



Lismullen National School

Garlow Cross, Navan, Co. Meath C15NH68

Roll No. 18106P

Telephone 046 9025533

Email: lismullenns@gmail.com Website: www.lismullenns.ie

Principal: Jerry O'Donoghue



Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

November 2021



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Child Safeguarding Statement

Lismullen N.S. 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 Lismullen N.S. 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 Jerry O'Donoghue
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Jenny Dempsey
- 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.

6 This statement has been published on the school’s website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents’ Association 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 adopted by the Board of Management on 20th October 2021.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed by the Board of Management on an annual basis.

Signed: _____

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: _____

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Lismullen National School

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 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of [name of school].

1. List of school activities

Swimming
Toileting
History Tours
School Tours
Concerts
Carol services
Class Plays
Football matches
Extra – Curricular Sporting Events (Swimming, Rounders, Futsal, Soccer Tourney, Athletics.
Messengers outside of Class
Outdoor Lessons
Lunch breaks and Yard supervision
Arrivals/Departures to School
P.E. time
Individual/ L.S. /Resource Teaching
Visitors to the School with child contact
Annual Sports Day
Classroom Teaching
School Transport arrangements-bus escorts
Care of Special Needs Children, intimate care where needed.
Management of Challenging behaviour including appropriate restraint when required.
Administration of medicine /First aid.
Prevention of Bullying
Training of School personnel in Child protection matters
ICT Policy
Student Teachers on Training placement in school.
Use of Video and photography at school events.

2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -

Covid 19
Changing in Public changing room
Toileting during swimming lesson
Talking to strangers
Toilet breaks during tours
Children getting lost
Undocumented adults on school grounds during the day
Children going to matches in cars with parents/teachers
Dressing injuries Getting icepacks etc.
Ensuring children are collected by designated person
General injuries while playing on yard.
Injuries while playing Sport
Injuries while engaged in baking, cooking activities
Injuries while using outdoor tools in Garden/Poly tunnel
Cutting activities
All forms of abuse while being taught
Accessing inappropriate material while on the internet

3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -

See Covid 19 Response Plan for Covid 19 procedures
No parents allowed in swimming area
Only vetted school personnel in changing rooms
Children escorted to toilet by Teachers/Snas
Stay Safe and Walk Tall programmes taught throughout the school
Children on tour never go to toilet unaccompanied.
Procedure if lost taught to all children
All adults on school grounds must sign out children
Only vetted parents transport children/ Buses used in most cases
Teachers/ Snas/Secretary never dress injuries without witnesses present
Icepacks are given out through the office. Parents contacted if injury is to head or seems serious
Extra help allocated for cooking/baking activities
Outdoor use of gardening tools is strictly monitored
Child safe equipment used for cutting activities
All school personnel are Garda vetted
No child in Lismullen has access to the internet while on their own.
Policies in relation to all the above are regularly reviewed

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.