

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Duiske College is a post-primary school providing post-primary education to pupils from First Year to Leaving Certificate Year.

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 Duiske College has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The board of management of Duiske College 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 Georgina Murphy
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is ConorWalsh
- 4 The Relevant Person is Georgina Murphy
(The relevant person is one who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. This person can also be the DLP)
- 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 board of management will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The board of management 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 and care 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 board of management adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised)* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie.
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the board of management/management authority 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 gov.ie.
- 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 board of management-
 - 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 Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - Encourages board of management/management authority members to avail of relevant training
 - The board of management/management authority maintains records of all staff and board member training
- In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, all school personnel must 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.
- There is a procedure in place for maintaining a list of mandated persons. All registered teachers employed by the school/management authority 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/management authority has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school. 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 facility's website, gov.ie or will be made available on request by the school.

Note: The above is not intended as an exhaustive list. Individual boards of management/management authorities shall also include in this section such other procedures/measures that are of relevance to the school/boarding facility in question.

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/management authority on _____ [date].

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the board of management/management authority on _____ [most recent review date].

Signed: Maureen Driscoll
Chairperson of Board of Management/
Management Authority

Date: 10/9/25

Signed: [Signature]
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management/
Management Authority

Date: 10/9/25

For information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed or to request a copy of the statement, please contact the relevant person noted at the beginning of this child safeguarding statement

Phone: 087 1723154 or email: georgina.murphy@
dushecollege
.ie

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Duiske College

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)* and the *Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities associated with Recognised Schools 2023*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of [name of school/boarding facility].

1. List of school activities

Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
Recreation breaks for pupils
Classroom teaching
One-to-one teaching
One-to-one learning support
One-to-one counselling
Outdoor teaching activities
Online teaching and learning remotely
Sporting activities
School outings
School trips involving overnight stay
School trips involving foreign travel
Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools
Provision of residential facilities for boarders
Annual Sports Day
Fundraising events involving pupils
Use of off-site facilities for school activities
School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed,
Care of any vulnerable adult students, including intimate care where needed
Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required
Management of provision of food and drink
Administration of Medicine
Administration of First Aid
Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
Training of school/boarding facility personnel in child protection matters
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as
Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants
Members of the Traveller community
Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children
Pupils perceived to be LGBT
Pupils of minority religious faiths
Children in care
Children on Tusla's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)
Children with medical needs
Recruitment of school personnel including -
Teachers/SNAs
Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners

Sports coaches
External Tutors/Guest Speakers
Volunteers/Parents in school activities
Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours
Visitors/contractors present during after school activities
Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
Use of Information and Communications Technology by pupils/students in school, including social media
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils/students, confiscation of phones etc.
Students participating in work experience in the school
Students from the school participating in work experience elsewhere
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
After school use of school premises by other organisations
Use of school premises by other organisation during school day
Breakfast club
Homework club/evening study

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

Risk of harm not being recognised by school/boarding facility personnel
Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school/boarding facility personnel
Risk of child being harmed in the school/boarding facility by a member of school/boarding facility personnel
Risk of child being harmed in the school/boarding facility by another child
Risk of child being harmed in the school/boarding facility by volunteer or visitor to the school/boarding facility
Risk of child being harmed by a member of school/boarding facility personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons
Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms
Risk of harm due to bullying of child
Risk of harm due to racism
Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school/boarding facility
Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities
Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school or in the boarding facility
Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities
Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care
Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation
Risk of harm caused by member of school/boarding facility personnel communicating with pupils/students in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner

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

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- All school/boarding facility personnel are provided with a copy of the school/boarding facility's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023) and are made available to all school personnel
 - School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023) and the Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities associated with Recognised Schools 2023 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 and its Addendum (2019)
 - The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme
 - The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum
 - The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle
 - The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools
 - The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives
 - The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.
 - The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school/boarder outings
 - The school has a Health and Safety policy
 - The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
 - The school has a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff)
 - The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for staff
 - The school has a Special Educational Needs policy
 - The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care
 - The school facility has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils/students
 - The school
 - Has provided each member of school with a copy of the school Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - Encourages board of management/management authority members to avail of relevant training
 - Maintains records of all staff and board member training
 - The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid
 - The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils/students
 - The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents
 - The school has in place a policy governing the use of smart phones and tablet devices in the school/boarding facility by pupils/students as per circular 38/2018
 - The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
 - The school has in place a Home School Liaison policy and related procedures
 - The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum
 - The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches
 - The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities
 - The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to-one counselling
 - The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements
 - The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school
 - The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils of the school undertaking work experience in external organisations
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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/management authority has endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to this school/boarding facility 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/boarding facility has in place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

Mandatory Template 3: Notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

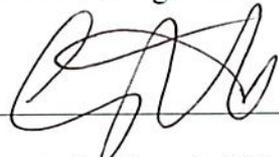
To: KCETB.

The Board of Management of DUSKE COLLEGE wishes to inform you that:

- The Board of Management's annual review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement was completed at the Board meeting of 10/9/25 [date].
- This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the gov.ie website

Signed  Date 10/9/25

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed  Date 10/9/25

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management