to 2016 and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant

Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and available on the gov.ie website.


- In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to staff in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) the school-
  - 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 (revised 2023)*, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
- All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.
- In accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and the Addendum to Children First (2019), the Board has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school's procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.
- The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

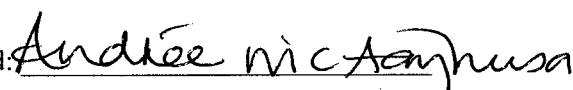
**Note:** The above is not intended as an exhaustive list. Individual Boards of Management shall also include in this section such other procedures/measures that are of relevance to the school in question.

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

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on 18/10/2023.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 8-12-25 [most recent review date].

Signed:   
Chairperson of Board of Management  
Date: 8/12/2025

Signed:   
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management  
Date: 8-12-25

## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment: Written Assessment of Risk of Gaelscoil Longfoirt

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

List of school activities	The school recognises the following risks of harm regarding school activities.	School procedures to address risk of harm recognised in the risk assessment.
<p>Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils</p> <p>Recreation breaks for pupils</p> <p>Toilets</p> <p>Classroom teaching</p> <p>Outdoor teaching activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to bullying of child</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult</li> <li>● Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools</li> <li>● The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.</li> <li>● The school has a Health and Safety policy.</li> <li>● Sign out book is in the office to be signed for those leaving early.</li> <li>● Parents must contact the school if someone different is picking up their child.</li> <li>● Teachers on duty in the morning/lunchbreaks/home time keep an eye on who is collecting children and the class teacher remains with the páistí until someone comes to collect them in the evening.</li> <li>● If teacher needs to leave the classroom, he/she leaves the door open and lets the teacher next door know they have to leave so as to supervise both classes.</li> <li>● If a teacher is aware that they will be absent when on yard duty, they make arrangements for a direct swap with another teacher to cover the supervision duties. If teacher is absent without arrangements made the principal/another teacher does yard duty.</li> <li>● Every class has classroom rules which class teacher discusses regularly.</li> <li>● Toilets: only one child permitted at a time.</li> <li>● Pupils go in twos around the school.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Tours: Teachers ensure enough teachers attend the tours depending on numbers.</li></ul>
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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 SEN who have particular vulnerabilities</li> <li>● Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care</li> <li>● Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation</li> <li>● Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult</li> <li>● Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has a Health and safety policy.</li> <li>● The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils.</li> <li>● The school has a learning support/resource policy in place.</li> <li>● The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.</li> <li>● The school has in place clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities.</li> <li>● The school ensures each child is getting enough support as is needed.</li> </ul>
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 school personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school staff follow the Code of Conduct for Professional Teachers as per guidelines from the Teaching Council</li> <li>● The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff.</li> <li>● The Board of Management encourages the staff to engage in new courses available for professional development.</li> </ul>



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 due to bullying of child</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme</li> <li>● The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum</li> <li>● The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils.</li> <li>● The school staff follow the Code of Conduct for Professional Teachers as per guidelines from the Teaching Council</li> <li>● The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching.</li> </ul>
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of harm due to bullying of child</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools</li> <li>● The school staff follow the Code of Conduct for Professional Teachers as per guidelines from the Teaching Council</li> <li>● The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum</li> </ul>
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils</li> <li>● The school staff follow the Code of Conduct for Professional Teachers as per guidelines from the Teaching Council</li> <li>● The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum.</li> </ul>
Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required		
Outdoor teaching activities Sporting Activities School outings Annual Sports Day Summer Camps School tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils</li> <li>● The school has a codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and nonteaching staff)</li> <li>● The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools</li> </ul>

<p>Debates</p> <p>Quizzes</p> <p>School transport arrangements</p> <p>Fundraisers</p> <p>Use of off-site facilities for school activities</p>	<p>school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons</p> <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 harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.</li> <li>● The school has a Health and safety policy</li> </ul>
School photos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement</li> <li>● The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 are made available to all school personnel</li> <li>● The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme</li> <li>● The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils</li> <li>● The school has a codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and nonteaching staff)</li> </ul>
<p>Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, online learning and remote learning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of harm due to bullying of child</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school</li> <li>● Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has in place an ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by pupils. The school has Zoom procedures in place for remote teaching and learning.</li> <li>● The school staff follow the Code of Conduct for Professional Teachers as per guidelines from the Teaching Council</li> <li>● The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools</li> <li>● The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.</li> <li>● The school has a Health and Safety Policy in place.</li> <li>● The school fully implements the Stay Safe Programme.</li> </ul>

Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of harm due to bullying of child</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school</li> <li>● Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has a codes of conduct for pupils and school personnel (teaching and nonteaching staff)</li> <li>● The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools</li> <li>● The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.</li> <li>● The school has a Health and Safety policy in place.</li> </ul>
Students participating in work experience in the school Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting</li> <li>● The school has a codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and nonteaching staff)</li> <li>● The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff</li> <li>● The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools.</li> </ul>
Administration of Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel</li> <li>● Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils</li> <li>● The school has a Health and safety policy</li> </ul>
Administration of First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel</li> <li>● Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has policy on dealing with accidents and the administration of First Aid.</li> <li>● The school has a Health and safety policy</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons</li> </ul>	
<p>Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants.</li> <li>● Members of the Traveller community</li> <li>● Pupils of minority religious faiths</li> <li>● Children in care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school has a codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and nonteaching staff)</li> <li>● The school has a code of behaviour policy for pupils.</li> <li>● The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff.</li> <li>● The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools.</li> <li>● The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc</li> </ul>
<p>Recruitment of school personnel including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teachers/SNA's</li> <li>● Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners</li> <li>● Sports coaches</li> <li>● External Tutors/Guest Speakers</li> <li>● Volunteers/Parents in school activities</li> <li>● Visitors/contractor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons</li> <li>● Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school</li> <li>● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting</li> <li>● The school has a codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and nonteaching staff)</li> <li>● The school has a code of behaviour policy for pupils</li> <li>● Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement</li> <li>● The school encourages staff to avail of relevant training</li> <li>● The school encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training</li> <li>● Maintains records of all staff and board member training</li> </ul>

<p>s present in school during school hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Visitors/contractors present during school activities</li> </ul>		
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**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 (revised 2023)*

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.