



**Scoil Chríost Rí,
Rockfield, Coolaney, Co. Sligo. F56 FW32
071 91 30539**

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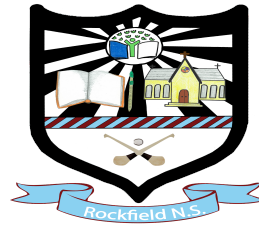
Website: www.rockfieldns.eu

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template

Rockfield National School 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 Rockfield 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 (revised (2023))* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Marlene Scanlon
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Aine Leonard
- 4 The Relevant Person is Marlene Scanlon
(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.)



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- 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.



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- 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.



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- 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 12/09/2023.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 12/09/2023.

Signed: Fr. Patrick J. Holleran P.P.

Signed: Ms. M. Scanlon



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Chairperson of Board of Management

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 12/09/2023

Date: 12/09/2023

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of [name of school]

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

1.List of School Activities	2.The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	3.The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff

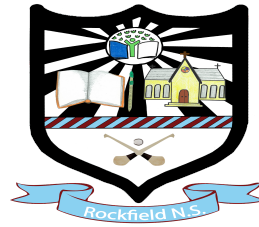


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		DLP& DDLP to attend PDST training All Staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel	Review SEN policy to address one-to-one teaching Open doors when no windows in to some rooms Windows in to classrooms Table between teacher and pupil
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	Intimate Care addressed in Stay Safe Policy
Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Policy Anti-Bullying Policy Toilet in Classrooms during school day Toilet in Corridor- Main door to sink areas remains open
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full according to policies.

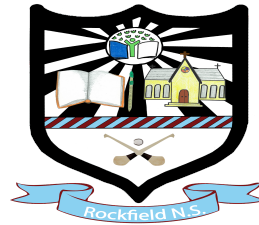


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LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils Harm from unknown adults outside the grounds	Arrival and dismissal supervised by a staff member at the door Playground and premises opens at 9.20a.m.
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Injury to pupils and staff	Restraint Policy to be developed in the future, if necessary Health & Safety Policy Code of Behaviour
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	Teacher to be present with the coach on the sports pitch/court
Students participating in work experience	Harm by student	Work experience Policy to be developed. Over 16 - garda vetting of students Child Safeguarding Statement.
Recreation breaks for pupils	Inappropriate behaviour Injury to pupils and staff	Staff member to supervise the recreation areas allocated to each class level Supervision Policy



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Classroom teaching	Harm to pupils Injury to pupils and staff	Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy
School outings	Injury to pupils	Teacher present with pupils on outings Child Safeguarding Statement
Administration of Medicine	Harm to Pupils	Administration of Medicines Policy
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Harm to Pupils	Anti-Bullying Policy
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm to pupils	Teacher to be present with external personnel
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 	Harm to pupils Harm to pupils by pupils	Anti-Bullying Policy School implements SPHE, Stay Safe & RSE in full accordance with policies.



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children on CPNS 		
<p>Recruitment of school personnel including -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers • SNAs • Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners • Sports coaches • External Tutors/Guest Speakers • Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours 	Harm not recognised properly or promptly reported	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff</p> <p>Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST</p> <p>Vetting Procedures adhered to</p> <p>Vetted staff member to be present with visitors/contractors</p>
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Bullying	<p>Acceptable Use Policy</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Distance Online Learning</p>
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils outside school hours	Bullying	<p>Acceptable Use Policy</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Distance Online Learning</p>



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		Information event for parents on internet safety organised occasionally by Parents' Association
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Harm to pupils and staff	Prerequisite of Enrolment during application- agreement to conditions of photography/recording and social media.

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)*