

Scoil Náisiúnta Ubhla/Oola N.S



Child Safeguarding Statement & Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

**Uimhir Rolla: 1718H, Fón 062/4706,
www.oolans.ie**



Child Safeguarding Statement



Scoil Náisiúnta Ubhla/Oola N.S

Uimhir Rolla: 1718H, Fón 062/4706, www.oolans.ie

Oola 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 Oola 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: **Liam Guiney**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is: **Maria Carrie**
- 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. The school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare. The school will:
 - a. recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations
 - b. fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children
 - c. fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters
 - d. 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
 - e. develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and
 - f. 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:
 - a. 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 DES website

- b. 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 DES and available on the DES website
 - c. 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:
 - i. Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - ii. Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - iii. Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - iv. Encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training
 - v. The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training.
 - d. 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
 - e. 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 school's child safeguarding statement.
- 6 All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015
- 7 In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, 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 attached as an appendix to these procedures
- 8 The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school's website, the DES 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

- 9 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.
- 10 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 27/5/2019

Signed: Mr John Landers

Signed: Mr Liam Guiney

Chairperson of BoM

Principal/Secretary to the BoM

Date: 27/5/19

Date: 27/5/19



Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment



Written Assessment of Risk of Oola National School

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirement of Section 8.8 of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Oola National School.

1. List of school activities

One to one teaching
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs
Toilet areas
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe.
LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils and children returning to the school
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint
Sports Coaches
Students participating in work experience
Recreation breaks for pupils
Classroom teaching
Outdoor teaching activities
Sporting Activities
School outings
Swimming
Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools regarding SEN children
Annual Sports Day
Fundraising events involving pupils
Use of off-site facilities for school activities
School transport arrangements
Administration of Medicine
Administration of First Aid
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
Recruitment of school personnel including -

- Teachers
- SNA's
- Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners
- Sports coaches
- External Tutors/Guest Speakers
- Volunteers/Parents in school activities

Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
Church visits

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

Risk of Harm by Inappropriate behaviour
Risk of Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground
Risk of harm by Injury to pupils and staff
Risk of harm Encounters with unknown adults
Risk of child being harmed by member of school personnel, a member of another organisation or other person while participating in swimming
Risk of harm from non-school staff
Risk of Harm from organising volunteers eg stewards at a walk/run
Risk of Harm from transport staff
Risk of harm by the visiting student
Risk of harm from Inappropriate use of recordings
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
Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child
Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
Risk of harm due to bullying of child
Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities
Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care
Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching situation

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 e.g. school trip swimming lesson

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

The school has in place Child Safeguarding Statement & Child Protection Procedures For Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 are made available to all school personnel.
DLP& DDLP to attend PDST face to face training
Buzzer system operational at the front door considering we are on the side of a national route/use of both buzzer and gate identified by the pupil as a positive safety factor.
All Staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST
BOM maintains records of staff and board member training – Principal makes an oversight report at every meeting and are minuted
SET rooms located in middle of the school
Glass panels in room doors
Glass panel between SET rooms
One to one in art room- art room door remains open
School to explore one to one policy
Intimate care and toileting policy
Supervision policy
Main toilet doors open
Staff member on duty at all times

Only one child from a class uses toilet at one time where practical.
 Children must tell supervising teacher on yard if they are leaving yard to use toilet.
 School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full (mandated to teach Stay Safe)
 School will implement stay safe ANNUALLY across the school in september
 (See RSE/SPHE policy)
 Anti-Bullying Policy
 Code of Behaviour
 Arrival and dismissal supervised by designated teacher at the front door.
 Health & Safety Policy
 Code Of Behaviour
 Outside coaches to be vetted.
 Work Experience Policy
 Yard Supervision policy
 Staff have First Aid training
 Children do not bring phones or cameras
 Parent may accompany SEN child where necessary in agreement with the school
 Pupils will be expected to dress and undress themselves for matches, swimming, drama practices
 etc., in the school classrooms, bathrooms or dressing rooms. Under no circumstances will a staff
 member be expected or allowed to dress or undress a child unsupervised in a changing room
 (Intimate care policy)
 In Tipperary Swimming Pool, special needs children will use the family changing room with two
 adults present. Two adults will supervise the boys and 2 adults will supervise the girls changing
 rooms.
 Diabetic policy
 Epilepsy policy
 Administration of medicines policy
 Tusla training, PDST training, risk assessment and child safeguarding statement available to
 Parents Council and all school personnel and on school website. Use of Croke Park Hours to
 review and update regularly.

Acceptable usage policy
 Statutory Garda Vetting procedures in place for SNA and Staff and volunteers with direct contact
 with kids.

Teachers practicing in the church will take a 2nd Adult with them.

All teachers have a Child Protection folder on their computer with the relevant documents.

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 27/5/2019. It shall be reviewed as part of the
 school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed _____ John Landers _____ Date _____ 27/5/2019 _____

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed _____ Liam Guiney _____ Date _____ 27/5/2019 _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management