**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 -** |
| Daily Arrival – Dismissal of pupils    Recreation Break  One to One teaching  One-on-one counselling  School Tours/Outings  School matches  Overnight school trips  Swimming    Intimate Care (SEN)  Use of Sensory Room  Administration of Medicines/ First Aid  Bullying  Training of school staff in Child Protection  Procedures  Management of challenging behaviour among pupils under the school’s Code of  Behaviour  Use of I.T. devices  photographing of children  Distance Learning  Use of mobile phones  Use 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 times  Potential for harm at recreation breaks from another child  Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour  Risk of harm due to bullying  Detention of pupils at breaktimes  One-one-teaching  Care of pupils with intimate care needs  Administration of medicines/First Aid  Risk from inadequate training of staff  harm/abuse from school staff  Risk of abuse by member of staff of another organisation while on school tour  Risk of child being harmed by adult in swimming pool  Care of pupils with SEN including intimate care needs  Risk of harm by staff member or other children  Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel  Parents’ non-disclosure of medication requirement  Risk of physical and psychological harm due to bullying  Risk of harm not being reported promptly and properly by school personnel to the DLP or DDLP  Risk of harm to other pupils and staff  Challenging behaviour among pupils  Harm not being properly recognised and promptly reported by school personnel  Risk 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 photographs  Risk 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/guardians  Risk of harm due to inappropriate behaviour during Zoom call or sharing of meeting ID and password with outsiders  Risk of harm due to staff members not checking for consent prior to a pupil profile being set up  Risk of harm by not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel  Risk 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 Policy  School tours Policy, Swimming Policy  Accident/Injury Policy  Training for designated staff members. Administration of medicines policy. Circulation of list of children with medical care needs  First Aid administered by trained staff only  SEN policy, Intimate Care Needs policy  Sensory Room Policy  Open door policy at all times  Principal/Deputy Principal to check room at regular intervals  Administration of medicines policy. Designated staff trained to administer medicines to children with care needs.  Frequent reminders on Newsletter  First Aid administered by trained staff only. Refresher training to be provided for staff.  Anti-bullying Policy, Implementation of Stay Safe Programme, RSE Programme & Buddy Programme  Annual review of Child Protection Procedures  Training for DLP & DDLP  Vetting Procedures, All activities conducted under supervision of class teacher  Stay Safe Programme  Ensure certified training by all staff  Supervision policy, Code of behaviour Policy  SEN Policy & Exit Strategy for disruptive pupils  Critical incident Management Policy. Glass in door. Open Door Policy  Teacher supervision  Acceptable User Policy, Code of behaviour, Mobile Phone policy, Anti-bullying policy  Distance Learning Policy  List of names of children to be included in Important Information Folder  Acceptable User Policy, Letters to parents  A garda vetted teacher will always remain with class being conducted by outside personnel  Visitors Policy & Garda Vetting Policy & Stay Safe Programme  Visiting personnel must be garda vetted  Individuals conducting after school activities must be vetted and have adequate insurance  Certified 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.