

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Eoin Baiste 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 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 Eoin Baiste 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 Roisin Hughes
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Jane Hamill
- 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.

5 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 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
 - 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 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.

6 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.

7 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.

8 This policy and risk assessment was reviewed and updated in line with the school's Covid-19 Response Plan, Policy Statement and the Department of Education's, "COVID-19 Response Plan for the safe and sustainable operation of Primary and Special Schools".

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management in June 2022.

Signed:



Signed:



Reviewed: June 2022

To be reviewed: 2023

John Maloney

Chairperson

Board of Management

Roisin Hughes

Secretary

Board of Management

Date:

10/06/22

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Maloney', written over the printed name and title of the Chairperson.

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Eoin Baiste

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 Scoil Eoin Baiste.

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily arrival of children to the building and dismissal of pupils Dismissal of pupils at per policy Bus pupils Later comers 	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults	Arrival and dismissal of junior/senior infant pupils supervised 1st -6th class pupils are supervised as per supervision policy Latecomers/Early Leavers recorded on Databiz Parents/Guardians, annually, must complete a permission slip and return to the class teacher – this records who has permission to collect pupil, if pupil can walk home alone, etc. Class
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation breaks for pupils 	Bullying Harm by other pupils and school personnel	Supervision Policy Code of behaviour Entry to the school is by permission only. Monitor by adults on yard duty.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom teaching 	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils	Glass panel in the doors Other adults visit or are present Other children present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-to-one teaching 	Harm by school personnel	Glass panel in doors Open door policy Parental consent sought

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sporting Activities – off site 	<p>Harm by pupils including bullying Harm by school personnel Harm by adults</p>	<p>Transport is arranged by school Garda Vetting is required by all personnel involved in activity/ providing transport Changing of gear takes place before the activity in the school were possible. Activities involving changing rooms off-site i.e. swimming/football please see swimming policy and supervision policy. All Activities are adequately supervised by a teacher</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School outings/trips 	<p>Harm by pupils including bullying Harm by school personnel Harm by adults</p>	<p>Transport is arranged by school Garda Vetting is required by all personnel involved or providing transport Teachers supervision policy Children must return to the school where applicable Children must wear the school uniform were applicable Code of behaviour Health and safety policy Helpers/monitors garda vetted</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of toilet/changing areas in schools 	<p>Inappropriate behaviour Harm from other children Harm from school personnel</p>	<p>Supervision Policy Toileting Access policy– limited children's use of facilities at any one time – record kept in classroom and by SNA during yard time.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dealing with an emergency sick child/toileting issue 	<p>Harm from school personnel Harm by other children</p>	<p>Code of behaviour Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Intimate care policy</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Sports Day 	Inappropriate behaviour Harm from other children Harm from school personnel Harm from a parent/adult	Supervision Policy Code of behaviour Toileting access policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substances abuse or supply of same 	Harm from other children Self-harm	Supervision policy SPHE policy Code of behaviour Child protection policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substance abuse adult/carer 	Harm from a parent/carer/adult	Supervision policy Record of events to be logged Events to be discussed with management team Tusla contact where relevant Substances abuse policy Child protection policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inappropriate relationships or communications between child and another child/adult 	Inappropriate behaviour Harm from other children Harm from school personnel Harm from a parent/adult	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy ICT policy SPHE policy Child protection policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fundraising events involving pupils 	Inappropriate behaviour Harm from other children Harm from school personnel Harm from a parent/adult	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School transport arrangements 	Harm from other personnel Harm from pupils	Supervision policy Code of behaviour Health and Safety Garda Vetting

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care of children with special educational needs 	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils	Supervision Policy Anti-Bullying Policy Intimate care policy Additional Needs Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils including appropriate use of restraint 	Injury/harm to pupils and staff	Code of Behaviour and programmes Supervision policy Health & Safety Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of Medicine 	Harm to school personnel Harm to pupil/pupils	Administration of Medicines Policy & Consent Forms Training arranged as required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of First Aid 	Harm to pupil Harm by school personnel	Health & Safety Policy Doors must remain open Records of accidents/administration kept and reports filled out and kept at office were appropriate Staff training First Aid Policy Accident policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe 	Non-teaching of content	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full Incredible years and Friends for Life program where appropriate School implements the SPHE curriculum in full over a two year cycle as outlined in the school plan which can be found on the staff server. Stay Safe is taught in every class in the first term. All staff record content covered on their cuntas miosuil and in December,

		<p>sign the "Completion of the Stay Safe Programme" document and return to principal.</p> <p>Individual teacher planning documents indicate specific SPHE curriculum objectives.</p> <p>In addition to specific teaching of prevention and dealing with bullying, the school has an Anti-Bullying policy which can be found on the school server. The school also operates the Kiva Programme.</p> <p>The school has a supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision during assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of using toilets. This policy can be found on the school server.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils 	Bullying Harm by other pupils	<p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Anti-bullying programme – Kiva Programme</p> <p>Kiva team in place</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training of school personnel in child protection matters 	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 module</p> <p>Online training offered by PDST attended by all staff</p> <p>BOM records all records of staff and Board training.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum 	Harm by external personnel	<p>All adults, visitors to the school and volunteers are properly screened and vetted.</p> <p>The Class Teacher must remain with their class when supported by external personnel.</p> <p>All external personnel require Garda Vetting</p> <p>All external personnel receive a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and sign the Acceptance Form.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ 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 	<p>Bullying</p> <p>Harm from personnel</p> <p>Harm from pupils</p> <p>Harm from adults</p>	<p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Supervision Policy</p> <p>SPHE Programme taught in its entirety</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Incredible years</p> <p>Friends for life</p> <p>SCP</p> <p>Play therapy</p> <p>Other external agencies</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of school personnel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Teachers/SNA's ➢ Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners ➢ Sports coaches ➢ External Tutors/Guest Speakers ➢ Volunteers/Parents in school activities 	Harm from personnel	<p>Notify all staff if external contractors are in the building during school hours</p> <p>Occasional visitors report to office.</p> <p>All school personnel are required to be Garda vetted and the relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda Vetting are adhered to.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours ➤ Visitors/contractors present during after school activities ➤ Regular external personal who visit the school on a regular basis • Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies 		<p>Best practice procedures with regard to interviewing and checking references are followed</p> <p>All volunteers/parents regularly involved in school activities are Garda vetted.</p> <p>All volunteers/parents involved in school activities are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement – HSCL/Office provides.</p> <p>All volunteers/parents are required to sign the "Acceptance of Scoil Eoin Baiste's Child Safeguarding Statement" form and return to DLP</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school 	Harm by adults Bullying – Cyber Bullying	<p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Restricted access to the internet</p> <p>Supervision Policy</p> <p>Training arranged for staff, parents and pupils</p> <p>Update mobile phone & IT policy</p> <p>Acceptable Use Policy</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour - 	Harm by other pupils	<p>Supervision Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Mobile Phones Policy</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students participating in work experience in the school 	Harm by student	<p>Student must be supervised by the relevant teacher</p> <p>Garda Vetting is required for all students over age of 16</p>

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.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management in June 2022. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.


Signed: John Maloney

Date: June 2022

Chairperson, Board of Management


Signed Roisin Hughes

Date: June 2022

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management