



Tynock School

Scoil Treasa Naofa Tigh an Chnoic

Tynock, Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow

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Child Safeguarding Statement

Tynock 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 2017](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of Tynock 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 Deirdre Walsh
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Eimear Rogers
- 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 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.

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 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 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 reviewed by the Board of Management on 6/12/21

Signed: *Brid Condon*

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 6/12/21

Signed: *Deirdre Walsh*

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 6/12/21

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Treasa Naofa

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 [name of school].

1. List of school activities	2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
1. Daily Arrival and dismissal of pupils.	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children should not be dropped to the school before 9.10a.m.. Teachers supervise the children from 9.10a.m. – 9.20a.m. • Teachers must be informed in advance if children are to be collected early from school. Children must be signed out by a parent-approved adult in the book. • Teachers walk their class to the gate at home time. Parents must collect their children at the gate. • SEN teachers will also be present at home time to help substitute teachers with the dismissal of pupils. • The school has a supervision policy to ensure safe arrival and dismissal of pupils.
2. Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils.	School based bullying, verbal, physical or psychological.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy • The policy is displayed on our school website to inform parents. • Restorative practices implemented throughout the school to investigate and

		<p>resolve conflict e.g. restorative circles, peer mediation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-bullying procedures available to inform parents as to the steps being followed. • Anti-bullying lessons every February to promote a culture of respect, friendship and kindness. • Promotion of a culture of openness and respect in which students can approach staff to discuss concerns and worries. • Adequate supervision is provided to ensure codes are being followed.
One to one teaching/ Classroom teaching	Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, /group teaching, counselling, coaching situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glass panels are installed in the doors of all classrooms. • Parents are informed and provide written consent if children are withdrawn from class on a regular basis e.g. for learning support, resource or movement breaks.
Training of school Personnel in child Protection matters.	Risk of harm not been recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff • DLP& DDLP to attend PDST face to face training • All Staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST • Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training. • BOM records all records of staff and board training.
Interaction with visitors e.g. music teachers, sports coaches, guest speakers etc. to the school.	Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, /group teaching, counselling, coaching situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors to the school must check in at the office or with the principal. • The front entrance to the school has a coded keypad and so visitors must be provided with access by a staff member.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular visitors to the school e.g. external teachers, guest speakers are Garda vetted and a copy of their Garda vetting is provided to the school. • Persons administering external programmes (e.g. GAA) through another body will provide the school with a copy of their Garda vetting and any appropriate insurance. • Children are closely supervised by staff members during all school events in which visitors are invited into the school e.g. Sports Day, School Performances, Grandparent's Day. • The school has in place a policy for the use of external sports coaches and for the use of external persons to supplement the delivery of the curriculum.
Care of Children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed.	Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities. Risk of harm to a child while child is receiving intimate care. Harm by school personnel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has a Special Educational Needs Policy. • The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care.
Use of toilet/changing area in school	Inappropriate behaviour Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has a supervision policy in place.
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school implements in full the Stay Safe and RSE Programmes. • The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum.
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils.	Injury to pupils and staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has a Health & Safety Policy and a Code Of Behaviour in place.
Students participating in work experience and teachers undertaking training placement in the school.	Harm by student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has in place a policy in respect of students undertaking work experience

		and student teacher placements in the school.
Recreation breaks for pupils	Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child. Risk of harm to child due to inadequate supervision of children in school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has in place a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during assembly, dismissal and breaks in respect of specific area such as toilets etc.
Homework club/evening study	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a code of conduct in school for both pupils and school personnel.
School events held outside the school grounds, e.g. school tours, swimming lessons, sports event's, concerts etc.	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.	<p>Swimming:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will be brought by bus to the swimming pool. Children will be the responsibility of teaching staff and assisted by SNAs. There will be three adults in attendance at all times. Staff will not enter dressing area alone, other than in exceptional circumstances when dealing with injury or following an accident. Specific arrangements will be put in place in agreement with parents for managing the care needs of special needs pupils. These arrangements will be recorded as part of the care needs plan. <p>Other events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings. Parental consent is provided before children leave the school to attend any events. Pupil teacher ratio is reduced for school tours to maximise the supervision of children.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils are closely supervised by staff when transitioning from one area to another (e.g. going to the toilets, going to and from the bus) and when interacting with staff and/or volunteers from the establishment they are visiting.
<p>Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid</p>	<p>Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of Medicine. Accidents and injuries that occur on the premises shall be managed in accordance with the Accident and Injury Policy.
<p>Recruitment of school personnel including -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<p>Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST Vetting Procedures will be followed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer Camp 	<p>Bullying Harm to pupils Risk of harm not been recognised or reported promptly Injury to pupils and staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a code of conduct in school for both pupils and school personnel. Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff. All Staff to view Túsia training module & any other online training offered by PDST The school has a Health & Safety Policy and a Code Of Behaviour in place.

<p>Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school</p>	<p>Bullying Exposure to inappropriate online content</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has in place a mobile phone and devices policy in respect of the usage of mobile phones and devices in school. • The use of ICT and devices are guided by the Acceptable Use Policy. • The school has in place an Anti-Bullying Policy. • Use of electronic devices, e.g. tablets, laptops cameras is monitored and supervised by adults. • The school internet is provided by PDST Technology in Education which is monitored for appropriate content and unsuitable websites blocked.
<p>Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.</p>	<p>Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils.
<p>Use of video/photography/other media to record school events</p>	<p>Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or another manner.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written parental permission to take photos of children is obtained by the school when parents are enrolling their child. • Class teachers are made aware of any children in his or her class who do not have permission to be in school photos. • Photos taken by staff are removed from personal devices at the end of each school week. Photos are stored securely on the school online storage space or a school USB key. • Children's names are not published with photos uploaded to the school website. • Children are not permitted to use electronic devices (e.g. iPad's, cameras, personal devices) unless under the supervision of an adult.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are not permitted to use camera phones during the school day or at school events.
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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.