**Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment for Cloonakilla NS**

**Child Safeguarding Statement**

Cloonakilla NS is a primary school providing primary/post-primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class

 In accordance with the requirements of the [Children First Act 2015](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2015/act/36/enacted/en/pdf), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](https://assets.gov.ie/25844/b90aafa55804462f84d05f87f0ca2bf6.pdf), [the Addendum to Children First (2019)](https://assets.gov.ie/25819/c9744b64dfd6447985eeffa5c0d71bbb.pdf), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017](https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/45063/2d4b5b3d781e4ec1ab4f3e5d198717d9.pdf#page=1) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/4214-TUSLA_Guidance_on_Developing_a_CSS_LR.PDF), the Board of Management of Cloonakilla NS 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 \_Mary O’Rourke \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is\_\_Siobhán McCabe\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
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. 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.

1. 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 2017 and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the DE 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](https://revisedacts.lawreform.ie/eli/2012/act/47/revised/en/pdf) 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 DE 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 2017, including in 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 be the first point of contact in respect of the schools 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 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 DE 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.

1. 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.
2. 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 06/03/2018\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on \_26/09/2022\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: Tommy Cormican\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_Mary O’Rourke\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson of Board of Management Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

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**Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment**

**Written Assessment of Risk of Cloonakilla NS**

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirement of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of [name of school].

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| 1. **List of school activities**
 | 1. **The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –**
 | 1. **The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -**
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| Daily Arrival – Dismissal of pupils Recreation Break One to One teachingOne-on-one counsellingSchool Tours/OutingsSchool matchesOvernight school tripsSwimming Intimate Care (SEN)Use of Sensory RoomAdministration of Medicines/ First Aid BullyingTraining of school staff in Child Protection ProceduresManagement of challenging behaviour among pupils under the school’s Code of BehaviourUse of I.T. devicesphotographing of childrenDistance LearningUse of mobile phonesUse of external personal to support sports and other activities. Students participating in work experience in the school. Student teachers undertaking placement.After school use of school premises by other organisations | Potential for harm at arrival dismissal timesPotential for harm at recreation breaks from another childRisk of harm due to inadequate Code of BehaviourRisk of harm due to bullyingDetention of pupils at breaktimesOne-one-teachingCare of pupils with intimate care needsAdministration of medicines/First AidRisk from inadequate training of staff harm/abuse from school staffRisk of abuse by member of staff of another organisation while on school tourRisk of child being harmed by adult in swimming poolCare of pupils with SEN including intimate care needsRisk of harm by staff member or other childrenRisk of harm not being recognised by school personnelParents’ non-disclosure of medication requirementRisk of physical and psychological harm due to bullyingRisk of harm not being reported promptly and properly by school personnel to the DLP or DDLPRisk of harm to other pupils and staffChallenging behaviour among pupilsHarm not being properly recognised and promptly reported by school personnelRisk of harm due to children inappropriately using IT devices including mobile phones or logging on to inappropriate websites in school.Risk of teacher being unaware of children with NO consent for photographsRisk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting etc.Risk of harm caused by circulation of school photographs, video, or media events via social media by school personnel and parents/guardiansRisk of harm due to inappropriate behaviour during Zoom call or sharing of meeting ID and password with outsidersRisk of harm due to staff members not checking for consent prior to a pupil profile being set upRisk of harm by not being reported properly and promptly by school personnelRisk of child being harmed in school by visitor to school/ contractors working on site | Arrival/Dismissal Procedure, Pre/After school supervision. Supervision times have been increased (See Covid -19 Reopening Plan)Supervision policy, Anti-bullying Policy, Code of Behaviour Policy.All incidents/accidents are reported and First Aid Procedures follow. Incident/Accident forms are filled out by teacher on duty as required.Open door policy, Glass in door, SEN PolicySchool tours Policy, Swimming PolicyAccident/Injury PolicyTraining for designated staff members. Administration of medicines policy. Circulation of list of children with medical care needsFirst Aid administered by trained staff onlySEN policy, Intimate Care Needs policySensory Room PolicyOpen door policy at all timesPrincipal/Deputy Principal to check room at regular intervalsAdministration of medicines policy. Designated staff trained to administer medicines to children with care needs.Frequent reminders on NewsletterFirst Aid administered by trained staff only. Refresher training to be provided for staff.Anti-bullying Policy, Implementation of Stay Safe Programme, RSE Programme & Buddy ProgrammeAnnual review of Child Protection ProceduresTraining for DLP & DDLPVetting Procedures, All activities conducted under supervision of class teacherStay Safe ProgrammeEnsure certified training by all staffSupervision policy, Code of behaviour PolicySEN Policy & Exit Strategy for disruptive pupilsCritical incident Management Policy. Glass in door. Open Door PolicyTeacher supervisionAcceptable User Policy, Code of behaviour, Mobile Phone policy, Anti-bullying policyDistance Learning PolicyList of names of children to be included in Important Information FolderAcceptable User Policy, Letters to parentsA garda vetted teacher will always remain with class being conducted by outside personnelVisitors Policy & Garda Vetting Policy & Stay Safe ProgrammeVisiting personnel must be garda vettedIndividuals conducting after school activities must be vetted and have adequate insuranceCertified Access to school only |

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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 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. 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.