Kilcolman National School



**Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment**

**Kilcolman 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](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2015/act/36/enacted/en/pdf), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](https://assets.gov.ie/25844/b90aafa55804462f84d05f87f0ca2bf6.pdf), [the Addendum to Children First (2019)](https://assets.gov.ie/25819/c9744b64dfd6447985eeffa5c0d71bbb.pdf), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)](https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/12bee3-child-protection-procedures-in-schools/) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/4214-TUSLA_Guidance_on_Developing_a_CSS_LR.PDF), the Board of Management of **Kilcolman 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 *(revised 2023)* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is **Freda Mills**
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Brigid McGoldrick**
4. The Relevant Person is **Freda Mills**

*(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. In a school setting the relevant person shall be the designated liaison person.)*

1. 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.

1. 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. Any documents provided as part of the Child Protection Oversight Report will now be anonymised to ensure that **the identities of any children and any other parties, including the member of school personnel** to whom the concern or report relatesto, **are not disclosed.**
* 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)](https://revisedacts.lawreform.ie/eli/2012/act/47/revised/en/pdf) 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. Any documents provided as part of the Child Protection Oversight Report will now be anonymised to ensure that **the identities of any children and any other parties, including the member of school personnel** to whom the concern or report relatesto, **are not disclosed.**
* 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.

**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.

1. 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.
2. 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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson of Board of Management Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­­­\_

**Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment**

**Written Assessment of Risk of Kilcolman National School**

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 [name of school].

1. **List of school activities**

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| Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters, 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. 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. After school activities. School outings. Christmas Concert/School performances. Annual Sports Day. Use of off-site facilities for school activities. School bus trips. Visiting professional/Priest. Grandparents day. Administration of Medicine. Administration of First Aid. Open nights/enrolment. Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils. Training of school personnel in child protection matters. 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 CPNS. Recruitment of school personnel including Teachers, SNA’s, 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. Use of school premises by other organisation during school day. Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school. Remote Learning/Teaching. Application of sanctions under the school’s Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc. Students participating in work experience in the school. 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  |

1. **The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -**

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| Harm not recognised or reported promptly. Harm by school personnel.Inappropriate behaviour.Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground.Injury to pupils and staff.Harm to pupils. Harm from general public. |

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

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| Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff. DLP& DDLP to attend IPPN & CPSMA face to face training. All Staff to view Túsla training module. All BOM members advised to view TUSLA training module. BOM records all records of staff and Board training. Open doors & Glass in doors to classrooms. Table between teacher and pupil. Policy on intimate care. Toilets in main classroom. One child at toilet at a time. Asking to go to the toilet at playtime. Blinds up in classroom during breaktime to monitor use of bathrooms. School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full. Anti-Bullying Policy. Code of Behaviour. Adequate supervision throughout the activities. Additional vetted supervising adult when required. Supervised toilet breaks (adult + 2 children). Dressing rooms supervised. Events open to school community only. Staff supervision. Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST. Vetting Procedures. Policy of Parents / Volunteers. Policy on Visiting Contractors, arrival and dismissal supervised by Teachers. Health & Safety Policy. Code Of Behaviour. Garda Vetting.Teacher supervision. Both yards supervised. Gates lockedAnti – bullying policy. Seek permission to come inside.Children not taking part in outdoor teaching activities remain in other classroom. Dressing rooms supervised at swimming. One person per cubicle. Garda vetted Instructors. Policy in place for administration of medicine. All children receiving first aid accompanied by another child. Anti Bullying Policy in place. ICT policy. |