

St Mary's BNS, Lucan

Chapel Hill, Lucan, Co Dublin - K78 YD27 Tel: (01) 6281857 Fax: (01) 6219394

Website: www.stmarysbnslucan.com Email: info@stmarysbnslucan.com



Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template

Child Safeguarding Statement

St. Mary's Boys' National School (BNS), Lucan, 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 **St. Mary's BNS** 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 **Dara Burke**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Fintan Clandillon**
- 4 The Relevant Person is **Dara Burke**
(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. This person can also be the DLP)
- 5 The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school and boarding 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 Board of Management will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The Board of Management 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;

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- 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 and care of their children; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

The school/boarding facility 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 Board of Management 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.
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the Board of Management 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 gov.ie.
- 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 board of management/management authority-
 - Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school/boarding facility's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school/boarding facility's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - Encourages board of management/management authority 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.

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- There is a procedure in place for maintaining a list of mandated persons. 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 of Management 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/boarding facility's website, gov.ie or will be made available on request by the school/boarding facility.

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/boarding facility 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 **04 – 02 – 2026**.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on **04 – 02 – 2026**.

Signed: Leo Hargaden

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 4/2/26

Signed: Dara Burke

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 4-2-2026

For information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed or to request a copy of the statement, please contact the relevant person noted at the beginning of this child safeguarding statement Phone: 01-6281857 or email: info@stmarysbnslucan.com

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Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of [name of school/boarding facility]

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)* and the following is the Written Risk Assessment of St. Mary's BNS, Lucan.

	List of School Activities	The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
1	Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Harm not recognised or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement and Department of Education and Skills (DES) procedures made available to all staff. Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLp) attended PDST face to face training. All staff to view TUSLA training module and any other online training offered by PDST. Board of Management records all records of staff and Board training.
2	Recruitment of teachers and SNAs	Harm not recognised or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES procedures made available to all staff Child Safeguarding Statement on display in all classes Staff to complete Tusla training module and other online training offered by PDST Newly appointed teachers and SNAs must present statutory declaration and sign form of undertaking
3	Classroom teaching	Harm to children	Supervision Policy Teaching Council Code of Conduct All teachers provide online Tusla Children First Certificate, Statutory Declaration and Form of Undertaking to principal on employment
4	Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Non-teaching of same Bullying/ Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Inclusion Policy

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5	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm to children	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour
6	Toilet Areas	Inappropriate behaviour	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour
7	One-to-one teaching	Harm by school personnel	Supervision Policy
8	Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	Special Needs Assistants (SNA) Policy Supervision Policy
9	Care of Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants (including members of the Travelling community)	Bullying/ Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Lack of English language leading to harm Cultural differences	Inclusion Policy Anti-Bullying policy SEN Policy Inter-culturalism Policy School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
10	Care of children who identify as LGBTQI+ and care of children who identify as LGBTQI+	Non-teaching of same Bullying/ Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Inclusion Policy
11	Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school	Harm to children	Supervision Policy Religion Policy
12	Recreation / Movement breaks for pupils	Harm to children	Supervision Policy Special Needs Assistants (SNA) Policy

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		Bullying/ Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	Anti-Bullying Policy
13	Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Harm to children Bullying/ Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	Code of Behaviour Mobile Phone/Electronic Devices Policy
14	Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Injury to pupils and staff	Special Needs Assistants (SNA) Policy Code of Behaviour Health & Safety Policy Red Cards on Yard
15	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Harm to children Bullying/ Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
16	Outdoor teaching activities	Harm to children	Supervision Policy Health & Safety Policy
17	School outings	Harm to children	Vetting Procedures Supervision Policy – class teacher is always present with class, or another member of staff if the class are in groups School Tour Policy
18	Annual Sports Day	Harm to children	Parents' Association Insurance Policy
19	Art Exhibition	Risk from unknown adults in the school	Supervision Policy

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20	Fundraising events involving pupils	Harm to children	Vetting Procedures (if applicable) Health & Safety Supervision Policy
21	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Harm to children	Vetting Procedures (if applicable) Health & Safety Supervision Policy – class teacher is always present with class, or another member of staff if the class are in groups Site's own H&S policies
22	Changing for matches	Harm to children from other pupils or adults Bullying Inappropriate behaviour	Supervision policy Code of behaviour Anti-bullying policy
23	School transport arrangements including lifts to games from parents	Harm to children	Supervision Policy
24	Administration of Medicine	Harm to children	Administration of Medication Policy Update policy: Parents will be asked to update their child's medical information on an on-going basis
25	Administration of First Aid	Harm to children	Administration of Medication Policy First aid training by SNAs
26	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum i.e. external tutors/ guest speakers	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	Vetting Procedures Supervision Policy – class teacher must be always present Visitors book in office and lanyards
27	Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities i.e. coaches	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	Vetting Procedures Supervision Policy – class teacher must be always present Visitors book in office and lanyards

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28	One-to-one intervention with outside agencies i.e. NEPS, Speech & Language Therapist, Play Therapist	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision Risk of harm in one-to-one situation Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	Express permission from parents for children to attend such services in the school Vetting Procedures Visitors book in office and lanyards
29	Recruitment of Caretaker, Secretary, Cleaners	Harm to children	Vetting Procedures Health and Safety Policy
30	Recruitment of contractors present in school during school hours	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	Vetting Procedures Health and Safety Policy Visitors book in office and lanyards
31	Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	Vetted by training colleges Visitors book in office
32	TY Students participating in work experience	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	Work experience Policy Child Safeguarding Statement Visitors book in office and lanyards
33	Volunteers/ Parents	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	Vetting Procedures Supervision Policy Visitors book in office and lanyards

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34	Use of information and communication technology by children in schools including social media	Bullying/ Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	Acceptable Use Policy DES Guidance on Remote Learning in the event of a pandemic. Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Internet filter within school
35	Use of video, photography and other media to record school events	Bullying/ Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Harm to children Harm to staff Exploitation	Acceptable Use Policy Code of Behaviour Parents/Volunteers do not have permission to use their phones while working with children in the school
36	After school use of school premises by other organisations	Harm to children	Vetting Procedures (e.g. Sherpa Kids, keyboard, Speech & Drama, Lucan band, coding, soccer camps, Lucan Youth Fun, GAA clubs)
37	Use of school premises by other organisation during school day	Harm to children	Vetting Procedures (e.g. Sherpa Kids, keyboard, Speech & Drama, Coaches from Lucan Sarsfields, Westmanstown Gaels, Cricket Ireland)
38	After-school activities	Harm to children	Vetting Procedures Health and Safety Code of Behaviour (e.g. Homework Club, maths Club, Art Club, quiz team practise, Lego club, music practise)
39	One-to-one learning support	Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching	Supervision Policy
40	One-to-one counselling	Risk of harm in one-to-one counselling	Vetting procedures

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41	Care of pupils of minority religious faiths	Bullying/ Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Cultural differences	Inclusion Policy Anti-Bullying policy Inter-culturalism Policy
42	Care of pupils on Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)	Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult	Follow Child Protection Plan set up by TUSLA
43	Recruitment of contractors present in school after school activities	Harm to children by visitor to school	Vetting Procedures Health and Safety Policy Visitors book in office and lanyards
44	Recruitment of Sports coaches, external tutors, guest speakers	Harm to children by visitor to school	Vetting Procedures Health and Safety Policy Visitors book in office and lanyards
45	Online learning and teaching remotely	Bullying/ Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	Acceptable Use Policy DES Guidance on Remote Learning in the event of a pandemic. Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Internet filter within school

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)*.