

# Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template

## Child Safeguarding Statement

St. Eunan'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 (revised 2023) and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of St. Eunans' N.S 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 Eadaoin Mc Daid
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Sarah Tully
4. The Relevant Person is Eadaoin McDaid.
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 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 10th June 2025.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management in June 2025.

Signed: John J. Gorman  
Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 10/6/25

Signed: Eadaoin M. Daid  
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 10/06/25

## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

### Written Assessment of Risk of St Eunan's N.S.

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (Revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of St. Eunan's N.S.

| List of School Activities                               | Risk of harm in respect of activities  | Procedures to address risks  |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils.               | a. Strangers in the yard.<br>b. Infants leaving school at home time.   | a. If staff observe a stranger in the yard, staff member will query why they are on the school grounds.<br>b. The infant teacher will dismiss the children individually at 1:30pm.                           |
| 2. One to one teaching / isolation room.                | Self protection for teacher and the pupil.   | Glass window between both SET rooms, glass window within door, glass window into main hallway.   |
| 3. School outings.                                      | a. Supervision for toileting on tours. b. Supervision with tutors/coaches on school tours. c. Use of technology on all school outings. d. Supervision for swimming lessons. e. School tour/Sports outings changing facilities. | a & b. Adequate supervision will be provided. c. Complete ban on all devices or given to a teacher. d. Two male and two female adults supervising changing rooms. e. Adequate supervision and best practice. |
| 4. Use of toilet/changing area for intimate care needs. | Self protection for SNA and the pupil.   | Written confirmation of toileting arrangements and signed by parent/s  |
| 6. Annual sports day.                                   | Strangers entering the school grounds.   | Limited access to school yard and within certain rooms in the school building. Clear boundary separating pupils and parents.   |
| 7. Offsite facilities for school activities.            | Members of the public using the facilities.  | Designated supervision for toilet breaks.  |
| 8. School transport arrangements.                       | a. Self protection for pupil and the teacher. b. Self  | a. If only one child is waiting for collection after school,   |

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|--|---|---|
|  | protection for pupil and bus escort.  | where possible, wait in area secured by CCTV. b. SNA meets pupil and bus escort at the front railings and waits with bus escort at home time if bus is late.  |
| 9. Administration of first aid treatment                             | Protection of pupil and first aider.  | Any intimate or sensitive injuries, parents to be contacted. First aider to be accompanied by another adult if child needs attention. Appropriate PPE will be used.   |
| 10. Training of school personnel in child protection matters.        | Lack of knowledge.  | Notify all school staff about training opportunities.   |
| 11. Use of external personnel to supplement the curriculum.          | Self protection for the visitor and the pupil.                              | Visitors are garda vetted where necessary. No one to one interaction/access with pupil. Member of school staff to supervise.  |
| 12. Use of information and communication technology.                 | Accessing inappropriate material. Recording and sharing photographs/videos. | Inappropriate content will be filtered as much as possible.<br>No camera/video/smart phones/ devices allowed within the school.<br>All staff to closely monitor when children are accessing school devices.   |
| 13. Students participating in secondary school work experience.      | Protection of pupil and visiting student.                                   | Vetting if applicable. Never left alone with pupils.  |
| 14. Use of video/photography or other media to record school events. | Inappropriate sharing of video/photography or other media.                  | Permission sought upon enrolment for use of photographs on school website/facebook page. Parents are informed prior to school events, that any photos/videos etc. are for their personal use and not to be shared online via social media or other. |

**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 (revised 2023)*.

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.

Signed: John J. Latham of En Sang Date: 10/6/24  
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: Eadaoin Mc Daid Date: 10/06/25  
Principal/secretary to the Board of Management