



Child Safeguarding Statement - Gaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna 22-23

Gaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna is a primary/special/post-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](#), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](#), [the Addendum to Children First \(2019\)](#), 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 Gaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna 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 **Cárthaigh Ó Cuill**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Clár Ní Fhlatharta**
- 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 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 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 abovenamed 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.

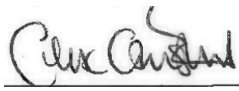
Note: The above is not intended as an exhaustive list. Individual Boards of Management shall also include in this section such other procedures/measures that are of relevance to the school in question.

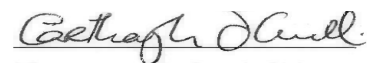
- 6 This statement has been published on the school’s website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents’ Association (if any) and the patron. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and the Department if requested.
- 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.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on **8/03/2018**

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on **16/09/22**

To be reviewed on or before 16/09/23

Signed: 
of Management

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

Date: 16/09/22

Date: 16/09/22

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Gaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Gaelscoil Chnoc Liamhna

1. List of school activities

1. <i>Staff training</i>
2. <i>Staff recruitment</i>
3. <i>Toileting/personal hygiene</i>
4. <i>Challenging behaviour among children</i>
5. <i>LGBT</i>
6. <i>Use of ICT in school/ Remote Learning</i>
7. <i>Children with toileting needs/personal care needs</i>
8. <i>Parents volunteering</i>
9. <i>One to one teaching</i>
10. <i>Accidents</i>
11. <i>Curriculum provision (SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe)</i>
12. <i>Arrival and dismissal of children</i>
13. <i>Break time, Lunch time, play breaks</i>

14. <i>Students on work experience</i>
15. <i>Sport coaches</i>

2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -

1.High Harm will not be recognised unless staff are trained.
2.High Harm will not be recognised unless new staff are given appropriate information and training.
3.High Inappropriate behaviour
4.High Other children or staff could be hurt
5.High Bullying
6.Medium
7.High Risk of abuse from staff
8.Low Risk of abuse from parents
9.Medium Risk of abuse from staff
10.Medium
11.Medium These subjects might not be taught
12.Medium Harm from other children
13.High Injury Bullying Danger that incident will not be noted
14.Low A child could injure them
15.Medium

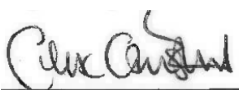
3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -

1. Tusla online course completed by all staff. All staff to complete PDST online training
2. Garda vetting All staff to be provided with a copy of the safeguarding statement
3. Toileting policy Class routines Procedures for toileting at break time (cártaí clóis)
4. School code of discipline Safety statement Appropriate procedures to help children and staff should a child's behaviour become challenging
5. Antibullying Code School code of discipline
6. Acceptable usage policy Mobile phone policy Remote Learning Policy
7. Toileting policy Parental consent forms
8. Teacher present Garda vetting
9. Doors open Table between teacher and child Glass in class/resource room door
10. First Aid system (administered in hall at both breaks)
11. These subjects must be taught
12. Arrival and dismissal procedures Safety statement
13. Anti bullying policy Safety statement Behaviour code
14. Work experience policy Child safeguarding statement
15. Teacher present Child safeguarding statement School Code of discipline

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.

Síniú: 

Cathaoirleach an Bhoird Bainistíochta

Dáta: 16/09/22

Síniú: 

An Príomhoide/Rúnaí an Bhoird Bainistíochta

Dáta: 16/09/22