

*Our Lady of Lourdes NS*

## Child Safeguarding Statement



**Greenfields,**

**Rosbrien,**

**Limerick,**

**V94 Y6N9**

**Roll No. 1996670**

# Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

## Written Assessment of Risk of Our Lady of Lourdes

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 Our Lady of Lourdes.

### 1. List of school activities

Classroom teaching
One to One Teaching
Care of Children with Special Needs
Training of School Personnel in Child Protection/Safeguarding Matters
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe
Unscheduled Meetings with parents on corridor
Daily arrival and Dismissal of Pupils
Managing Challenging behaviour amongst pupils. LGBT children/pupils perceived to be LGBT
Sports Coaches
Students participating in work experience from 2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> level Institutions
Recreation breaks for pupils
Outdoor Teaching Activities
Sporting Activities
Homework Clubs/After Schools Clubs
Use of bad Language/ Inappropriate behaviour by adults in the cookery room
School Outings/use of off site facilities for pupils. Bus usage
Sports Days
Fundraising Activities involving Pupils
Administration of Medicine and First Aid
Use of External personnel to Supplement Curriculum delivery
Use of School by External Organisations during the School Day
Use of ICT by Pupils
Using the Prefab
Using the toilets
Recruitment of School Personnel

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

Harm by school personnel  
Harm not recognised or reported promptly.  
Non teaching of programmes  
Injury/harm to children. Harm to Staff  
Harm from older pupils. Unknown adults on the playground  
Injury to pupils and staff  
Harm to pupils  
Harm by other pupils/bullying  
Traffic in Car park  
Harm by pupils on pupils/leaders/staff  
Harm to children  
Being in bathroom/changing rooms  
Abuse by driver  
Movement on corridors  
Injury to children  
Harm by adults/parents using the school  
Incorrect dosage. Forgetting to administer. Lack of training. Split class/ teacher absence on course day etc. Written parental permission to administer medicines  
Strangers in the yard. Unauthorised adults using the school grounds as a short cut  
Cyber Bullying, viewing Inappropriate material.  
Harm to child by staff member. Harm by visitor to staff. Children walking/running behind the shed.  
Inappropriate behaviour by children. Accessed by adults  
Harm not recognised or reported promptly

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

All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement  
The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 are available to all school personnel  
School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015

The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme and the SPHE curriculum

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 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.

The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings/bus usage.

The school has a Health and safety policy

The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting

The school has a codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff)

The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching 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 has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils

The school –

- has provided each member of school 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
- 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

The school has in place an ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by pupils

The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils

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

**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.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on 17/10/2018. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed \_\_\_Rev. Fr. John Walsh\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_17/10/2018\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed \_\_\_\_\_Peter Jennings\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_17/10/2018\_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

## Child Safeguarding Statement

Our Lady of Lourdes is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Early Start 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 and Post Primary Schools 2017* and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Our Lady of Lourdes 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: Mr Peter Jennings
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is: Ms Danielle Abraham

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.

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 BoM members to avail of relevant training
  - The BoM 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 abovenamed DLP as the 'relevant person' (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the school's 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 BoM 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 these procedures.
- 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.

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.

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

17 / 10 / 2018

Signed: \_\_\_ Rev. Fr. John Walsh \_\_\_ Chairperson of BoM 17/10/2018

Signed: \_\_\_ Peter Jennings \_\_\_ Principal/Secretary to the BoM 17/10/2018

## **Notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement**

To: \_The Chairperson. OLL Parents Association\_\_\_\_\_

The Board of Management (BoM) of Our Lady of Lourdes 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 on [Insert Date].
- This review was conducted in accordance with the 'Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement' published on the Department's 'website [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie)

Signed: \_ Rev. Fr. John Walsh \_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson of BoM 17 / 10 / 2018

Signed: \_\_ Peter Jennings \_\_\_\_\_ Principal/Secretary to the BoM 17 / 10 / 2018