



Child Safeguarding Statement

Doora NS 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 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 Doora NS 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: **Ross Darmody**
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is: **Eimear O'Grady**
4. The Relevant Person is: **Ross Darmody**
(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*

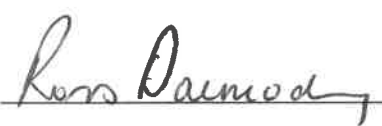
(revised 2023) and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.

- 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.
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 19.06.2024 & will come into effect on 04th July.

Signed: 
Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 19/06/2024

Signed: 
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 19.06.24

Doora N.S. Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment (of any potential harm)

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 PostPrimary Schools (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Doora NS:

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.

List of School Activities	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	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff</p> <p>DLP& DDLP to attend PDST training</p> <p>All Staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST</p> <p>BOM members encouraged to avail of relevant training.</p> <p>BOM records all records of staff and board training</p>
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<p>Teachers required to adhere to Children First Act 2015</p> <p>Open doors where practicable</p> <p>Glass in doors</p> <p>Teaching Council Code of Conduct</p>
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm to child while receiving intimate care.	Policy on intimate care in place
Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour	<p>Usage and supervision policy</p> <p>Toilet Areas: Maximum 3 pupils allowed at any one time</p>

		During play time a child must ask the teacher on the yard for permission.
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Arrival and dismissal supervised by Teachers
Sports Coaches	Risk of pupil being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	All coaches are Garda Vetted Class Teacher accompanies coach to class.
Walking to and from church for practices	Risk to pupil, classmates, staff	2 adults to accompany children
Recreation breaks for pupils	Risk of pupil being harmed in the school by another pupil	Supervision Rota in operation for all breaks. Children who need to stay in at break must stay in the foyer. Written request from parents must be sent to class teacher Supervision Policy in place
Classroom teaching	Harm not recognised by school personnel. Harm not reported properly and promptly by school personnel.	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff Teachers required to adhere to Children First Act 2015 School Personnel adhere to the Child Protection procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2023 All Staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST Teaching Council Code of Conduct Glass in door
Outdoor teaching activities	Harm to child due to inadequate supervision	Pupils remain with the class teacher and comply with rules as laid down by the class teacher/Code of Behaviour
Sporting Activities	Harm by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while the child is participating in sporting activities out of school. Harm due to inadequate supervision of children on out of school sports activity.	A teacher and at least 1 Garda vetted adult must attend all out of school sporting activities.
Parents giving lifts to pupils to sporting/religious/other events during school hours	Harm to pupils by other adults	Parents Garda Vetted.

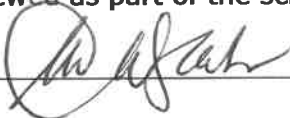
School outings	Harm by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while the child is participating in a school trip. Harm due to inadequate supervision of children on trips.	2 Garda vetted adults must go to all school outings. Class teacher must be accompanied by a Garda vetted adult.
Annual Sports Day	Harm by member of school personnel Harm by volunteers/visitors to the school that day	All supervisors must be Garda vetted
Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Harm by school personnel due to inadequate supervision Risk of harm to pupils with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities	Minimum of 2 staff members on site. When swimming and children with additional needs are being changed by special needs assistants, two staff members are present or the door is kept ajar while preserving the dignity of the child and maintaining safety for the child and adult.
School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	Harm by school personnel Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	All personnel Garda Vetted All staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Administration of Medicine policy in place Administration of First Aid policy in place
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Harm caused by another child	Code of Behaviour in place Anti-Bullying Policy
Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required	Harm caused by another child Harm by school personnel	Staff members with be CPI trained
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm caused by visiting personnel	External personnel Garda Vetted Class Teacher remains with Class.
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants • Pupils perceived to be LGBT • Pupils of minority religious faiths 	Harm caused by bullying	Code of Behaviour in place Anti-Bullying Policy in place SPHE Programme taught by all classes
Recruitment of school personnel including - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers 	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 		<p>Teachers required to adhere to Children First Act 2015</p> <p>New Staff provided with a copy of the schools' Child safeguarding Statement. Vetting Procedures followed</p>
<p>Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school</p>	<p>Harm due to pupils inappropriately accessing/using computers, phones and other devices in school Harm caused by bullying</p>	<p>School has an Acceptable Use Policy, and Anti-Bullying Policy/Code of Behaviour Internet safety taught to all pupils Remote Learning Policy Adult must always be present when online learning is taking place.</p>
<p>Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.</p>	<p>Harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour</p>	<p>Code of Behaviour Policy in place</p>
<p>Students participating in work experience in the school</p>	<p>Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported Harm by Students</p>	<p>Procedures in place in respect of students undertaking work experience</p>
<p>Student teachers undertaking training placement in school</p>	<p>Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported</p>	<p>Procedures in place in respect of student teacher placements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vetting by relevant college • Staff member to remain with class
<p>Use of video/photography/other media to record school events</p>	<p>Harm by school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material</p>	<p>School has an Acceptable Use Policy School events recorded on school camera/media. Events outside of school grounds are under the supervision of the host (Parish responsible for Sacraments etc)</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 on 19th June 2024. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed  Date 19.06.24

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed  Date 19.06.24
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

