



Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template

Child Safeguarding Statement

Carbury National School 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](#), [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 \(revised 2023\)](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of Carbury National School 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 Ms. Linda McMahon
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Ms. Sabrina Love
- 4 The Relevant Person is Ms. Linda McMahon
(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. This person can also be the DLP)
- 5 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.

- 6 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 website.

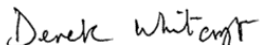
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the school adheres to the statutory vetting requirements of the [National Vetting Bureau \(Children and Vulnerable Persons\)](#) Acts 2012 to 2016 and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and available on the 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 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.

- 7 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.
- 8 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 14th September 2023.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on the 14th September 2023.

Signed: 
Chairperson of Board of Management
Date: 14/09/2023

Signed: 
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management
Date: 14/09/2023

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Carbury National School

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 (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Carbury National School.

List of School Activities	Potential Risk of Harm	Procedures in place to address risk identified.
Before 8.50 am in the morning	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults when waiting outside school gate before 8.50 am.	Notification to parents that the school assumes responsibility from 8.50 am until closing time. Outside of these times, parents are responsible for their children.
Opening (8.50 – 9.10 am), Closing Times (1.30 pm for Infants and 2.30 pm for 1 st – 6 th Class) and Break Times	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school.	Supervision by teachers and SNAs from 8.50 am. The school has a yard supervision rota to ensure appropriate supervision of children during assembly, dismissal and breaks.
Access/Egress	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults. Flight risk for some pupils.	Magnetic locks on doors. Visitors can only enter the school if buzzed in by the secretary. Parents collecting children early wait in reception area. The secretary informs the class teacher of the parent's arrival via the PA system.
Classroom teaching	Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel. Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel.	The names of the DLP and DDLP are clearly displayed in the school. Reminders to staff from principal at every staff meeting. All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement. The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023) are made available to all school personnel. School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023) and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 and its Addendum (2019).
One-to-one teaching/support	Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching/support.	All staff members are Garda Vetted, avail of Child Protection training and keep up-to-date with any revisions to procedure.
Outdoor teaching activities on the school premises	Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child.	The school fully implements the Stay Safe programme and Code of Behaviour.

	Risk of child being harmed in the school by visitors to the school.	School personnel are vigilant for any adults who enter the school grounds and direct them to the school office.
Online teaching and learning remotely	<p>Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, and other devices while learning remotely on Seesaw.</p> <p>Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner on Seesaw.</p>	<p>The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents.</p> <p>The school has a Remote Learning Policy in place which is updated as required.</p>
Sporting activities making use of off-site facilities e.g. sporting events, swimming and Sports Days	<p>Risk of child being harmed by another child.</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities.</p>	<p>Adequate supervision provided by school personnel.</p> <p>The school has a procedure in place when sporting activities take place off the school premises – a minimum of two staff members accompany each class group. The principal is informed of the date, time and venue of all off-site activities and ensures there is adequate supervision.</p> <p>The school fully implements the Stay Safe Policy.</p> <p>The school has a Swimming Policy in place.</p>
School outings	<p>Risk of child being harmed by another child.</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities.</p>	<p>The school has a School Excursions Policy in place in respect of school outings.</p> <p>The school has a procedure in place when outings take place – a minimum of two staff members accompany each class group. The principal is informed of the date, time and venue of all off-site activities and ensures there is adequate supervision.</p> <p>The school fully implements the Stay Safe Policy.</p>
Use of toilet areas in school	Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child.	<p>Each classroom has two toilets. Only one person uses a cubicle at any time. Pupils receiving support from a SET/SNA return to their classroom to use the bathroom. 1st – 6th Class children use the hall toilets at break, assembly, music or P.E. times and infants always use their own bathrooms.</p>

Children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed	Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities. Risk of harm while a child is receiving intimate care.	The school has a Special Educational Needs Policy. The parent/guardian will be informed if a child requires intimate care. If child is unable to care for himself/herself and the parents are unavailable, two adults will assist. School will keep a change of clothes in the event of any toileting accidents.
Administration of Medicine	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel.	The school has a policy in place for the administration of medication to pupils. If a staff member has to administer medication, he/she follows the training received.
Administration of First Aid	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel.	School personnel avail of First Aid training periodically. If a staff member has to administer First Aid, he/she follows the training received and acts in the best interests of the child.
Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Risk of teaching staff not fully implementing the SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe programmes.	The school implements in full the Stay Safe and RSE Programmes over a two-year period. The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum.
Bullying amongst pupils	Risk of harm due to bullying of child. Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel.	The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools. The key points from the Stay Safe programme are regularly revised by class teachers.
Training of school personnel in child protection matters	Risk of school personnel not being fully informed in child protection matters.	All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement. The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023) are made available to all school personnel. School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023) and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 and its Addendum (2019).

Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum and use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities	Risk of child being harmed in the school by external personnel.	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting. A member of the teaching staff remains with the class when external persons supplement the delivery of the curriculum.
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as - Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants - Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children - Pupils perceived to be LGBT - Pupils of minority religious faiths - Children with medical needs	Risk of harm due to vulnerabilities/needs. Risk of harm due to bullying of child.	The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy in place. The school implements in full the Stay Safe and RSE Programmes over a two-year period. The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum.
Recruitment of school personnel including - - Teachers/SNAs - 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	Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel. Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel. Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel.	The school – o Has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement. o Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement. o Encourages staff to avail of relevant training. o Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training. o Maintains records of all staff and board member training.
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school and films/DVDs	Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult. Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers/iPads, while at school. Risk of accessing inappropriate material.	The school has the following policies in place: o Acceptable Use Policy o Anti-Bullying Policy o ICT Policy o Mobile Phones and Smart Devices Policy Staff ensure all materials are age appropriate. Staff consider the age and sensitivity of individual children. Stay Safe, RSE, SPHE programmes are implemented in full. School's broadband is set at level 4.

Students participating in work experience in the school	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a work experience student.	If the student is over 16, the school adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation. A work experience student will always work alongside a member of school staff.
Student teachers undertaking training placement in the school	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a student teacher undertaking training placement.	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation. A student teacher will always work alongside a member of school staff.
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Risk of harm.	The school has a Photography Policy in place.
After school use of school premises by other organisations e.g. Extra-Curricular Teachers	Risk of child being harmed outside of school hours by external personnel/adults. Risk of inadequate supervision.	The providers adhere to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting. The providers ensure there is adequate supervision in place. The providers have up-to-date child protection training.