



## Child Safeguarding Statement

Francis Street CBS 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 2017](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), 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 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Conor Doyle.
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Brendan Goggin.
- 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.

**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 30/08/2021.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed by the Board of Management in February 2022.

Signed: 

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: 

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 30/05/2021

Date: 30/05/2021

## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

### Written Assessment of Risk of Francis Street CBS

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 [name of school].

1. List of school activities	2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
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 to attend webinar on CP. BOM records all records of staff and board training <i>All staff</i> will complete the Tusla Training module this September to reinforce knowledge.
Covid 19	Illness	School Covid19 Response Plan in place in line with Department of Education guidance and the Return to Work Safely Protocol and public health advice Follow public health guidance from HSE re hygiene and respiratory etiquette <i>All staff</i>  Complete School COVID-19 Policy Statement <i>Conor/Bren/BOM</i>  Return to Work Forms received and reviewed  Induction Training provided <i>All Staff</i>

		Contact log in place
Recruitment of new staff	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding statement & DES procedures made available to all staff. DLP & DDLP to attend CP webinar All staff to review Tusla training module. BOM records all records of staff and board training
One to one teaching	Harm to pupil, harm by school personnel	Policy is door remains open Always minimum two pupils in multi-sensory room <i>Teaching Policy</i> in place. Open door policy Table between teacher and pupil
Care of children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm to pupil	Identify children with intimate care needs Intimate Care Needs policy Parental consent required for staff to assist Code of Positive behaviour
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities such as - Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants - Members of the traveller community - LGBT Children in care	Harm to pupils Bullying Non-acceptance within peer group Lack of understanding Isolation	Anti-Bullying policy Code of positive behaviour SPHE curriculum A Telling School
Use of ICT and technology by pupils	Inappropriate behaviour Harm to pupils	No mobile phones allowed in school. Teacher monitors use of ICT.
Toilet Areas	Inappropriate behaviour School personnel working alone	Ideally boys go to the toilet at yard time. Otherwise, boys go one at a time to the toilet during teaching time. Teach the Stay Safe program
School Access	Harm to pupils Unknown people	An adult always manages the front door Sign in/out register in place Front door always locked after 09.10am Front door security lock and camera

		Yard supervise from 8.40-8.50. SNA at each entrance. Access limited to essential visitors due to Covid
Student use of mobile phones	Inappropriate behaviour Harm to pupils	No mobile phones allowed school.
Administration of First Aid	Harm to pupils Lack of knowledge/skill	Certain staff members received First Aid training last year. <i>More staff members</i> will also attend first aid training including use defibrillator and CPR
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Harm to pupils Inappropriate behaviour	Anti-Bullying policy Code of positive behaviour
Annual Sports day	Harm to pupils Inappropriate behaviour	Teacher and SNA/Resource teacher assigned to each class Separate Toilets for children and adults; <i>SNA</i> <i>Last year no parents present due to Covid</i>
Church Trips	Harm to pupils	Teacher and Staff remain with class Code of Positive Behaviour
Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Harm to pupils not recognised or reported properly	Teacher remains with class Garda vetting procedures in place
Daily Arrival and Dismissal of pupils	Harm to pupils Traffic on the street	Arrival & Dismissal procedures in place Plan/Back up in place for when <i>school secretary</i> absent- see Folder Health & Safety policy in place An adult always manages the front door Sign in/out register in place
Breakfast/Homework Club	Harm to pupils	Not operational due to covid restrictions
Outdoor teaching Activities	Outdoor teaching Activities	Ensure pupil ratio of 1-11 Bring extra support if needed. Code of positive behaviour Space and materials used deemed safe for class
School transport arrangements	Harm to pupils Harm not recognised or reported properly Bullying risk	Teachers and vetted parents only will travel

Sporting Activities/Matches	Harm to pupils Lack of proper supervision Visiting personnel from other schools not vetted	Ensure pupil ratio of 1-11 Bring extra support if needed. Encourage parental support Be alert to potential harm caused by other groups. Code of positive behaviour
Play/Art Therapy/SCP	Harm to pupils	Therapist meets with parent prior to commencing program with pupils. Parental consent is required.
Swimming lessons	Harm to pupils	Teacher remains with class Garda vetting procedures in place Qualified Coaches Note; no swimming due to covid restrictions
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	Teacher remains with class Garda vetting procedures in place
Educational Trips	Harm to pupils Could experience bullying	Code of positive behaviour Anti-Bullying policy <i>Teacher in charge of group</i>
Cycle training	Harm to pupils	Appropriate safety equipment Garda Vetting Teacher remains with class
Volunteers/Parents/Interns/Third Level Students on Placement/Work Experience Students	Harm to pupils	Garda vetting procedures Teacher/HSCL always present with class Parents that are consistently in the school must be Garda vetted. Child Safeguarding Statement in place
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Harm to pupils Lack of parental permission	Parental consent is required at the beginning of each year List of children with/without consent circulated to class teacher. Teachers responsibility to maintain, address and be vigilant around.
Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe	Staff answering questions inappropriately	All classes cover SPHE, Stay Safe and RSE.

Managing of Challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of constraint	Harm to pupil and/or other pupils Harm when restraining	Health & Safety Policy Code of Behaviour Anti-bullying Policy Policy on Restraint- principal and staff ASD advisor from NCSE to offer support
Recreation breaks for pupils	Harm to pupils, potential injury to pupils	Code of positive behaviour Anti-Bullying policy

**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.