



Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Killester Raheny Clontarf Educate Together National School is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to 2nd Class 2022/2023.

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 2017](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of Killester Raheny Clontarf Educate Together 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 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Níamh O'Toole.
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DDLP) is Iseult Glackin.
- 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 cooperate 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.

- 5 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 DE 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 DE 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 schools 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 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 DE 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.

- 6 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.
- 7 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 the 5th of October 2022.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on the 28th of September 2022.

Signed:

B. A. Mulcahy

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date:

14/10/2022

Signed:

Mianh O'Toole

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date:

14/10/2022

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Killester Raheny Clontarf Educate Together 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 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Killester Raheny Clontarf Educate Together National School

1. List of school activities

- Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters - High
- One to one teaching - Medium
- Care of children with additional needs, including intimate care needs - High
- Toilet areas - High
- Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe - Medium
- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils - Medium
- Managing of behaviour that challenges amongst pupils - High
- Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum - Medium
- Student Teacher participating in work experience - Low
- Visitors to the school - Medium
- School outings - Medium
- Parents/Guardians Association events involving pupils e.g. Cake Sale – Low
- Administration of Medicine/First Aid - High
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils - Medium
- Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as - Medium
 - 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 - High
 - Teachers
 - SNA's
 - Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school - Low

- Student teachers undertaking training placement in school - Low
- Use of video/photography/other media to record school events - Medium
- Children who are unable to attend school due to Covid-19 - Medium
- Children contracting Covid-19 while at school - High
- Staff absences due to Covid-19 - High

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

- Harm not recognised or reported promptly - High
- Harm by school personnel - Medium
- Harm to pupils - High
- Non-teaching of same - Medium
- Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground - Medium
- Injury to pupils and staff - High
- Harm by Student Teacher - Low
- Harm by non-school staff - Medium
- Non-school staff in school during school hours - Low
- Bullying - Medium
- Harm to pupils bullying - Medium
- Misuse of Media - Medium
- Risk raised by use of Online Platforms - Medium
- Risk of contracting Covid-19 from their peers/staff premises - High
- Staff absences due to Covid-19 and understaffing/lack of supervision of children resulting from such absences - High

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

- Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff
- DLP to attend PDST face to face training, all staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST -
- BOM retains records of all staff and Board training
- Policy on Special Needs
- Open doors
- Table between teacher and pupil
- Glass window in door
- Policy on intimate Care
- Policy on Special Needs
- Supervision Policy
- Positive Behaviour Policy
- Toilets for students only 8.20 to 2.00
- School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
- The children (accompanied by parents/guardians) are collected from the line by their teachers and brought into the school in the morning and are dismissed individually into the care of a known adult at collection time.
- Health and Safety Policy
- Garda Vetting Requirements

- Work Experience Policy
- All Visitor to the school must enter the school through the reception area and are greeted by a staff member.
- First Aid and Administration of Medicine Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Recruitment in line with DES Procedures
- Acceptable Use Policy
- Enrolment Form
- Parents accompanying classes on tours or activities will be asked not to take photos of children
- Photos and videos taken by staff only
- Use secure, recognised online platforms
- Training for Staff in the use of the online learning platform
- Use of log-ins and passwords
- Staff check-ins with children
- Staff being aware of being extra vigilant to spot the signs associated with harm of children
- Covid-19 training for all staff
- Covid-19 Policy in place
- Covid-19 DES measures adhered to and updated, PPE and sanitising equipment supplied to all staff
- Good hygiene practices promoted amongst children.
- Pods in effect, rotation of resources, no materials transferred from school to home
- Two metre distance markers used for lining up with Parents.
- Isolation area established
- Social distancing in effect for staff and staff room
- Staggered lunch breaks
- Appeal for retention of additional teaching post.
- Engage with DES substitute panel.

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 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.