**Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template**

**Child Safeguarding Statement**

CBS Primary Ennis is a primary/special/post-primary school providing primary/post-primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class/First Year to Leaving Certificate Year (delete as appropriate).

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 (revised 2023)](https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/12bee3-child-protection-procedures-in-schools/) 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 [insert school name] 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 (revised (2023)* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Mr. Dara Glynn
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Mr. Brian Curtin
4. The Relevant Person is Mr. Dara Glynn

(The relevant person is one who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. In a school setting the relevant person shall be the designated liaison person.)

1. 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 (revised 2023)* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the [gov.ie](https://www.gov.ie/) 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 [gov.ie](https://www.gov.ie/) 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 (revised 2023)*, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
* 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 [gov.ie](https://www.gov.ie/) 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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [date].

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [most recent review date].

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­­­\_

**Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment**

**Written Assessment of Risk of CBS Primary, Ennis**

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 (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of CBS Primary, Ennis.

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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 risk identified in this assessment -** |
| Covid-19 | Transmission of the disease throughout our school & Loss of Educational opportunities caused by enforced school closures | Accessibility to HEPA-filters/ Hand-sanitisers at main entrance/ Hand washing facilities/Reminders of good hygiene practices |
| Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters | Harm not recognised or reported promptly | Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff  DLP& DDLP attend PDST face to face training  All Staff have viewed Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST  BOM records all records of staff and board training |
| One to one teaching | Harm by school personnel | SEN Policy  Windows/Glass panelling  Garda vetting |
| Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs | Harm by school personnel | SEN Policy |
| Toilet areas | Inappropriate behaviour | Yard Rules  Where feasible, 1 adult in charge of permissions  Where possible, 1 pupil at a time using bathroom  CCTV monitoring of Hallways – In case of allegation |
| Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe. | Non-teaching of same | Policy and curricular plans  Cuntas Míosúil |
| **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 risk identified in this assessment -** |
| Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils | Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground | Yard supervision for 20 mins before school starts.  Principal supervises exit of school grounds.  SNA accompanies pupils getting a taxi/bus |
| Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint | Injury to pupils and staff | Code of Behaviour  Yard rules  Anti-Bullying Policy |
| Sports Coaches | Harm to pupils | Sporting Activity/School Outings Policy  Garda Vetting  Supervision |
| Students participating in work experience | Harm by student | Work Experience Policy  Supervision  Garda vetting |
| Recreation breaks for pupils | Harm to pupils | Yard Supervision  Yard Rules  Code of Behaviour |
| Outdoor teaching activities | Harm to pupils | Enrolment policy  School Activity/School Outings Policy  Code of Behaviour |
| Sporting Activities | Harm to pupils | Sporting Activity/School Outings Policy |
| Homework club/evening study | Harm to pupils | Garda Vetted Teachers/SNA’s (In house)  Supervision |
| **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 risk identified in this assessment -** |
| School outings | Harm to pupils by outside personnel  Bullying | Parental Consent  School policy  Supervision  Garda vetting of venue personnel  Anti-Bullying policy |
| School trips involving overnight stay | Harm to pupils by outside personnel | Parental Consent  School policy  Supervision  Garda vetting of venue personnel |
| School trips involving foreign travel | Harm to pupils by outside personnel | Parental Consent  School policy  Supervision  Garda vetting of venue personnel  Information talk for parents |
| Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools | Bullying  Harm to/by pupils | Code of Behaviour  Anti-Bullying policy |
| Annual Sports Day | Harm to pupils  Toileting and accessing the Green | Supervision  First Aid  Supervised Toilet runs  Sporting Activity/School Outings policy |
| Fundraising events involving pupils | Harm to pupils | Code of Behaviour  Supervision |
| Use of off-site facilities for school activities | Harm to pupils by outside personnel | Supervision |
| School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts | Harm to pupils by outside personnel | Garda vetting  Supervision by school staff |
| **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 risk identified in this assessment -** |
| Administration of Medicine  Administration of First Aid | Harm to pupils | Policies on both  Health Care Plans for chronic conditions |
| Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils | Harm to pupils | Anti-Bullying Policy |
| Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum, including once off speakers and authors | Harm to pupils | Garda vetting.  Supervision by our teachers |
| 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 * Flight Risk pupils | Bullying | Anti-Bullying Policy  Code of behaviour  SEN Policy |
| **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 risk identified in this assessment -** |
| 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 | Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported | Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff  Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST  Vetting Procedures |
| Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school | Bullying  Content filtering | ICT policy  AUP  Anti-Bullying Policy  Code of Behaviour |
| Application of sanctions under the school’s Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc. | Discrimination | Code of Behaviour  Anti-Bullying Policy  Child Safeguarding Statement  ICT/AUP policies |
| Student teachers undertaking training placement in school | Harm to pupils | Garda Vetting  Child Protection Guidelines  Work Experience Policy |
| Use of video/photography/other media to record school events | Harm to pupils  Exposure of pupils/adults | ICT/AUP policies  Enrolment/Admissions policy  Data Protection Policy  Child Protection Policy  Anti-Bullying Policy |
| **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 risk identified in this assessment -** |
| After school use of school premises by other organisations | Harm to pupils | Garda Vetting  Insurance  Health and Safety Policy |
| Lollipop Person | Harm to pupils | Gear stored just inside Senior Building door  Garda Vetted |
| Parents’ Association activities | Harm to pupils | Supervision  Ask to consider Garda Vetting of active members |
| Live Broadcasts | Harm to pupils  Exposure of adults/students | Advance permission sought from relevant staff |
| ASD Class | Pupils in class identified as a flight risk  Intimate care needs  Lifting of pupils | Locked doors/ Kids supervised by at least one adult at all times  Two adults attending to a child who requires changing  Child care manual handling training for staff in Autism Class |

**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 on \_\_/\_\_/2025*.* It will be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management