



St. Kevin's Junior National School

Newbrook Avenue, Donaghmede, Dublin 13.

Child Safeguarding Statement



Child Safeguarding Statement

St. Kevin's Junior National School is a junior primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Second Class with two early intervention classes.

In accordance with the requirements of the:

- Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017,
- Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 and
- Tusla Guidance on the Preparation of a Child Safeguarding Statement,

The Board of Management of St. Kevin's Junior National School has agreed to the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modifications the Department's Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement.

The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is

Ms. Orlagh Leonard

The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is

Mrs Margaret O'Sullivan

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;

Child Safeguarding Statement

The School will *contd...*

- 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.

1. The following procedures/measures are in place:

- In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of an investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstances in respect of a child attending in 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 DES 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 DES and available on the DES 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 to avail of relevant training; and*

Child Safeguarding Statement

1. The following procedures/measures are in place *contd...*

- In relation to the 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**, include tin 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 above named DLP as the “relevant person” (*as defined in the Children First Act 2015*) to the first point of contact in respect of the 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**, 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 attached as an appendix to these procedures.
 - The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school’s website, the DES website or will be made available on request by the school.
2. This statement has been published on the school’s website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parent’s Association and the patron. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians/caregivers on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and the Department, if requested.
3. 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 the statement refers.

Child Safeguarding Statement

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on 18th September 2025 and will be reviewed during the first Board of Management meeting in the new academic year 2026/2027

Signed:

Ms Magdalena Rej
Chairperson of Board of Management
Date: 18/09/2025

Orlagh Leonard
Principal
Date: 18/09/2025

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, 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 the 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 the risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on 18th September 2025

It will be reviewed as part of the Schools Annual Review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed:

Ms Magdalena Rej
Chairperson of Board of Management
Date: 18/09/2025

Orlagh Leonard
Principal
Date: 18/09/2025



St. Kevin's Junior National School

Newbrook Avenue, Donaghmede, Dublin 13.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment - of any potential harm

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment - St Kevin's Junior National School

Page 1 of 6

List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the Following Risk of Harm	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risk identified in this assessment.
Training of School Personnel in Child Protection Matters	High	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<p>*Child Safeguarding Statement & DES Procedures made available to staff.</p> <p>*DLP & DDLP to attend PDST face to face training.</p> <p>*All staff to review Tusla Training Module and any other online training offered by PDST.</p> <p>*BOM maintains records of all records of staff and board training.</p>
One to One Teaching	Medium	Harm by school personnel	All staff are aware of the procedure in school for one to one teaching i.e. <i>open doors or in a room with a Vision Panel e.g. SET rooms.</i>
Care of Children with Special Needs, including Intimate Care Needs	High	Harm by school personnel	Policy on intimate care in place
Toilet Areas	High	Inappropriate behaviour	Children must use their classroom toilets only during class, hall toilet during P.E. and corridor toilet during yard time. Only one child per cubicle. Teacher must not enter a cubicle with a child. <i>See Intimate Care Policy.</i>

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment - St. Kevin's Junior National School

Page 2 of 6

List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the Following Risk of Harm	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risk identified in this assessment.
Curricular Provision in Respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe.	Medium	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full.
Managing of Challenging Behaviour Amongst Pupils, Including Appropriate Use of Restraint	High	Injury to pupils and staff	*Health & Safety Policy *Code of Behaviour *Anti-Bullying Policy
Daily Arrival and Dismissal of Pupils	Medium	Harm from other pupils, unknown adults on the playground Traffic on the avenue	*Arrival and Dismissal Policy *Supervision Policy *School Attendance Policy *Health & Safety Policy Traffic control measures now in place: * <i>i.e. barrier system</i> * <i>no vehicles are permitted to drive onto the yard during yard time, except emergency vehicles and deliveries outside of yard time.</i> * <i>DCC Safe Route to Schools Initiative</i> * <i>Children must walk inside the railings</i>
Recreation Breaks for Pupils	High	*Injury to pupils / bullying *Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	*Policy & Procedures in place Health & Safety Policy Code of Behaviour
Classroom Teaching	Low		*Child Safeguarding Statement *Safety Statement

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment - St. Kevin's Junior National School

Page 3 of 6

List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the Following Risk of Harm	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risk identified in this assessment.
Outdoor Teaching Activities	Medium		*Child Safeguarding Statement *Safety Statement
Outside Agencies: Hse Staff for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearing Testing • Vision Testing • Dental • Immunisation 	High	Harm to pupils	*Child Safeguarding Statement *All external visitors must be Garda Vetted. *No external visitor will be left with children unattended by a mandated staff member. *In relation to Psychologists /SLT/ OT's/ HSE Staff may work in a room with a vision panel with parental consent. *Code of Conduct for Parents/Visitors
Sports Coaches	Medium	Harm to pupils	*Child Safeguarding Statement. *All external teachers must be Garda Vetted. *No external coach will be left with a class unattended.
Students Participating in Work Experience	Low	Harm by student	*Child Safeguarding Statement. *All external teachers must be Garda Vetted. *Work Experience Students are only permitted to work with children while supervised by a teacher.
Educational Trips	High	Harm to pupils	*Child Safeguarding Statement
Use of Toilet	High	Inappropriate behaviour	*Intimate Care Policy

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment - St. Kevin's Junior National School

Page 4 of 6

List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the Following Risk of Harm	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risk identified in this assessment.
Annual Sports Day	High	Harm to pupils	*Code of Behaviour *Anti-Bullying Policy
Volunteers/Parents	Medium	Harm to pupils	*Garda Vetting Procedures *Child Safeguarding Statement *Code of Conduct for Parents/Visitors
After School Club	High	Harm to pupils	*Code of Behaviour *Anti-Bullying Policy *Garda Vetting Procedures *Child Safeguarding Statement * Assembly and Dismissal Policy
Management of Challenging Behaviour Amongst Pupils, Including Appropriate Use of Restraint Where Required	High	Harm of child, pupil, property and staff.	*Code of Behaviour
Administration of First Aid/Medicine	High	Harm to pupils	*Administration of Medicines Policy *School Procedures to Contact Families in Relation to Any Head Injury
Curricular Provision in Respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Low		

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment - St. Kevin's Junior National School

Page 5 of 6

List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the Following Risk of Harm	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risk identified in this assessment.
Prevention & Dealing With Bullying Amongst Pupils	High	Harm to pupils	*Anti-Bullying Policy *Child Safeguarding Statement *Code of Behaviour
Training of School Personnel in Child Protection Matters	High	Harm to pupils	*Child Safeguarding Statement *Appropriate Garda Vetting *Children First E-Learning Programme *PDST Training where possible
Care of Pupils With Specific Vulnerabilities/Needs	High	Exclusion Bullying Harm to children	*Child Safeguarding Statement *Anti-Bullying Policy *Code of Behaviour
Use of Information & Communication Technology by Pupils in School	Medium	Bullying Staff not following policies and procedures	*Internet Usage Policy *Anti-Bullying Policy *Code of Behaviour
Student Teachers Undertaking Training Placement in School	Medium	Teacher not following School's policies and procedures Harm to children	*Child Safeguarding Statement *Anti-Bullying Policy *Code of Behaviour *Appropriate Garda Vetting *Class Teacher to Supervise the Teacher During Placement

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment - St. Kevin's Junior National School

Page 6 of 6

List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the Following Risk of Harm	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risk identified in this assessment.
Use of Video / Photography / Other Media to Record School Events	High	Images of children uploaded to the internet. Identification of children through various medias on social media / internet	*Internet Acceptable Use Policy *Enrolment Policy *Photography / Recording Policy

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. Whilst 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.

The risk assessment was completed by the Board of Management on **18th September, 2025**. It will be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed:

Ms Magdalena Rej
Chairperson of Board of Management
Date: 18/09/2025

Orlagh Leonard
Principal
Date: 18/09/2025t