



Scoil San Treasa Board of Management



The Rise, Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin A94EK75

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil San Treasa 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 Addendum to Children First (2019), the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023) and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Scoil San Treasa 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 **Frances Mullin**
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Michelle O'Sullivan**
4. The Relevant Person is **Frances Mullin**
(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.)
5. 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.
6. 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.
 - 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 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.
- 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.

7. 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.
8. 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: 25th September 2023

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on: 18th March 2025

Signed: 
 Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: Frances Lullen
 Principal & Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 18/3/2025

Date: 18/03/2025

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil San Treasa, The Rise, Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin.

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 Scoil San Treasa.

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The school has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Overall school activities- in general	Harm to pupils through lack of awareness/understanding of underlying principles/procedures re Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ongoing efforts to heighten awareness of the broad school community around child protection matters and to engage them fully with the underlying principles and procedures...including... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Child Safeguarding Statement prominently displayed in school and posted on school website ○ Child Protection matters regularly referenced in Board of Management communication from school ○ Child Protection & Vetting matters regularly referenced in other school communication including newsletters and school website material ○ Relevant associated policies (e.g. Internet Acceptable Use Policy; Code of Behaviour; Anti-Bullying Policy; Bí Cineálta Procedures (from September 2025); Toileting/Intimate Care Needs Policy) readily accessible on school website ○ Monitoring, review and discussion around matters of Child Protection on an ongoing basis <p>Culture of reflective practice and continuous improvement around this and other areas.</p>
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Harm to pupils Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child Safeguarding Statement & DE procedures made available to all staff ● DLP & DDLP to attend PDST face to face training ● All Staff to complete Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST ● Board of Management maintains record of staff and board training
Recruitment of school personnel/volunteers including- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teachers ● SNA staff ● 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 for after school activities 	Harm to pupils Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child Safeguarding Statement & DE procedures made available to all staff ● Staff to complete Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST ● Vetting Procedures re staff and volunteers ● Code of Practice re Parent Volunteers/Other ● Volunteers ● All visitors to school to report to secretary's office in first instance ● All contractors to be alerted to school's Child Safeguarding Statement
School Access	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All entrance doors are accessed by bell and security camera ● Access during school day through front door only ● Visitors must sign in at secretary's office

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The school has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no access to classrooms during the school day • CCTV cameras in place to monitor access to the school grounds • Deliveries during school hours supervised by ancillary staff • Work persons/service provider appointments are scheduled for outside of school hours 8:40-2:20
One-to-one teaching	Harm by school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glass in door of all rooms where one-to-one teaching takes place • Glass in door of the Sensory Room and the door is slightly ajar • Library (behind the stage) - children attend in groups with the class teacher/SNA, or at least two parent volunteers in the area at the time.
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on toileting/intimate care needs • Teaching of the Stay Safe programme
Use of toilet/changing areas in school	Inappropriate behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessed for maintenance/upkeep only when toilets are out of use. (Signage to be readily available to indicate same) • Regular reminders around appropriate behaviour • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Bí Cineálta Procedures (from September 2025) • Stay Safe Programme • Policy on toileting/intimate care needs
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	Bullying Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bí Cineálta Procedures (from September 2025) • Anti-Bullying Policy • Code of Behaviour • Vigilance on part of teachers and school staff • Stay Safe Programme, SPHE Programme
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Bullying Policy • Bí Cineálta Procedures (from September 2025) • Code of Behaviour • Bullying Survey with pupils • DCU Fuse Programme
Recreation breaks for pupils Movement Breaks Sensory Breaks	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Bí Cineálta Procedures (from September 2025) • Stay Safe Programme

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The school has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision by teaching staff (and SNA staff as appropriate) • Regular reiteration of rules re being 'happy and safe' in the yard • 'Bystander' effect regularly raised with children • Parents or others not to directly approach own child or other child during yard time; parents discouraged from collecting child e.g. for appointment during yard time...where it is absolutely essential, however, the parent/authorised person must report to the secretary's office in the first instance
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents regularly reminded that the Board of Management does not accept responsibility for pupils before 8:40am and after 2:20pm (1:20pm re infant classes) or after official closing time on occasion of early closing. • Parents/minders of Junior and Senior Infant classes are permitted to accompany pupils to classroom door during 8:40-9:00am informal time. • Pupils from 1st class to 6th class go straight to class on arrival at school. • Pupil dismissal at going-home time is supervised by teachers. • Parents/minders collecting pupils to arrive onto school premises no more than five minutes in advance of going-home time • Parents/minders dropping children to school late or coming to the school on business in the course of the day to go to main school door in the first instance.
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Injury/harm to pupils and staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil Behaviour Support Plans-where relevant • Safety, Health and Welfare Policy • Code Of Behaviour
Sporting activities; outdoor teaching activities; use of offsite facilities for school activities; school outings	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor coaching sessions (e.g. plasóg) not to commence before daylight • No unsupervised access to SST sports storage areas by pupils (general sports storage area off hall and GAA store room) • No access to SST sports storage areas by individual pupils (general sports storage area off hall and GAA store room) if in the company of only one adult • Vigilance on the part of organisers with regard to off-site sports activities (including Parents' Association Fun Day, for example) and general outings • Heightened vigilance with regard to use of shared facilities that are off-site
Annual Ceilí na bPáisti	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents and visiting family members to be made aware of distinct pupil & staff area/ parent & visitor area
School trips involving overnight stay	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female member of staff present on any overnight trip involving female pupils from the school • Child Safeguarding Statement is reiterated
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum,	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vetting of coaches in line with national vetting procedures Child Safeguarding Statement

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The school has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
including sports coaches		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Bí Cineálta Procedures (from September 2025) • Code for Assistants/Support Workers/Coaches etc.
Parent-led/parent-organised extra-curricular school activities	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vetting of relevant personnel in line with national vetting procedures • Child Safeguarding Statement • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Bí Cineálta Procedures (from September 2025) • Code for Volunteers
Administration of Medication Administration of First Aid	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration of Medication Policy • Pupils not to administer First Aid • Mandatory First Aid Training for all staff
Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) by pupils in school Distance Learning Context	Bullying Access to inappropriate materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) • Unsupervised pupil access to school computers not allowed • Anti-Bullying Policy • Bí Cineálta Procedures (from September 2025) • Code of Behaviour • Internet Safety talks for parents on intermittent basis • Internet Safety awareness sessions are a key feature of ongoing ICT work in school - ongoing education in this area • Online Safety Week –whole school awareness • Community Garda talks with classes • Internet Content Filtering Level 4 is provided by the Schools' Broadband Service.
Use of ICT by staff/coaches	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No direct contact by staff/coaches to the mobile phone of a pupil. • ICT-related homework of pupils to be supervised by parents.
Student teacher/SNA or Transition Year student or other persons on placement/work experience module in school	Harm to pupils	<p>Induction at school level to include familiarisation with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Safeguarding Statement • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Bí Cineálta Procedures (from September 2025) • Code for Assistants/Support Workers/Coaches etc.
School Plays and Events; First Holy Communion Photographs; changing of clothes	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two adults present at all times
After School Activities	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities organised by teachers in Scoil San Treasa • External personnel are also Garda Vetted

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)*.

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.

Appendix 1

Examples of activities, risks and procedures

The examples listed in this document are provided to assist schools in undertaking their risk assessment under the Children First Act, 2015. Schools should note that this list of examples is not intended to be exhaustive. It is the responsibility of each school to ensure, as far as possible, that any other risks and procedures that are relevant to its own particular circumstances are identified and specified in the written risk assessment and that adequate procedures are in place to address all risks identified.

It is acknowledged that schools already have in place a range of policies, practices and procedures to mitigate the risk of harm to children while they are participating in the activities of the school and that some school activities will carry low or minimal risks of harm compared to others. In the context of the risk assessment that must be undertaken by schools, the Children First Act, 2015 refers to risk as "any potential for harm". Therefore, it is important that, as part of its risk assessment process, each school lists and reviews all of its various activities (which shall include identifying those that may carry low risk of harm as well as those that carry higher risks of harm). Doing so will help the school to (1) identify, as required under the Children First Act, 2015, any risks of harm that may exist in respect of the school's activities, (2) identify and assess the adequacy of the various procedures already in place to manage those risks of harm and (3) identify and put in place any such additional procedures as are considered necessary to manage any risk identified.

The Addendum to *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children* published in January 2019 clarifies that organisations providing relevant services to children should consider the specific issue of online safety when carrying out their risk assessment and preparing their Child Safeguarding Statement.

The Guidance on Continuity of Schooling for primary and post-primary schools (April 2020) advises of the importance of teachers maintaining the safe and ethical use of the internet during distance learning and assisting parents and guardians to be aware of their role also. Schools should ensure that their Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) informs and guides remote or distance learning activity.

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)*.

Examples of School Activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
- Recreation breaks for pupils
- Classroom teaching
- One-to-one teaching
- One-to-one learning support
- One-to-one counselling
- Outdoor teaching activities
- Online teaching and learning remotely
- Sporting Activities
- School outings
- School trips involving overnight stay
- School trips involving foreign travel
- Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools
- Provision of residential facilities for boarders
- Annual Sports Day
- Fundraising events involving pupils
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
- Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed
- Care of any vulnerable adult students, including intimate care where needed
- Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required
- Management of provision of food and drink
- Administration of Medicine
- Administration of First Aid
- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe

- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
- Training of school personnel in child protection matters
- Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
- Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities
- 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 Tusla's Child Protection Notification System CPNS
 - Children with medical needs
- 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
- Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media
- 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
- Students from the school participating in work experience elsewhere
- 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
- Use of school premises by other organisation during school day
- Breakfast club
- Homework club/evening study

Examples of Risks of Harm

- Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel
- Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel
- Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
- Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child
- Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of on line remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms
- Risk of harm due to bullying of child
- Risk of harm due to racism
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
- Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities
- Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care
- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation
- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner

via social media, texting, digital device or other manner

- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner

Examples of Procedures to address risks of harm

- 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 (revised 2023)* are made available to all school personnel
- School Personnel are required to adhere to the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)* and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the *Children First Act 2015* and its Addendum (2019)
- The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme
- The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum
- The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle
- 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 undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives
- 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, changing rooms etc.
- The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings
- The school has a health and safety policy
- The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE 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 an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents
- The school has in place a policy governing the use of smart phones and tablet devices in the school by pupils as per circular 38/2018
- 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
- The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils of the school undertaking work experience in external organisations