**Child Safeguarding Statement 2020**

Killeen NS 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 Child Protection Procedures for Primary Schools 2017 and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Killeen NS 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 Schools2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Jessica Whelahan
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Lorraine Carroll
4. 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.

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 2017 and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the DES 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 DES and available on the DES 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 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 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, 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 attached as an appendix to this statement.
* The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school’s website, the DES 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 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 10th June 2020.

Signed: Mark McDowall Signed: Jessica Whelahan

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

Date: 10/06/2020 Date: 10/06/2020

# **Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment**

## **Written Assessment of Risk of Killeen N.S.**

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirement of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Killeen N.S.

1. **List of school activities**

|  |
| --- |
| * Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters * Daily Arrival/Dismissal of pupils * Recreation breaks for pupils * Classroom Teaching * 1-1 teaching * Outdoor learning Activities * Sporting Activities/School Outings * Use of Toilet/Changing in schools * Annual sports day * Use of off-site facilities for school activities * Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed * Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils including use of restraint wheree required * Administration of medicine and first aid * Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE & Stay Safe * Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils * Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum * Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities   - such as pupils from ethnic minorities, minority religious faiths, traveller community   * Students participating in work experience in school * Student teachers undertaking training placement in school * Use of video/photography/other media to record school events * Distance learning during COVID-19 |

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

|  |
| --- |
| * Harm not recognised/reported promptly * Risk of child being harmed in school by another child * Harm by school personnel * Harm to pupils * Inappropriate behaviour * Harm & injuries to pupils * Risk of harm by outside staff, while child participating in school activities. eg tour, swimming etc * Harm by school personnel * Injury to pupils/staff * Non-teaching of SPHE, RSE & Stay Safe * Harm- child take too much medication/cut or bump not dealt with promptly or correctly * Risk of child being harmed by outside personnel * Harm by students * Bullying * Youth-produced sexual imagery * Screenshots of other pupils’ work * Cyberbullying by commenting on/ sharing other pupils’ work |

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

|  |
| --- |
| * Child safeguarding statements, DES procedures made available to all staff * DLP, DDLP attend PDST face to face training * All staff to view Tusla training module * All training recorded * Policy for 1-1 teaching – glass in door, open door etc. * Policy on intimate care * Usage of toilets, supervision policy * School implements SPHE,RSE, Stay Safe in full * Anti-Bullying & Code of Behaviour policies * Restraint Policy * Health & Safety policy * Policy for coaches, outside personnel etc. * Work experience policy – in relation to students (post primary) & student teacher   placement   * Vetting procedures in place for all staff, volunteers, coaches, outside trainers etc. * I.C.T. Policy in place * Policy on administration of medicine to pupils * Policy on administration of First Aid * Mobile phone policy in respect of usage of phones by pupils * Critical Incident management plan * Parental consent required for using online learning platforms * Teacher approval required for each piece of work uploaded to online learning platforms by pupils * Pupils are unable to see or screenshot other pupils’ work.   The School   * has provided each member of school staff with a copy of schools Child   Safeguarding Statement   * Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of schools Child Safeguarding   Statement   * Encourages staff to avail of relevant training * Encourages B.O.M. to avail of relevant training |

|  |
| --- |
| **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 2017* |

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 tomanage 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.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on 10th June 2020. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed Mark McDowall Date 10/06/2020

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed Jessica Whelahan Date 10/06/2020

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management