



Presentation Primary School
Greenside South, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary



Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment - March 2026

For:	Presentation Primary School	<i>(School Name)</i>
At:	Greenside South, Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary	<i>(School Address)</i>

This school is a primary school.

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) and 2025, Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024), the board of management has adopted the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment set out in this document.

The board of management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the department's Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Name of the Designated Liaison Person (DLP):

Mr. Pat Robinson

Name of the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP/DDLP):

Mrs. Anne Millea

In the absence of the DLP, the Deputy DLP shall assume responsibilities of the DLP

Name of Relevant Person

Mr. Pat Robinson

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

051 640798

proffice@presentationcarrick.ie

Under the Children First Act 2015 Relevant Person means a person who is appointed by a provider of a relevant service to be the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement. This person is nominated by the board of management to manage and provide oversight of child protection concerns/allegations of child abuse.

Name of Chairperson of the board of management::

Ms. Mary O'Keeffe

In the event that both DLP and DDLP are absent and unavailable, and where there is no staff member formally acting in their role, the chairperson of the board of management assumes the role of DLP.

The board of management recognises that child protection and safeguarding permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In all of these, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare. The school will:

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- 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 happening to children and protect members of school personnel from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of child abuse.
- Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.
- Fully respect confidentiality requirements as set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 in dealing with child protection matters.
- Adhere to the above principles in relation to any vulnerable adult.

Procedures and Measures in Place

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance 2017*, and *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024)*, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

> Procedure for the Management of Allegations of Abuse or Misconduct against School Personnel Relating to a Child Availing of Our Service

~ Where any member of school personnel is the subject of any investigation in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in relation to a child attending the school, the school is required to adhere to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of *the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.

> Procedure for the Safe Recruitment and Selection of School Personnel to Work With Children

~ The school is required to adhere to the requirements of the Vetting Act. The selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, requires the school to adhere 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 Youth and available on the gov.ie website and as outlined in Chapter 10 of the procedures.

~ A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons.

> Procedure for Provision of and Access to Child Safeguarding Training and Information, Including the Identification of the Occurrence of Harm

~ The school provides information and training to members of school personnel in relation to the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) as follows:

~ The school has provided each member of school personnel, including any new members of school personnel, (employees and volunteers, board of management members, student teachers and those on work experience) with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

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- ~ The school ensures that members of school personnel have availed of relevant training and completed child protection training.
- ~ The school encourages board of management members to avail of any relevant training and complete child protection training.
- ~ The board of management ensures that records of all staff and board member child protection training are maintained.

> Procedure for the Reporting of Child Protection or Welfare Concerns to Tusla

- ~ All members of school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, in relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla. Mandated reporting applies to all registered teachers and any other mandated person who may be employed by the school, for example a chaplain or nurse. A full list of those people who are mandated persons is set out in Appendix 1 procedures.

> Procedure for Maintaining a List of the Persons (if any) in the Relevant Service Who Are Mandated Persons

- ~ There is a procedure in place to maintain a list of mandated persons. Schools may on occasion employ additional staff who are mandated by virtue of their profession. This list will include all registered teachers and identify additional employees that are not registered teachers.

> Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person (In schools this person is the DLP)

- ~ There is a procedure in place for appointing a relevant person.

The various procedures referred to in this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, the board of management 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.

Note: The procedures and measures in place outlined above, are not intended as an exhaustive list. Individual boards of management shall also include in this section such other procedures and measures that are of relevance to the school.

This statement has been published on the school's website or will be made available on request by the school. It has been provided to all members of school personnel, the parents' association (if any), the patron and parents. A copy of this statement and risk assessment will be made available to Tusla and the department if requested.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1	Playground	Risk of harm by visitors to the playground Bullying/Safety Issues-	A number of adults supervising on each playground. Supervision Duty Schedule Anti-Bullying Policy- Health and Safety Reviews and Statement
2	Leaving school grounds with class	Harm by school personnel/stranger or wider community	Always supervised by a teacher. A second adult accompanies Junior Classes. Teacher brings a phone in case they need to contact school. Teacher informs office when going off school grounds.
3	Annual sports day	Harm by school personnel visitors to school	Staff moving between groups, all staff working in field/playground together. Staff always have more than one child with them if fetching equipment, etc.
4	Fundraising events involving pupils	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision	Staff-advised on best Practice Children accompanied by adults
5	External trainers/coaches or curricular activities.	Risk of harm by school personnel/visiting coaches etc.	Staff supervising at all times Coaches always accompanied by class teacher After school group facilitators or curricular course/entertainment providers- garda vetted and advised re the above policy
6	Trips in general e.g. athletics /school tours etc.	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person	See School Tours/Outings Policy
7	Exit doors of building & External Gates being left open	Risk of harm by visitors to the school Risk of children leaving grounds building/grounds	Door Policy-buzzer system and CCTV on entrance Entrance only through main door with camera and keypad Doors always locked magnetically Children not permitted to open exit doors for visitors. Reminders at staff meetings for external doors/gates to be kept closed Signage on gates to remind visitors to close gates on entry/exit
8	Visitors to the school e.g. book sellers, photographers	Risk of harm by visitors to the school	All visitors must enter through main entrance and asked to check in at school office. Staff reminded not to let visitors in unaccompanied. Pupils trained not to open doors to strangers.
9	Use of external personnel	Risk of harm by visitors to the school	All external personnel 16 years or over are Garda Vetted if working/volunteering on a regular basis Class teacher always with class when external personnel are working in the school. All visitors report to office

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	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
10	Swimming	<p>Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person</p> <p>Risk of parents who are not vetted being in the dressing rooms.</p> <p>Risk of other adults entering communal dressing rooms</p> <p>Risk of members of public using phones in pool area</p>	<p>Always more than one adult accompanying pupils to swimming. If teachers in changing rooms there should be a minimum of two present together. When children are ready, both teachers move outside with the line while rest finish up in dressing room.</p> <p>Place on swimming letter that parents who are not vetted through the school cannot enter the communal dressing rooms.</p> <p>Assurances given by Seán Kelly Centre that no other members of the public can use changing rooms while pupils using in them.</p> <p>Check there is a no phone policy/signage in pool area by the Seán Kelly Centre</p>
11	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Risk of harm by school personnel or adults accompanying pupils to and from school or other uninvited person	<p>Daily supervision of pupils in morning from 8:50-9:00</p> <p>Regular reminders to parents/guardians re the supervision times and not to drop children unsupervised outside gates before 8:47am (opening time)</p> <p>Pupils trained to return to the school office if parents/guardians have not arrived to collect them</p>
12	School performances /PA events-Halloween disco etc	Risk of harm by visitors to the school	Pupils always supervised by Teachers and/or Parents. Discussions with PA around Safeguarding Pupils-re toileting etc.
13	Children leaving school premises early during school day	Risk of harm by visitors to school or by other person	<p>Parents/Guardians report to office/main door to sign out - teacher cannot excuse pupil without white slip.</p> <p>Pupils never go to gate unaccompanied</p>
14	Children leaving the classroom unaccompanied by a teacher e.g. going on a message	Risk of harm by school personnel or visitor to the school	Infants-Rang 2 go in pairs
15	Pupils leaving the room to use the Bathroom	Risk of harm by school personnel/ other pupil/ visitor to school	Students trained to return to classroom - teacher aware when child has left the room and can monitor from the hall.
16	Recruitment of school personnel		<p>All personnel provided with Child Safeguarding statement (on wall in all classrooms).</p> <p>Safeguarding regularly discussed at Staff Meetings</p> <p>All new personnel made aware of Child Protection Procedures for Primary Schools</p> <p>All new personnel are Garda Vetted</p>
17	Parents volunteering	Risk of harm by parent volunteers	<p>All volunteer parents are garda vetted if long term involvement with school.</p> <p>Parents do not have unsupervised access to children.</p>

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	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
18	After school activities / Homework Club / Choir, etc	Risk of harm by school personnel/After school group supervisor/ other person Risk that children will try to go home instead of going to homework club / choir / etc without permission.	After school personnel garda vetted The class teacher/school must receive a written note or phone call from the parents if they are not attending. Children supervised until collected.
19	Work experience students in the school	Risk of harm by work experience personnel	All Work Experience candidates 16 years or over are garda vetted. Those under 16 must have letter vouching for them from principal. School procedures discussed & signed with all candidates. Work experience students do not have unsupervised access to pupils.
20	Use of equipment to record school activities-photographs, videos using cameras, iPads, phones, etc.	Risk of harm by school personnel	See photographs policy/Data Protection Policy Photographs/Videos must never be posted on Social Media without the permission of children's parents.
21	Use of premises by other organisations	Independent to school – own insurance - not a school related activity	Use of Premises agreements stating areas to be accessed by these organisations
22	Managing of challenging behaviour	Risk of harm by school personnel	Code of Behaviour Health and Safety Statement Advice sought from NEPS when necessary
23	1:1 Teaching	Risk of Harm by school Personnel	Glass in door Open door Policy-where necessary and feasible. Timetable-all children accounted for at all times.
24	First Aid	Risk that children will attempt to apply plasters and ice-packs to other children.	All plasters and ice-packs to be administered by staff.
25	Online teaching and learning Online Safety	Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform/internet.	The school has an acceptable use policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely. Children always supervised when on devices in school. NCTE filtering system in place.
26	Use of smart devices and smartphones in the classroom and in the course of the school day.	Risk of harm associated with misuse, abuse of devices and the various associated technologies	Lessons on Digital Citizenship taught at beginning of year. The school has a whole school policy in place covering the use of smart devices and smartphones in the classroom and during the school day, as outlined in circular 38/2018. Restricted access can be employed on Ipads using the admin console.
27	Summer Camp / Programme	Identified Risks:	Areas of school where the summer works are being carried out will not be in use for the duration of the summer programme/camp.

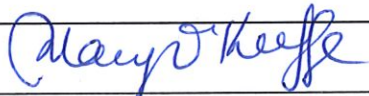
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	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		Summer Works on site e.g. building, gardening, window cleaning, carpet cleaning. Trips Disclosure or concern in relation to child safeguarding Applicable risks listed from 1-26 above	School Outings Policy to be followed. Summer Programme Organiser and Manager (Deirdre Kissane) appointed as DLP for the duration of the camp. Informed on how to make a referral. Follow procedures 1-26 above as appropriate during the camp..


In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 9 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025, the following is the written Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

In undertaking this Child Safeguarding Statement and 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 Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was reviewed by the board of management on the 23rd of March 2026. *(most recent review date)*

Signed:*		Date: 23/03/2026.
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Chairperson of the board of management

Signed:*		Date: 23/03/2026
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Principal/Secretary to the board of management

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again in March 2027. *(expected review date)*

Appendix - Location of copies of the Child Protection Procedures and Children First Guidance

School Office (hard copies for staff and parents)

On School Shared Drive (for staff).

Department of Education and Youth website - www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools (for entire school community)

School Website (Within this policy) - www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools (for entire school community)