



Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Loreto College Foxrock is a post-primary school providing post-primary education to pupils from First Year to Leaving Certificate Year.

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 [insert school name] 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: Fionnuala Gleeson
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is: Stephen Delahunty
- 4 The Relevant Person is: Fionnuala Gleeson
(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.

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:

- 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 gov.ie 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 01/09/26

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 01/09/26 [most recent review date].

Signed: G Ryan
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: F Gleeson
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 1/09/26

Date: 01/09/26

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Loreto College Foxrock

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 (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of [name of school].

General Daily Activities	The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment –
• Daily arrival and dismissal of students • Recreation breaks for students • Lunchtime for students who remain in school for lunch • Lunchtime for students who leave school for lunch • Use of toilet/changing/areas in schools • School transport • Use of technology in areas other than the classroom • Management of provision of food and drink • Training of school personnel in child protection matters • After school use of premises by other organisations • Evening study • Congregating in locker areas	• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of student being harmed by another student • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Risk of harm where a student finds herself first or last in the building • Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with students in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	• The school has a corridor /grounds protocol to ensure appropriate supervision of students during arrival, dismissal and breaktimes in respect of specific areas such as changing rooms, toilets etc. • All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's <i>Child Safeguarding Statement</i> and have appropriate training • The school has a health and safety policy in place • School Personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2023</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> and its Addendum (2019) • The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for students • All school personnel adhere to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant Dept. of Education

		circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting • The school has an employee handbook and induction programme for school personnel • The school has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement, Encourages staff to avail of relevant training, Encourages board members to avail of relevant training, Maintains records of all staff and board member training
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Teaching and Learning Activities	The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment –
• Classroom teaching • One-to-one teaching • One-to-one learning support • One-to-one learning support • One-to-one counselling/guidance • Outdoor teaching activities • Online teaching and learning remotely • Use of off-site facilities for school activities • Use of substitute teachers in	• Risk of student being harmed in the classroom by another student • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of student being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students in the classroom • Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platforms such as an	• The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for students • The school has policies in place in relation to the use of mobile phones, social media and the use of electronic devices • All school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant Dept. of Education circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting

case of absenteeism • Management of challenging behaviour amongst students, including appropriate use of restraint where required • Facilitation of all faiths in curricular RE • Training of school personnel in child protection matters • Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum • Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of students • Students with additional needs • 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 • Use of technology within the classroom	uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in break out rooms • 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 due to inadequate code of behaviour • Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling or coaching situation • Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with students in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner • Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner • Risk of harm caused by school personnel not differentiating for the needs of students with additional needs • Risk of harm while carrying out work experience	• The school implements in full the <i>Relationships and Sexuality Education</i> programme • The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum • The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle • The school has a Bi Cineálta Policy which fully adheres to the Departments <i>Bí Cineálta Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post Primary Schools</i> • The school has an acceptable use policy in relation to social media, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents • The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff • The school has an RE policy in place • The school has protocols for work experience in an external organisation • The school has an AEN policy in place • The school procedures in place for the use of external persons to supplement the delivery of the curriculum • The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to one counselling • The school has in place 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
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		• The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students in the school undertaking work experience in external organisations • The school has an employee handbook and induction programme for school personnel • The school has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement, Encourages staff to avail of relevant training, Encourages board members to avail of relevant training, Maintains records of all staff and board member training
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Pastoral Care	The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment –
• One-to-one counselling • School trips involving overnight stay • School trips involving foreign travel • Care of students with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed • Management of challenging behaviour amongst students, including appropriate use of restraint where required	• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • Risk of harm to students through bullying when away from home on school trips • Risk of student being harmed by another student • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Risk of harm due to bullying of a student • Risk of harm due to racism	• All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's <i>Child Safeguarding Statement</i> and have appropriate training • The school has a health and safety policy in place • School Personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2023</i> and all registered teaching staff are required

• Prevention and management of bullying amongst students • Administration of medicine • Administration of First Aid • Care of students with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as; Students from ethnic minorities/migrants, Members of the Traveller community, Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT), Students perceived to be LGBT, Students of minority religious faiths, Children in care, Children on CPNS, Children with medical needs • Curricular provision in respect of SPHE/RSE • Training of school personnel in child protection matters • Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of students • Supporting students involved in the misuse of social media • Sanctioning students involved in the misuse of social media	• 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 a child while child is receiving intimate care • Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour • Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling or coaching situation • Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with students in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner • Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner • Risk of harm to students through lack of understanding of specific needs, including sexual identity, religious and ethnic background	to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> and its Addendum (2019) • The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for students • The school has a Bi Cineálta Policy which fully adheres to the Departments <i>Bí Cineálta Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post Primary Schools</i> • The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives • The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff • The school has an AEN policy in place • The school has an active pastoral team with particular understanding of the needs of the students in its care. including their backgrounds • The school has a set of procedures in relation to the administration of medicines • The school has a School Tour Policy in place • The school appoints qualified SNA's where deemed necessary • The school has appointed qualified Guidance Counsellors • The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to one counselling • The school has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement, Encourages staff to avail of relevant training,
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		Encourages board members to avail of relevant training, Maintains records of all staff and board member training
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Sporting and Co-Curricular Activities	The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment –
• School trips involving overnight stay • School trips involving foreign travel • Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools • Sport days/events • Fundraising events involving students • Use of off-site facilities for school activities • Travelling to and from sports and co-curricular events • Administration of medicine • Administration of First Aid • Use of external personnel to support sports and other extracurricular activities • Use of Information and Communication Technology	• Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or person while participating in sports or co-curricular events • Risk of harm to a student while receiving first aid • Risk of student being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities • Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in out-of-school activities e.g. school trip • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between	• All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's <i>Child Safeguarding Statement</i> and have appropriate training • The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary 2023</i> are made available to all school personnel • The school has a health and safety policy in place • School Personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2023</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> and its Addendum (2019) • All school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant Dept. of Education circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting

by students in the school, including social media • Use of video/photography/other media to record school events • After school use of premises by other organisations	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 due to inadequate code of behaviour • Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with students in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner • Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	• The school a supervision protocol for school events • Coaching staff are trained in First Aid • The school has a code of behaviour and policies in place in relation to the use of mobile phones, social media and the use of electronic devices • The school has an acceptable use policy in relation to social media, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents • School sports personnel are required to adhere to the Child Procedures for Primary and Post- Primary Schools 2023 and the Children First Act 2015 (and any amendments to the above) • The school has a set of procedures in relation to the administration of medicines • The school has procedures in place for the use of external sports coaches
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Recruitment	The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
- Recruitment of school personnel including - Principal - Deputy principal - Teachers/SNA's - Administration staff - Caretaking staff - External tutors/guest speakers - Volunteers/Parents in school activities - Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours - Visitors/contractors present during after school activities	- Risk of harm to students by personnel who are not qualified - Risk of harm to students who have a history of unacceptable practices in previous employment - Risk of harm to students from a member of staff with a history of abuse - Risk of harm to a student by personnel unwilling to commit to the expected standards of the school	- 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 an employee handbook and induction programme for school personnel - When appointing detailed references are sought - The school has a rigorous interview process

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.