



Mandatory Template 1: Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template

Child Safeguarding Statement

Mary Queen of Ireland National School is 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 Mary Queen 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 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Aileen O'Donnell.
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Kevin Sheehy.
- 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 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..

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

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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 9th March 2018.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 31st of August 2024.

Signed: Michael Mooney
Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 11/10/2024

Signed: Aileen O'Donnell

Principal

Date: 11/10/2024

Date of next review: August 2025



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 Mary Queen of Ireland NS

List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	High	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff DLP & DDLP to attend PDST face to face training All Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST BOM records all records of staff and board training
One to one teaching	Med	Harm by school personnel	School has policy in place for one to one teaching Open doors Table between teacher and pupil Glass in window
Care of children with special needs, including intimate care needs	High	Harm by school personnel	Policy on intimate care and toileting.
Toilet areas	High	Inappropriate behaviour	Usage and supervision policy
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Med	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE and Stay Safe in full RSE Policy to be reviewed and revised regularly. Training to be provided by PDST in SPHE and RSE.
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	High	Injury to pupils and staff	Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour Training in restraint to be provided to staff members in 2021.

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Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Med	Harm from other pupils, unknown adults on the playground Traffic on avenue	Arrival and Dismissal Policy & Procedures Supervision Policy Traffic Management Policy & Procedures Health & Safety Policy
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List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Med	Harm from other pupils, unknown adults on the playground Traffic on road Inappropriate behaviour	Arrival and dismissal Policy & Procedures Supervision Policy Teachers/SNAs Health & Safety Policy Code of Behaviour
Recreation breaks for pupils	High	Injury to pupils/Bullying Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Policy & Procedures in place Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour
Classroom teaching	Med	Harm to pupils, harm by school personnel, harm by visitor or volunteer to the school, harm by other pupils	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff, Garda Vetting and Procedures adhered to, Usage and Supervision Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Code of Behaviour, Anti-Bullying Policy
Outdoor teaching activities	Med	Harm to pupils, unknown visitors on school grounds, harm not being recognised or properly and promptly reported by staff, harm by other pupils, harm by visitor or volunteer to the school	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Usage and Supervision Policy. Health and Safety Policy. Code of Behaviour. Codes of Conduct for Staff. Special Educational Needs Policy. Anti-Bullying Policy. Visitor Reporting System. Garda Vetting Process and Requirements adhered to.



<p>Sporting Activities – Swimming, GAA, Soccer, Tag Rugby, Dance, Matches against other schools in GAA and Soccer.</p>	<p>Med</p>	<p>Harm to pupils, harm by other pupils, harm not being recognised or properly and promptly reported by school personnel, harm by visitor or volunteer to the school, harm by member of staff of another organisation.</p>	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Garda Vetting Process and Requirements adhered to. Usage and Supervision Policy. Health and Safety Policy. Code of Behaviour. Codes of Conduct for Staff. Special Educational Needs Policy. Anti-Bullying Policy. Implementation of Stay Safe Programme and SPHE curriculum. Policy and Procedures in place for the administration of first aid. Policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches. Policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements.</p>
<p>Choir – trips outside of school.</p>	<p>Med</p>	<p>Harm to pupils, harm by other pupils, harm not being recognised or properly and promptly reported by school personnel, harm by visitor or volunteer to the school, harm by member of staff of another organisation.</p>	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Garda Vetting Process and Requirements adhered to. Usage and Supervision Policy. Health and Safety Policy. Code of Behaviour. Codes of Conduct for Staff. Special Educational Needs Policy. Anti-Bullying Policy.</p>

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			<p>Implementation of Stay Safe Programme and SPHE curriculum.</p> <p>Policy and Procedures in place for the administration of first aid.</p> <p>Policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches.</p> <p>Policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements.</p>
Music Lessons after school	Med	<p>Harm to pupils, harm by other pupils, harm not being recognised or properly and promptly reported by school personnel, harm by visitor or volunteer to the school, harm by member of staff of another organisation.</p>	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff.</p> <p>Garda Vetting Process and Requirements adhered to.</p> <p>Usage and Supervision Policy.</p> <p>Health and Safety Policy.</p> <p>Code of Behaviour.</p> <p>Codes of Conduct for Staff.</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Policy.</p> <p>Implementation of Stay Safe Programme and SPHE curriculum.</p>
Sports Coaches	Med	<p>Harm to pupils, harm by other pupils, harm not being recognised or properly and promptly reported by school personnel, harm by visitor or volunteer to the school, harm by member of staff of another organisation.</p>	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff.</p> <p>Garda Vetting Process and Requirements adhered to.</p> <p>Usage and Supervision Policy.</p> <p>Health and Safety Policy.</p> <p>Code of Behaviour.</p> <p>Codes of Conduct for Staff.</p> <p>Special Educational Needs Policy.</p>



			<p>Anti-Bullying Policy. Implementation of Stay Safe Programme and SPHE curriculum. Policy and Procedures in place for the administration of first aid. Policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches. Policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements.</p>
<p>Students participating in work experience</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Harm by student, harm to pupils.</p>	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement.</p>



List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Educational Trips/Matches	High	Harm to pupils, harm by other pupils, harm not being recognised or properly and promptly reported by school personnel, harm by visitor or volunteer to the school, harm by member of staff of another organisation.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Garda Vetting Process and Requirements adhered to. Usage and Supervision Policy. Health and Safety Policy. Code of Behaviour. Codes of Conduct for Staff. Special Educational Needs Policy. Anti-Bullying Policy. Implementation of Stay Safe Programme and SPHE curriculum. Policy and Procedures in place for the administration of first aid. Policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches. Policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements.
Use of toilet	High	Harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly by school personnel, Inappropriate Behaviour	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Usage and supervision policy Policy on intimate care and toileting
Changing for sport activities	Med	Harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly by school personnel,	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff.

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	Inappropriate Behaviour	Usage and supervision policy. Policy on intimate care and toileting. Health and Safety Policy.
Annual Sports Day	Harm to pupils, harm by other pupils, harm not being recognised or properly and promptly reported by school personnel, harm by visitor or volunteer to the school, harm by member of staff of another organisation.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Garda Vetting Process and Requirements adhered to. Usage and Supervision Policy. Health and Safety Policy. Code of Behaviour. Codes of Conduct for Staff. Special Educational Needs Policy. Anti-Bullying Policy. Implementation of Stay Safe Programme and SPHE curriculum. Policy and Procedures in place for the administration of first aid. Policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches. Policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements.
Cycle Training	Harm to pupils, harm by other pupils, harm not being recognised or properly and promptly reported by school personnel, harm by visitor or volunteer to the school, harm by member of staff of another organisation.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Garda Vetting Process and Requirements adhered to. Usage and Supervision Policy. Health and Safety Policy. Code of Behaviour. Codes of Conduct for Staff.

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		<p>Special Educational Needs Policy. Anti-Bullying Policy. Implementation of Stay Safe Programme and SPHE curriculum. Policy and Procedures in place for the administration of first aid. Policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches. Policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements.</p>
<p>Use of off-site facilities for school activities</p>	<p>Med</p> <p>Harm to pupils, harm by other pupils, harm not being recognised or properly and promptly reported by school personnel, harm by visitor or volunteer to the school, harm by member of staff of another organisation.</p>	<p>Educational Trips Policy, Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Garda Vetting Process and Requirements adhered to. Usage and Supervision Policy. Health and Safety Policy. Code of Behaviour. Codes of Conduct for Staff. Special Educational Needs Policy. Anti-Bullying Policy. Implementation of Stay Safe Programme and SPHE curriculum. Policy and Procedures in place for the administration of first aid. Policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches. Policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements.</p>

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Travelling on bus	Med	Harm to pupils Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	<p>Bus Safety Policy Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Garda Vetting Process and Requirements adhered to. Usage and Supervision Policy. Health and Safety Policy. Code of Behaviour. Codes of Conduct for Staff. Special Educational Needs Policy. Anti-Bullying Policy. Implementation of Stay Safe Programme and SPHE curriculum. Policy and Procedures in place for the administration of first aid. Policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches. Policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements.</p>
Volunteers/Parents	Med	Harm to pupils, harm by volunteer or visitor to the school, harm by parents	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Vetting Procedures Policy for Parents/Volunteers Usage and Supervision Policy.</p>



List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Administration of First Aid	Med	Harm to pupil, harm by school personnel, harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly by school personnel.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Supervision Policy, Health and Safety Policy. Policy and Procedures for administration of first aid.
Administration of Medicine	High	Harm to pupil	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Supervision Policy, Health and Safety Policy. Policy and Procedures for administration of first aid.
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Med	Harm to pupil, harm by school personnel, harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly by school personnel, harm by other pupils, harm by bullying of pupil, harm by visitors or volunteers in the school.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Supervision Policy. Health and Safety Policy. Delivery of Stay Safe and SPHE curriculum. Anti-Bullying Policy. Code of Discipline. Supervision Policy. Acceptable Use Policy. ICT Policy.
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Med	Harm to pupils, harm by external personnel, harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly by school personnel.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Supervision Policy. Garda Vetting and Procedures adhered to. Health and Safety Policy. Code of Conduct for staff.



List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants • Members of the Traveller community • Pupils of minority religious faiths • Children in care • Children on CPNS 	Med	Harm to pupil, harm by school personnel, harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly, harm by other pupils, harm by bullying from pupils.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Supervision Policy. Garda Vetting and Procedures adhered to. Health and Safety Policy. Code of Conduct for staff. Anti-bullying policy. Code of Discipline.
List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	High	Bullying Staff not following policies & procedures	ICT policy Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Med	Harm to pupil, harm by school personnel, harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly by staff, staff not following policies and procedures correctly, harm or bullying by other pupils.	Code of Discipline. Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Supervision Policy. Health and Safety Policy. Delivery of Stay Safe and SPHE curriculum. Anti-Bullying Policy. Supervision Policy.



Students participating in work experience in the school	Med	Harm to pupil, harm by student participating in work experience, harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly by staff.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Supervision policy. Health and Safety Policy. Data Protection Policy Code of Conduct for Staff Guidance and supervision of student by staff members.
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Med	Harm to pupil, harm by student teacher, harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly by staff.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff. Supervision policy. Health and Safety Policy. Data Protection Policy Code of Conduct for staff Guidance and supervision of student teacher by staff members.
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Med	Harm to pupil, staff not following policies and procedures correctly, harm or bullying by other pupils.	ICT Policy Data Protection Policy Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all staff.

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 24th August 2024.. It will be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

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