

Scoil Mhuire, Leixlip Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Mhuire is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class with two classes for children with Autism.

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 Scoil Mhuire 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:

Nora Mescal

The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is:

Yvonne O Mara

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

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
 - Ensures staff 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 school's 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.

- This statement has been published on the school's website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parent Teacher Association and the patron. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on the school website. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and the Department if requested.
- 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 6/2/18.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 3/10/22.

Chairperson of Board of Management

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 3/16/22.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

(Written Assessment of Risk of any potential harm in Scoil Mhuire)

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. Many of the procedures in place to address the risks of 'harm' can be found in the school policies. The school Management Team, on behalf of the Board of Management will ensure that all policies are adhered to

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 -
Daily arrival and dismissal of	Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils	The school has a Code of Behaviour
pupils	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel or unknown adults on the playground	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
	Risk of harm to a pupil due to inadequate supervision	The school has a Health & Safety Statement (Supervision section)
	Risk of harm to a pupil from adults collecting children	The school has procedures in place for the collection of children in Junior Inf to 2 nd class (Collection from School Forms)
	Risk of harm to a pupil due to bullying	The school has an Anti –Bullying policy
Classroom teaching	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
	Risk of harm to a pupil from a teacher /SNA on placement	The school has a Work Placement policy
	Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils	The school has a Code of Behaviour
	Risk of harm to a pupil due to bullying	The school has an Anti –Bullying policy
		The school has a Health and Safety Statement (Supervision section)
	Risk of harm to an SEN pupil from other pupils or school personnel	The school has a Policy for Children in the ASD Unit The school has an SEN Policy
	Risk of harm to a pupil because of inadequate use of the code of behaviour	
	Risk of harm to a pupil from a volunteer or visitor to the class	The school has a Volunteers in School policy
One to one teaching	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel (teacher/teacher on placement)	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
		The school has a One to One policy
One to one Learning Support	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
		The school has a One to One policy
	Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils while going to Support rooms	The school has a Code of Behaviour

		The school has a Health and Safety Statement (Supervision section)
One to one work by SNA with an SEN child (in OT room, sensory room, sensory garden)	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment The school has a One to One policy
One to one work with Principal/ Deputy Principal/ Secretary/ Caretaker/ SNA	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment Children usually go together in pairs to class/ to deliver a message but there may be occasions when a child would find themselves in a one to one situation with a staff member. The school has a One to One policy
Recreation breaks for pupils	Risk of harm to a pupil, while on route to the yard or while in the yard, from pupil or school personnel Risk that harm to a pupil would not be recognised properly or promptly reported	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment The school has a Health and Safety Statement (Supervision section) The school has a Code of Behaviour
	Risk of harm to a pupil as a result of bullying Risk of harm to an SEN child from other pupils or school personnel	The school has an Anti-bullying policy The school has an SEN policy The school has an Intimate Care policy
Outdoor teaching activities	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel Risk of harm to a pupil from teacher /SNA on placement Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils Risk of harm to a pupil from adults in the school grounds	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment The school has a Work Placement policy The school has a Code of Behaviour The school has a Health and Safety Statement (Supervision section)
In the event of a fire or an emergency	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel Risk of harm to a pupil from a teacher /SNA on placement Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils Risk of harm to a pupil from Emergency Workers	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment The school has a Fire Evacuation policy The school has Code of Behaviour The school has a Health and Safety Statement (Supervision section)

	Risk of harm to a pupil emotionally	The school has a Critical Incident policy The school will draw up a wellbeing policy this year.
Sporting Activities	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
	Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils	The school has a Code of Behaviour The school has a Health and Safety Statement
	Risk of harm to a pupil from sports coaches	(Supervision section) The school has a Policy on External Agencies Supporting the Curriculum
Before/After School Sports and Activities	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
Tionvines	Risk of harm to a pupil from coaches	The school has a Policy on External Agencies Supporting the Curriculum
	Risk of harm to a pupil from referees	All referees will be required to furnish the school with a copy of their Garda vetting
	Risk of harm to a pupil from other adults or pupils while children are at the activity	The school has a Health and Safety Statement
	Risk of harm to a pupil from other adults or pupils while	(Supervision section)
	children are changing before /after sport	The school has a Code of Behaviour The school has an Anti-bullying policy The school has a Health and Safety Statement (see Supervision section)
Choir	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
	Risk of harm to a pupil from a visiting teacher (eg musicians)	The school has a Policy on External Agencies Supporting the Curriculum
	Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils	The school has a Code of Behaviour
	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel or pupils while children are travelling to a choral event Risk of harm to a pupil from adults and pupils from other schools while at the activity	The school has a School Tours/Outings policy
Lunchtime football in Scoil Bhride pitch	Risk of harm to a pupil from referees (teachers)	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment

	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel from SM/SB/SEP	The school follows correct vetting procedures
	Risk of harm to a pupil from other adults or pupils	The school has a Health and Safety Statement (Supervision section)
	Risk of harm to a pupil from another pupil	The school has a Code of Behaviour
1-1	Risk of harm to a pupil from another pupil due to bullying	The school has an Anti-bullying policy
		If football resumes this year, the school will draw up a
		policy on procedures for Lunchtime Activities in the
		neighbouring school (prior to Leagues commencing)
Gardening	Risk of harm to a pupil from a visiting gardener	The school has a Volunteers in School policy
	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
		The school follows correct vetting procedures
	Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils	The school has a Code of Behaviour
Annual Sports Day/ Intercultural Day/Open Day/ Grandparents Day	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
zuj, opon zuj, oransparom zuj	Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils	The school has a Code of Behaviour
		The school has a Health and Safety Statement (Supervision section)
	Risk of harm to a pupil from volunteers	The school has a Volunteers in School policy
	Risk of harm to a pupil from visitors	The school has a Visitors policy
	Risk of harm to an SEN pupil from school personnel or other pupils	The school has an Intimate Care policy
School Tours/outings including use of off-site facilities for school	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
activities	Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils	The school has a Health and Safety Statement
activities	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	(Supervision section)
		The school has a Code of Behaviour
	Risk of harm to a pupil from parents accompanying the class on tour	The school has a Volunteers in School policy
	Risk of harm to a pupil from adults at tour venue	The school has a School tours/Outings policy
	Risk of harm to an SEN pupil while on tour	The school has an Intimate Care policy
	Risk of harm to an SEN pupil while on tour Risk of harm to a pupil while children are changing	The sensor has an inclinate care policy
	before/ after activities	
	before, after activities	

If a Critical Incident occurs in the	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk
school	Risk of harm to a pupil from NEPS psychologists	assessment
	Risk of harm to a pupil from emergency personnel such as doctor/ambulance/fire personnel	The school has a Critical Incident policy.
	Risk of harm to a pupil from volunteers who are not	The school has a Volunteers in School policy
	Garda vetted.	Even if a critical incident occurs, only volunteers who
		have been Garda vetted to work in Scoil Mhuire will
		work with the children in the school.
	Risk of harm to a pupil emotionally	The school will draw up a wellbeing policy this year.
Use of toilets in the school	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel or other	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk
	pupils	assessment
		The school has an Intimate Care policy
	Risk of Inappropriate behaviour by pupils	The school has a Health and Safety Statement
		(Supervision section)
		The school has a Code of Behaviour
Use of changing areas at the swimming pool	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
5,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils	The school has a Code of Behaviour
	Risk of inappropriate behaviour by pupils	The school has a Health and Safety Statement (Supervision section)
	Risk of harm to pupils from adults at the pool	The school has a Policy on External Agencies Supporting
	THIS OF HAIM TO PAPER HOME WASHES AN AND POOR	the Curriculum
	Risk of harm to a pupil while children are changing	The school has an Intimate Care policy
	before /after swimming.	
	Risk of harm to an SEN pupil during the activity	The school has a Policy for Children in ASD Unit
Care of children with special needs, including intimate care	Risk of harm from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
needs		The school has a Policy for Children in the ASD Unit
needs		The school has an SEN Policy
		The school has an Intimate Care policy
Working with children for whom	Risk of a pupil not being able to make a disclosure if they	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk
English is not their first language.	were at risk.	assessment
		The school has a One to One policy

		The school has an SEN Policy
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Risk of the non-teaching of SPHE (including Stay Safe and RSE)	The school has an SPHE policy The school implements in full the SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe programmes (reflected in teachers' planning notes and cúntas míosúils)
Data protection for pupils	Risk of pupils' personal data not protected	The school has a Data Protection policy The school seeks permission from parents/guardians for the publication of a child's work and photographs.
Managing challenging behaviour amongst pupils	Risk of harm to a pupil by school personnel when a child is alone with a member of staff (SEN pupils/ school refusal/ children in breach of the Code of Behaviour).	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment The school has a Policy for Children in ASD Unit The school has an SEN Policy The school has a One to One policy The school has a Code of Behaviour The school has a Health & Safety Statement (Manual Handling section)
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Risk of the staff not being aware of the contents of the Child Safeguarding Statement	The Child Safeguarding Statement which includes the Risk Assessment was reviewed by the BOM on 3/10/22. Staff have been provided with a copy of the Child Safeguarding Statement
	Risk of staff not being aware of the 'Child Protection procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017' and the Children First Guidelines	Staff have been provided with a copy of the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017' and the 'Children First Guidelines' and have signed to confirm they have read the documents.
	Risk that harm to a pupil would not be recognised or reported promptly	Staff received Child Protection training on 12 th Sept 2022 (face to face). Staff have completed the e-learning module on Child Protection from Tusla. The BOM has recorded all training The DLP and DDLP have received Child Protection training. A number of members of the Board of Management have attended child protection training.

		The names of the DLP and DDLP are on display in the main corridor Child Protection templates from the Department of Education website are used by the school when reporting child protection concerns A Principal's Oversight report is given at each BOM meeting
Recruitment of Teachers, SNAs, Caretaker, Secretary, Cleaners, Bus Escort.	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel if staff are not Garda Vetted	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment The school follows correct vetting procedures
Visitors to the school – during school hours	Risk of harm to a pupil from adults calling to the school	The school has a Visitors policy All visitors must report to the office and sign the 'sign in' book.
Contractors present during school hours	Risk of harm to a pupil from contractors working in the school	Contractors will work outside of school hours If they need to visit the school for any reason, the school has a Visitors policy All visitors must report to the office and sign the 'sign in' book.
Use of school premises by other organisations during the day	Risk of harm to a pupil from adults using the school during the day	The school will only be used by organisations that will be visiting/coaching classes or by the HSE or NEPPS. The school has a Policy on External Agencies supporting the Curriculum The school has a One to One policy
Visitors to the school/Contractors after school hours	Risk of harm to a pupil who may be in the school after hours from adults visiting the school after hours (eg if a pupil was to return to school for something they forgot)	If extra-curricular activities take place in the school and are provided by school personnel – see section on 'Before and After School Sports and Activities' above. The school has a Visitors policy which should be always used when school staff are in the building.
Use of the school premises by other organisations after school hours	Risk of harm to a pupil who may be attending after school activities by an outside organisation	If the school rents the hall to an after-school club, the safety of the children attending those classes is the responsibility of the organisation not Scoil Mhuire.

		The organisation should have their own Child Safeguarding Statement and follow correct vetting procedures.
External Teachers/ Guest speakers/ Music teachers / Sports Coaches visiting the school	Risk of harm to a pupil from external teachers/coaches/guest speakers eg GAA coach, Music teacher, Dance teacher, Gym teacher, Speakers from organisations such as Accord, Goal, etc	The school has a Policy on External Agencies supporting the Curriculum The school follows correct vetting procedures
Leixlip Tidy Towns – Guest speakers and Litter picking	Risk of harm to a pupil from adults visiting the school	The school has a Policy on External Agencies supporting the Curriculum
Students participating in work experience – Teachers/ SNA's/ TY students	Risk of harm to a pupil from student teachers, student SNAs, substitute teachers, substitute SNAs, TY students	The school has a Work Placement policy The school follows correct vetting procedures
School's involvement with local church and Priests	Risk of harm to a pupil from priests or parish workers	The school has a Policy on External Agencies supporting the Curriculum The school has a One to One policy
Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies external to the school	Risk of harm to a pupil from priests Risk of harm to a pupil from parish workers	Leixlip Parish has provided the school with their Child Safeguarding Statement
Professionals from external agencies (NEPPS, NCSE, NDT, HSE, social workers, nurses, dentists) working with children, sometimes on individual basis (assessments)	Risk of harm to a pupil from professionals, from outside agencies	The school has a One to One policy The school follows correct vetting procedures
Photographer from Lafayette/	Risk of harm to a pupil from the photographer	The school has a Visitors policy
Liffey Champion (Communion, Confirmation, Junior Infant photos)	Risk of harm to a pupil from the photographer's assistant	A member of staff/parents will be present when photographs are being taken in the school The school follows correct vetting procedures
School transport arrangements for school tours/outings	Risk of harm to a pupil from the bus driver	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
School transport arrangements for SEN children including use of bus escorts.	Risk of harm to a pupil from a bus escort Risk that harm to a pupil would not be recognised or properly and promptly reported	The school will draw up a bus escort policy this term The school follows the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017'

		The school has a School Tours/Outings policy The school follows correct vetting procedures The school has a Policy for Children in the ASD Unit
Volunteers/Parents	Risk of harm to a pupil from volunteers	The school follows correct vetting procedures The school has a Volunteers in School policy
Cleaning the school	Risk of harm to a pupil from cleaning staff when cleaning is taking place (during school and in the afternoons)	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment The school follows correct vetting procedures
PTA members working in the school for different events	Risk of harm to a pupil from PTA volunteers	The school follows correct vetting procedures The school has a Volunteers in School policy
Fundraising events involving pupils	Risk of harm to a pupil from volunteers Risk of harm to a pupil from other adults	The school has a Volunteers in school policy The school has a Visitors policy The school has a Health and Safety Policy (Supervision section)
Leixlip Musical Variety Group have a prefab on the school grounds	Risk of harm to a pupil from members of LMVG	The prefab is only accessed by LMVG members before and after school hours (unless arranged with the principals of both schools).
Administration of First Aid /Medicine	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel or other pupils when medicine or First Aid treatment is being administered to a pupil.	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment The school has a Health and Safety Statement (First Aid section)
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Risk of harm to a pupil from another pupil while dealing with a case of bullying	The school has a Code of Behaviour The school has an Anti-bullying policy The school has an Acceptable use policy Parents can use the Complaints procedures if they have concerns
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Risk of a pupil accessing inappropriate/unsuitable material online Risk of school personnel not following policies & procedures Risk of cyber bullying	The school has an Acceptable Use policy The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment The school has an Anti-Bullying policy The school has a Code of Behaviour

Use of video/ photography/ other media to record school events	Risk of harm to pupils if photos of individual children and their identity are published	The school has an Acceptable Use policy The school has a Photography/video policy
Pupils bringing mobile phones to school	Risk of harm to pupils from other pupils	The school has a Mobile Phone policy – no phones allowed except in exceptional circumstances where a letter has been sent to the principal by the parents and the phone is locked away all day.
Online teaching and learning remotely	Risk of harm to a pupil due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the zoom call, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time.	The school has a Remote teaching and Learning Policy
	Risk of harm to a pupil caused by a member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an appropriate manner via an online platform	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment
	Risk of harm to a pupil as a result of cyber bullying	The school has an Anti-bullying policy
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as:	Risk of harm to a pupil with specific vulnerabilities from school personnel	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment The school has a Code of Behaviour
-Pupils from ethnic minorities / migrants -Members of the Traveller	Risk of harm to a pupil with specific vulnerabilities from other pupils (Bullying)	The school has an Anti-bullying policy
community	Risk that harm to a pupil with specific vulnerabilities	The school follows the Child Protection Procedures for
-Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) pupils -Pupils perceived to be LGBT -Pupils of all religions and none -Pupils in care -Pupils on the CPNS (Child Protection Notification System) -Pupils with medical needs	would not be recognised or reported promptly	Primary and Post Primary School 2017' An Inclusion Policy will be drawn up this year

Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc	Risk of harm to a pupil if they are kept back late by a staff member or if they are walking to/from the school at a different time to the rest of the pupils	The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment A list of appropriate sanctions is listed in the school's Code of Behaviour The school has a Health and Safety Statement (Supervision section)
Workmen (Postman, IT technician, Alarm company, ESB, Initial	Risk of harm to a pupil from workmen/women visiting the school	The school has a Visitors policy
Ireland)	the sensor	
Use of school premises by teachers	Risk of harm to a pupil from school personnel	Summer or Easter Camps must provide the school with a
for children's Summer/ Midterm /	Risk of harm to a pupil from other adults	copy of their Child Safeguarding Statement
Easter Camps	Risk of harm to a pupil from other pupils	The Camp Organiser follows correct vetting procedures
	Risk of harm to a pupil as a result of cyber bullying	

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 a 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*