

St Joseph's NS  
Hacketstown,  
Co. Carlow  
059 - 6471199  
Roll No: 17127S  
hrowms@gmail.com



## Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template

### Child Safeguarding Statement

St Joseph's N.S. 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 **MARILYN BARRON**

3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Barry Murphy**.

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.

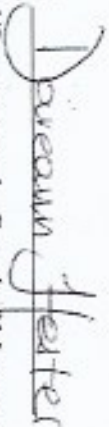


- In this school the Board has appointed the abovenamed DLP as the "relevant person" (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the schools child safeguarding statement.
  - All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children 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 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 **5<sup>th</sup> March 2018**.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management in **February 2019, March 2020, March 2021 and most recently, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022**.

Signed:   
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed:   
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 22/2/22

Date: 22/2/22

Review February 2022.

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### Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of St Joseph's NS, Hacketstown.

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 St Joseph's NS, Hacketstown.

<p><b>List of School Activities</b></p>	<p>The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -</p>	<p>The school has the following procedures in place to address risks of harm identified in this assessment -</p>
<p>Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters</p>	<p>Harm not recognised or reported promptly          Staff members unclear about procedures</p>	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement &amp; DES procedures made available to all staff in "Staff Information Folders".          DLP&amp; DDLP to attend PDST face to face training          All Staff to view Túsla training module &amp; any other online training offered by PDST.          Whole Staff Child Protection Training: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021          Child Protection Policy, statement and relevant chapters from the guidelines included in staff information folders.</p>



		<p>New members of staff advised of where to find information on CP matters and of DLP and DDLP.</p> <p>Signs in every classroom directing temporary staff to information folders.</p> <p>Annual Child Protection reminders to staff – Reviewing procedures, responsibilities etc. (Croke Park Hours)</p> <p>Child Protection on agenda of every staff meeting throughout the year to inform and remind staff of obligations and responsibilities.</p>
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel	<p>Child Protection Policy</p> <p>Table between teacher and pupil</p> <p>Glass in window – View into rooms at all times.</p> <p>Door open where possible.</p>
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	Two adults present when assisting children with intimate needs.
Multi-Sensory Room use	Harm by school personnel or other pupils	<p>Child Protection Policy</p> <p>Child Protection policy</p> <p>Open door when in use</p>
Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour	<p>Code of behaviour</p> <p>Toilet areas in close proximity to classrooms.</p> <p>“One in toilet” system in place.</p> <p>No use of class toilets during break times. (Toilets at hall only)</p>
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	<p>School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full.</p> <p>Evidence of same recorded in CM and Planning documents.</p>

		Principal to ensure that SPHE programme is implemented.  AP2 Post: SPHE as part of new AP2 post from September 2021. Co-ordinator to assist Principal in ensuring that programmes are implemented and to act as a support to class teachers if inexperienced in these areas.
LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour SPHE programmes Specialist Internet Safety Workshops for 4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> class children. (Every second year)
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Arrival and dismissal supervised by school staff. Staff on yard when children arrive in school. Gates supervised by school personnel. No parents in yard. No visitors to the school without appointment.
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	Injury to pupils and staff	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Positive Reinforcement of Good Behaviour. Proactive approach to behaviour including appropriate staffing levels in classrooms, on yard etc. Clear school/classroom rules
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	All outside coaches to be fully vetted and will be accompanied by school personnel at all times when dealing with children.

Students participating in work experience	Harm by student	Students on work experience to be fully vetted and supervised by school personnel when dealing with children. Child Safeguarding Statement.
Recreation breaks for pupils	Harm from other pupils.	Recreation breaks supervised by school staff. Code of Behaviour Health and Safety Policy
Classroom teaching	Harm from other pupils or school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Anti-Bullying Policy
Outdoor teaching activities	Harm from other pupils or school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety policy School personnel to supervise students during outdoor activities.
Sporting Activities	Harm from other students	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Supervision by school personnel Clear rules for classroom/yard/school
Homework club	Harm from other students or school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Supervision by school personnel Clear rules for classroom/yard/school
After School Classes (Music lessons, Hurling, Soccer, Camogie etc)	Harm from other students or school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Supervision by school personnel Clear rules for classroom/yard/school
School outings	Harm from other students or school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety policy Supervised by staff members (Appropriate staff:student ratio on school outings.) Parental Permission sought for all outings.

