

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment of Newtown Junior School

Child Safeguarding Statement

Newtown Junior School is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class

Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Newtown Junior School has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document Addendum to Children First (2019), the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023) and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (revised 2023), the

- Primary Schools (revised 2023) as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is

Deirdre McSweeney

3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Colin Busher

The Relevant Person is

Deirdre McSweeney

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

Ç policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice 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 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;

List of School Activities	
Risk of Harm	7.0000000000000000000000000000000000000

- that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect; adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks
- 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:
- Primary Schools (revised 2023) and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website. 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-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
- recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and available on the gov.ie website. 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 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
- 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
- the Children First Act 2015. 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
- All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015

- procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement. 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 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
- 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

relevance to the school in question 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

- 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. 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
- refers. 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

This Child Safeguarding Statement was first adopted by the Board of Management on 9th March, 2018 (the year in which the DE introduced this new template)

(This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 25th September, 2)23

Chairperson/of Board of Management

Signed:

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date:

05/9/2023

Date:

15/9/2023

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment of Newtown Junior School Written Assessment of Risk of Newtown Junior 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 Risk Assessment for Newtown Junior School, Lower Newtown, Waterford (the "School").

risk. The definition of harm is set out in Chapter 4 of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools(revised 2023) 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

In undertaking this risk assessment, the Board of Management has endeavoured to identify as far a possible the risks of harm that are relevant to this school and to ensure that this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent 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

In this document the Department of Education is referred to as the 'DE'.

1. Daily arrival and dismissal of child being harmed in the supervision. Risk of child being harmed in the supervision. Risk of child being harmed in the supervision by unknown adults who may enter premises.	List of School Activities The School b
Risk of child being harmed in the school by other children due to inadequate supervision. Risk of child being harmed in the school by unknown adults who may enter the premises.	The School has identified the following risk of harm
 Arrival of pupils from 8:30 is supervised by teachers. SNAs also present. Front door is closed and locked at 8:45 by teacher on Gate Duty. Children who arrive after 8:45 can buzz the office for access to school. The school secretary will, where necessary, assist children in accessing classrooms. Parents are requested to remain at the door. Dismissal of all pupils in Infants, First Class and Second Class, Third and Fourth Class is supervised by Class Teacher and children are collected by designated persons as advised by parents to school per form circulated to all parents at the start of each academic year. Dismissal of pupils in Fifth and Sixth Class is not directly supervised. This is to encourage pupil independence so children are allowed leave school grounds without adult. Class Teacher checks all pupils gone before Class Teacher leaves school. Class Teacher will phone parents where children not collected in a timely manner. Parents are notified of the arrangements via letter at the start of the academic year. 	The School has the following procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment

		 The School fully implements the SPHE curriculum including the Stay Safe programme.
 Collection/arrival of children from school during school day. 	Risk of child being harmed in the school by unknown adult who may access school if front door not properly closed.	 Parents are requested to use intercom and contact secretary during office hours or classroom outside of office hours. During office hours, secretary will collect child from classroom and bring child to parent/bring child to classroom. Outside office hours. Class Teacher will either request another teacher or SNA to bring child to
	Risk of child being harmed in the school by parent.	door/collect child from door OR Class Teacher will arrange for class to be supervised and will bring/collect child him/herself.
		 To ensure the safety of all, Parents will not be allowed access to the school and are requested to remain at the door.
3. Recreation breaks for children	Risk of child being harmed in the school by other children due to inadequate supervision.	 Classrooms and garden supervised by a teacher as set out in the duty rota. SNAs present in designated classrooms and are in the garden at playtimes. Out of bounds area (area to side and front of entrance to Malcolmson Classroom)
	Risk of child being harmed in the school	Children not allowed to return to school building during break save to use toilets and Section 4 to 1 to 2
		 School has an Anti-Bullying policy which fully adheres to the requirements of DES procedures.
4. Classroom teaching	Risk of child being harmed in the school by school personnel.	 All school personnel have been provided with a copy of the School's Child Safeguarding Statement. All staff sign acknowledgement of receipt.
		 Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) have been made available to all school personnel.
	-	 Substitute personnel are also furnished with the aforementioned documentation and sign acknowledgement of receipt.
		 School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) and all registered teachers are
		 Teachers adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers published by the
		 The School adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment.
		 The School adheres to recruitment procedures set out in the Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2019 -2023, Circular 44/2019 and other relevant DE circulars as
		 published from time to time by the Department. There are glass panels in all classroom doors.

List of School Activities	Risk of Harm	Procedures in Place
5. One to one teaching	Risk of child being harmed in the school by school personnel.	 As for number four above. Teacher will ensure that there is a table between teacher and child. Parents will be advised where one-to-one teaching is regularly timetabled.
6. Outdoor teaching activities	Risk of child being harmed in the school by school personnel.	 All school personnel have been provided with a copy of the School's Child Safeguarding Statement. Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)
	Risk of child being harmed by other children.	have been made available to all school personnel. Substitute personnel are also furnished with the aforementioned documentation. School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the Children First Act, 2015. Teachers adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers published by the Teaching Council. The School adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to vetting. The School adheres to recruitment procedures set out in the Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2019 -2023, Circular 44/2019 and other relevant DE circulars as published from time to time by the DE. Teachers will supervise such activities. School has an Anti-Bullying policy which fully adheres to the requirements of DE procedures. School has a Code of Behaviour for children. The School fully implements the SPHE curriculum including the Stay Safe programme and the messages in these programmes are re-enforced in the School's
7. Sporting Activities on school premises where Class Teacher takes class.	Risk of child being harmed in the school by school personnel. Risk of child being harmed in the school by other children.	 As for number six above.

9. Other Sporting Activities off school premises such as competitions/events. Risk of child being harmed by other children. Risk of child being harmed by unknown adults/children.
narmed by school harmed by other
All school personnel have been provided with a copy of the School's Child Safeguarding Statement. Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) have been made available to all school personnel. Substitute personnel are also furnished with the aforementioned documentation. School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the Children First Act, 2015. Teachers adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers published by the

List of School Activities

Risk of Harm

Procedures in Place

List of School Activities	Risk of Harm	Procedures in Place
		 The School adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to vetting. The School adheres to recruitment procedures set out in the Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2019 -2023, Circular 44/2019 and other relevant DE circulars as
		published from time to time by the DE. A Teacher/Staff Member will supervise the activity. Children will be encouraged to use toilet facilities before leaving school and if they need to use toilet during activity, they will be sent in pairs with a coefficient.
		 need to use toilet during activity, they will be sent in pairs with a staff member. School has an Anti-Bullying policy which fully adheres to the requirements of DE procedures. School has a Code of Behaviour for children. The School fully implements the SPHE curriculum including the Stay Safe programme.
10. After school hockey club and after school rugby club.	Risk of child being harmed in the school by coaches. Risk of child being harmed in the school by other children.	 The School adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to vetting and ensures all parent volunteers are vetted. The club organisers have a First Aid kit available to them. The club organisers keep a register of attendees and ensure all children are signed out to parents/designated collectors at the end of each session. The club organisers maintain an incident book. School has an Anti-Bullying policy which fully adheres to the requirements of DE procedures. School has a Code of Behaviour for children. The School fully implements the SPHE curriculum including the Stay Safe programme. The School's Child Safeguarding Statement is posted at the entrance to the school and is made available to the club organisers.
II. School outings	Risk of child being harmed by school personnel. Risk of child being harmed by other	 As for number six above. In addition, children will be allocated partners and will be asked to stay with partner at all times. Choice of outings will be carefully considered by School.
	Risk of child being harmed by unknown adults.	

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12. Annual Sports Day and Easter	Risk of child being harmed by school personnel.	 All school personnel have been provided with a copy of the School's Child Safeguarding Statement.
I the body.		• Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023)
	Risk of child being harmed by other children.	 have been made available to all school personnel. Substitute personnel are also furnished with the aforementioned documentation.
		School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for
	Risk of child being harmed by unknown adults.	Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the Children First Act, 2015.
-	Risk of child being harmed by parents.	 Teachers adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers published by the Teaching Council.
		 The School adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to vetting.
		 The School adheres to recruitment procedures set out in the Governance Manual for
		Primary Schools 2019 -2023, Circular 44/2019 and other relevant DE circulars as published from time to time by the Department.
		A Teacher/Staff Member will supervise activities.
		and if they need to use toilet during off site activity, they will be sent in pairs with a
		• On Easter Fun Day, a vetted adult (usually a PA Volunteer) will be at school door to
		monitor those accessing school. The gates to the school's rear garden will remain locked.
	-	 On Sports Day, a vetted adult (usually a PA Volunteer) will be at school garden gate to monitor those accessing the garden. The school's front door will remain locked.
		 School has an Anti-Bullying policy which fully adheres to the requirements of DE
		• School has a Code of Behaviour for children.
		programme.
13. Use of toilet areas in school.	Risk of child being harmed in the school by other children due to inappropriate	Toilets in the School are in communal areas outside of classrooms. There are locks on all toilet cubicle doors and children are encouraged to close doors fully. All but the office and total to limit the transfer are to the form of the community of the comm
		opportunity for children to congregate together.
	Risk of child being harmed by other children due to bullying.	 Only one child from each class will be allowed go the totlet at any given time and the Class Teacher will monitor the duration of toilet breaks.
		 Children are taught to close toilet/cubicle door when using toilets and are also taught that only one person should be in the toilet at any time.

List of School Activities	Risk of Harm	Procedures in Place
		 School has an Anti-Bullying policy which fully adheres to the requirements of DE procedures. School has a Code of Behaviour for children. The School fully implements the SPHE curriculum including the Stay Safe programme.
14. Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Risk of child being harmed in the school by school personnel.	 All school personnel have been provided with a copy of the School's Child Safeguarding Statement. Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) have been made available to all school personnel. Substitute personnel are also furnished with the aforementioned documentation. School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the Children First Act, 2015. Teachers adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers published by the Teaching Council. The School adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment. The School adheres to recruitment procedures set out in the Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2019 -2023, Circular 44/2019 and other relevant DE circulars as published from time to time by the Department.
15. Managing of challenging behaviour amongst children, including appropriate use of restraint	Risk of injury to child by school personnel	 The School has a Health & Safety Policy School has a Code of Behaviour for children. All school personnel have been provided with a copy of the School's Child Safeguarding Statement. Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) have been made available to all school personnel. Substitute personnel are also furnished with the aforementioned documentation. School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the Children First Act, 2015. Teachers adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers published by the Teaching Council. The School adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation and relevant

As for number 19 above.	6	Risk of child being harmed in the school by other children due to bullying.	20. Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst children
Children are supervised during teaching time and recreation breaks. School has an Anti-Bullying policy which fully adheres to the requirements of DE procedures. School has an Anti-Cyber Bullying policy. School has a Code of Behaviour for children. The School fully implements the SPHE curriculum including the Stay Safe programme and the messages in these programmes are re-enforced in the School's Collect programme. The School maintains its Quaker ethos which promotes respect of all members of the school community.		Risk of child being harmed in the school by other children due to bullying.	19. Care of children with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as Children from ethnic minorities/migrants Members of the Traveller community Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children Children perceived to be LGBT Children of minority religious faiths Children in care Children with medical needs
As for number 16 above.	•	Risk of child being harmed in the school by students.	18. Student Teachers undertaking training placement in school
As for number 16 above.	•	Risk of child being harmed in the school by students.	17. Students participating in work experience working within School.
As for number four above. In addition, Class Teacher will supervise class at all times.	• •	Risk of child being harmed in the school by school personnel.	 Use of external personnel, including Sports Coaches, to supplement curricular activities.
The School adheres to the recruitment procedures set out in Circular 44/2019 (Teaching Staff) and the relevant circular on SNA recruitment as updated annually by the DE. Staff members undertook whole school training on crisis prevention management. This training took place in November 2019.	•		
Procedures in Place	Proced	Risk of Harm	List of School Activities

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24. Visitors to school including:	23. Recruitment of school personnel including - Teachers SNAs Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners Sports coaches External Tutors/Guest Speakers	22. Administration of Medicine and Administration of First Aid	21. Curricular provision of SPHE programme to include the RSE programme and the Stay safe programme.	List of School Activities
Risk of child being harmed in the school by school personnel.	Risk of child being harmed in the school by school personnel. Personnel may not recognise harm and/or not report it properly or promptly.	Risk of child being harmed in the school by school personnel.	Non-teaching of same may mean that children do not understand the nature of harm as defined in the Children First Act.	Risk of Harm
•	• • • • • •	• • • • •		Procedu
A copy of the School's Child Safeguarding Statement is on display at school entrance.	All school personnel are provided with a copy of the School's Child Safeguarding Statement. Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) are made available to all school personnel. Substitute personnel are also furnished with the aforementioned documentation. School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the Children First Act, 2015. Teachers adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers published by the Teaching Council. The School adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to vetting. The School adheres to recruitment procedures set out in the Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2019 -2023, Circular 44/2019 and other relevant DE circulars as published from time to time by the Department.	The School has an Administration of Medicines Policy and a First Aid Policy. All Teaching and SNA staff members complete First Aid Training during the 2022/2023 Academic Year. All staff have been shown how to use anaphylaxis pen by parents. Information on administration of anaphylaxis pen is displayed in all classrooms, office and staff room. All staff are aware that First Aid materials are stored in the Staff room and near toilets to rear of building. A portable First Aid kit is available for all trips. Ms Kavanagh maintains the First Aid equipment.	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe programmes in full. Teachers set out details of teaching in their monthly reports which are checked by Principal. Parents are made aware of times of implementation of programmes so they can discuss topics with children. Homework on topics given to facilitate discussion with parents.	Procedures in Place

List of School Activities	Risk of Harm	Procedures in Place
 Volunteers/Parents assisting with school activities Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours Visitors/contractors present during after school activities 	Personnel may not recognise harm and/or not report it properly or promptly	 The School adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to vetting. Teachers supervise children during all activities.
25. Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Personnel may not recognise harm and/or not report it properly or promptly. Risk of child being harmed in the school by school personnel.	 All school personnel are provided with a copy of the School's Child Safeguarding Statement. Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) are made available to all school personnel. Substitute personnel are also flurnished with the aforementioned documentation. School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, (revised 2023) and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the Children First Act, 2015. The school ensures staff to avail of training from time to time. Staff have completed the Tusla E-Learning programme on Child Protection. Staff will be facilitated to complete the PDST E-Learning programme. The DLP& DDLP attended PDST face to face training on Child Protection in 2018. The School encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training. The School maintains records of all staff and board training.
26. Use of Information and Communication Technology ("ICT") by children in school	Risk of harm to children from other children by bullying and/or cyber bullying. Risk of harm to children due to inappropriate relationships/communications between child and another child or adult. Risk of harm to child due to child inappropriately accessing or using ICT. Risk of harm to child due to member of school personnel or another child or	 Children are supervised when using ICT. The DE firewall is in place. School has an Acceptable Use of ICT policy which was reviewed in 2021. School has an Anti-Bullying policy which fully adheres to the requirements of DE procedures. School has an Anti-Cyber Bullying policy. School has a Code of Behaviour for children. The School fully implements the SPHE curriculum including the Stay Safe programme and the messages in these programmes are re-enforced in the School's Collect programme. The School arranged for outside providers, Barnados to speak to children from Third to Sixth Class, Teachers and Parents about internet safety in February, 2020. All classes did follow up lessons on internet safety on Safer Internet Day in February,

List of School Activities	
Risk of Harm	
Procedures in Place	

	27. Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	
Risk of harm to child due to member of school personnel or another child or unknown adult accessing or circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.	Risk of harm to children due to inappropriate relationships/communications between child and another child or adult.	unknown adult accessing or circulating inappropriate material via ICT.
	• 6	9 9
	The school uses first names only when attaching names to photographs published in the media, save for competition winners. In advance of events which parents attend, parents will be requested by text not to share images of other people's children on social media/Facebook etc.	2020. An external specialist, Ger Brick, ran sessions with 3 rd to 6 th Class and with parents in January, 2023. Safer Internet Day is marked each year on a whole school basis. The School maintains its Quaker ethos which promotes respect of all members of the school community.

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.

risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent. 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

Safeguarding Statement. This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on 25th September, 2023. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child

Signed
Chairperson, Board of Management
Signed
Principal
Principal
Date: 25 September 2045