



Child Safeguarding Statement, Scoil Íosagáin B.N.S., Farranree

Scoil Íosagáin B.N.S., Farranree, Cork is a DEIS, all boys' primary school providing primary education to 300 pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class. An ASD class was added in September 2020 and 2 more classes opened in September, 2022. The children are aged from four to thirteen years. The school is situated in a single three storey building on the north side of Cork city. A standalone hall was added in 2014.

The school has a staff of 32 teachers, 14 SNAs, a full-time secretary and care-taker.

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Scoil Íosagáin B.N.S has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's Child Protection Procedures for primary and post-primary Schools 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement.
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is: Mr. Feargal Hurley
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP is: Mr Michael Foley
- 4 The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. The school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare. The school will:
 - a. recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations
 - b. fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children
 - c. fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters
 - d. 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
 - e. develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and
 - f. fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters

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

- 5 The following procedures/measures are in place:
 - a. In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child attending the school, the school adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and to the relevant agreed



- disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the DES website
- b. 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
 - c. 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:
 - i. Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - ii. Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - iii. Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - iv. Encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training
 - v. The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training.
 - d. In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, all school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015
 - e. In this school, the Board has appointed the above named DLP as the 'relevant person' (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the school's child safeguarding statement.
- 6 All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015
- 7 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
- 8 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
- 9 The following policies may be referenced in our Child Safeguarding statement (what our school has currently in place formally or informally, to safeguard children from harm):
- ✓ Code of Discipline (currently under review)
 - ✓ Anti-bullying policy
 - ✓ Acceptable Usage of the Internet Policy (New)
 - ✓ Key Holder Protocol
 - ✓ Safety Statement
 - ✓ First aid Policy
 - ✓ Administration of Medication Policy
 - ✓ Critical Incident Management Plan



10 The following procedures may also be referenced in the Child Safeguarding Statement (what our school has currently in place formally or informally, to safeguard children from harm):

- ✓ One-to-one teaching
- ✓ Toileting
- ✓ Physical Education/Games and After School Activities
- ✓ Swimming Pool and Public Amenities
- ✓ Taking Children Home
- ✓ Parental Complaints Procedure

11 Statutory Obligations

- ✓ Keep children **safe from harm** while using our service
- ✓ Carry out a **risk assessment** to identify potential harm
- ✓ Develop a **Child Safeguarding Statement** outlining policies
- ✓ Appoint a **relevant person** (to be first point of contact)

Note: The above is not intended as an exhaustive list.

12 This statement has been published on the school's website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents' Association 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.

13 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.

The following services are provided by the school:

Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils

Recreation breaks for pupils

Classroom teaching

One-to-one teaching

One-to-one counselling/play therapy.

Psychological assessments (N.E.P.S.)

Outdoor teaching activities

Sporting activities

Gardening Activities

Cooking Activities

School outings

Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in the school

Annual Sports Day



Cor Fhéile

Use of off-site facilities for school activities

Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed

Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils

Delivery of the Primary School Curriculum across all subjects.

After school Homework Club.

Aistear programme.

School Completion Programme.

Happy Talk.

Incredible Years.

Parent Classes.

Parents' Association/Parents Room

School tours

Sports including G.A.A., swimming, basketball, soccer

Administration of Medicine

Administration of First Aid

Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe

Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils

Training of school personnel in child protection matters

Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum

Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities

Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as

- Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants
- Members of the Traveller community
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children
- Pupils perceived to be LGBT
- Pupils of minority religious faiths
- Children in care
- Children on CPNS (Child Protection Notification System)

Recruitment of school personnel including -

- Teachers/SNA's
- Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners
- Sports coaches
- External Tutors/Guest Speakers
- Volunteers/Parents in school activities



- Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours
- Visitors/contractors present during after school activities

Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school

Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school

Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.

Students participating in work experience in the school

Student teachers undertaking training placement in school

Use of video/photography/other media to record school events

After school use of school premises by other organisations

Use of school premises by other organisation during school day

Breakfast club

Homework club/evening study

Nurture Room

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on 17th of February 2022.

Signed: Diamuid Ó Donn

Chairperson of BoM

Date: 16th June 2022

Signed: Fergal Hurley

Principal/Secretary to the BoM

Date: 16th June 2022

Next review: 17th June 2023