



# Lismullen National School

Garlow Cross, Navan, Co. Meath C15NH68

Roll No. 18106P

Telephone 046 9025533

Email: [office@lismullenns.ie](mailto:office@lismullenns.ie) Website: [www.lismullenns.ie](http://www.lismullenns.ie)

Principal: Violet Molloy Deputy Principal: Jenny Dempsey



## Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

24<sup>th</sup> September 2024



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Principal: Violet Molloy

## Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

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 (revised 2023) 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 (revised 2023)* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Violet Molloy
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Jenny Dempsey
- 4 The Relevant Person is Violet Molloy
- 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 the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2024.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on the the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2024.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment 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 Lismullen N.S.

### 1. List of school activities

Swimming  
Toileting  
History Tours  
School Tours  
Concerts  
Carol services  
Class Plays  
Extra – Curricular Sporting Events (Swimming, Rounders, Futsal, Soccer Tourney, Athletics)  
Messengers outside of class  
After School Clubs  
Outdoor Lessons  
Lunch breaks and Yard supervision  
Arrivals/Departures to School  
P.E. time  
Individual Support  
Visitors to the School with child contact  
Annual Sports Day  
Classroom Teaching  
School Transport arrangements  
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  
Split classes  
Learning remotely

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

<b>Swimming: Changing and toileting</b> Risk of harm of being harmed by school personnel or staff member at the swimming pool.
<b>School tours/trips</b> Inadequate supervision
<b>Toilet breaks during tours</b> Risk of harm by a stranger on a tour.
<b>Children getting lost</b> Risk of harm by a stranger.
<b>Undocumented adults on the school grounds during the school day</b> Risk of harm by an adult.
<b>Children going to matches/school events in cars with parents and teachers</b> Risk of harm by an adult or a road accident.
<b>Dressing children</b> Risk of harm or of false accusations being made.
<b>Children getting collected by a designated person</b> Risk of harm by a stranger.
<b>All forms of abuse while in school</b> Risk of harm of abuse by a member of staff
<b>Accessing inappropriate material while on the internet</b> Risk of harm from seeing inappropriate content or using social media platforms.
<b>Christmas Concert/Musical</b> Risk of harm due to parents making recordings and distributing recordings of other people's children.
<b>Sports Day</b> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.
<b>Administration of Medicine</b> Risk of harm or being harmed by inappropriate administration of medicine.
<b>Management of Challenging Behaviour</b> Risk of harm due to flight risk children, inadequate supervision and inappropriate behaviour.
<b>Children leaving the grounds without permission</b> Risk of harm due to leaving the school grounds.
<b>Children with Additional Needs</b> Risk of harm due to a child receiving intimate care. Children are at a higher risk of being bullied due to a lack of understanding of the child's needs.
<b>Arrival and dismissal of pupils</b> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.
<b>Online bullying</b> Risk of being bullied by exclusion or through use of inappropriate apps.
<b>Risk of a child losing sight in his eye</b> Child risks losing sight in his eye due to a bang of a ball.
<b>Split classes</b> Children can injure themselves carrying chairs back to their classroom.
<b>Learning remotely</b> Risk of harm relevant to online teaching and learning remotely

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

<p><b>Swimming: Changing and toileting</b>          No parents allowed in swimming area.          Only vetted school personnel in changing rooms.          Children escorted to toilet by Teachers/SNAs</p>
<p><b>School tours/trips</b>          The ratio of adults to children is to be decided on an individual basis and is dependent on the venue and the supervision provided there, but there must be a minimum of 1:15.          Adults accompanying children should be garda vetted.</p>
<p><b>Talking to strangers</b>          Stay Safe and Walk Tall programmes taught throughout the school.</p>
<p><b>Toilet breaks during tours</b>          Children on tour never go to toilets unaccompanied.</p>
<p><b>Children getting lost</b>          Procedure if lost is taught to all children.</p>
<p><b>Undocumented adults on the school grounds during the school day</b>          All adults on school grounds must check in at the school office and remain outside the office until their child is signed out.</p>
<p><b>Children going to matches in cars with parents and teachers</b>          Buses are used for all school activities.</p>
<p><b>Dressing children</b>          Teachers/Secretary never dress without witnesses present.</p>
<p><b>Children getting collected by a designated person</b>          Designated people collect children only.</p>
<p><b>All forms of abuse while in school</b>          All school personnel are Garda vetted.          The DLP and DDLP complete Child protection training annually.          All staff complete staff training as required.          Children First training is completed every 2 years.          Child Protection is an item on every staff meeting agenda.</p>
<p><b>Accessing inappropriate material while on the internet</b>          No child has access to the internet while on their own.</p>
<p><b>Christmas Concert/Musical</b>          Parents give permission for their child's photo to feature on social media sites.          Parents are not permitted to record other children.</p>
<p><b>Injuries while walking along the corridors/Wet floors</b>          Staff remove furniture and boxes from the corridors.          Add additional mats to the corridors.          All children are reminded to walk along corridors keeping to the left hand side.</p>
<p><b>Sports Day</b>          Children remain with their class during sports day.</p>
<p><b>Administration of Medicine</b>          Staff do not administer medicine without a healthcare plan in place and permission from the BoM.          Medication is stored in the teacher's desk.</p>
<p><b>Children with Additional Needs:</b>          Procedures are in place for providing intimate care.          The teachers will have regular discussions in class and at assembly about Neurodiversity.</p>

**Management of Challenging Behaviour**

All staff are aware of children who are deemed a 'flight risk'.  
 SET rooms to be used as a safe zone/ calm down zone for children who are experiencing heightened states of emotion.  
 Access to SNA may be deemed necessary if a child needs some calm down time.  
 Parents are informed as soon as possible should their child be experiencing challenging behaviour.  
 A behaviour plan is put in place.  
 All incidents are recorded on incident report forms.  
 NEPs may be contacted.  
 A preventative rather than a punitive approach is used to support challenging behaviour.

**Children leaving the grounds without permission**

Flight risk children are identified. All staff are notified.  
 SNA supervision on yard and in class of flight risk children.  
 Messengers are sent in pairs.  
 Procedures are displayed in the staff room for when a child leaves the grounds.

- Call the parents.
- Call An Gardaí Síochána if parents do not respond.
- The principal/teacher may follow the child in a car at a safe distance **only if** there is adequate supervision in the rest of the school.

**Arrival and dismissal of pupils**

Children are not allowed into the school building without their class.  
 All teachers are in their classrooms at 9:10am for the arrival of children.  
 Children who have not been collected on time remain with a member of staff.

**Online Bullying**

A Garda liaison officer visits the senior classes annually.  
 Webwise Training during Internet Safety Week.

**Risk of a child losing sight in his eye**

Child wears goggles while playing contact sport at break times.  
 The grass pitch is zoned for break times.

**Talking to strangers**

Stay Safe and Walk Tall programmes taught throughout the school.

**Split class**

Tables and chairs are not returned until the following morning.  
 Children from the senior classes assist with this.  
 The Principal assembles children from Junior Infants to 2<sup>nd</sup> class back to their classroom before home time.

**Learning remotely**

Procedures are followed from the remote learning and teaching plan.

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.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2024.

It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed:

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date:

Signed:

Principal

Date:



## Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

	Yes/No
1. Has the Board formally adopted a Child Safeguarding Statement in accordance with the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i> ?	Yes
2. Is the Board satisfied that the Child Safeguarding Statement is displayed in a prominent place near the main entrance to the school?	Yes
3. As part of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement, has the Board formally adopted, without modification, the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i> ?	Yes
4. Does the school's Child Safeguarding Statement include a written assessment of risk as required under the Children First Act 2015? (This includes considering the specific issue of online safety as required by the Addendum to Children First)	Yes
5. Has the Board reviewed and updated where necessary the written assessment of risk as part of this overall review?	Yes
6. Has the Risk Assessment taken account of the risk of harm relevant to online teaching and learning remotely?	Yes
7. Has the DLP attended available child protection training?	Yes
8. Has the Deputy DLP attended available child protection training?	Yes
9. Have any members of the Board attended child protection training?	Yes
10. Has the school appointed a DLP and a Deputy DLP?	Yes
11. Are the relevant contact details (Tusla and An Garda Síochána) to hand?	Yes
12. Has the Board arrangements in place to communicate the school's Child Safeguarding Statement to new school personnel?	Yes
13. Is the Board satisfied that all school personnel have been made aware of their responsibilities under the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i> and the Children First Act 2015?	Yes
14. Has the Board received a Principal's Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR) at each Board meeting held since the last review was undertaken?	Yes
15. Since the Board's last review, did each CPOR contain all of the information required under each of the 4 headings set out in sections 9.5 to 9.8 inclusive of the procedures?	Yes
16. Since the Board's last review, has the Board been provided with and reviewed all records relevant to the CPOR?	Yes
17. Is the Board satisfied that the records provided are anonymised and redacted as necessary to ensure that the identities of children and any other parties, including school personnel, to whom the concern or report relates are not disclosed?	Yes
18. Since the Board's last review, have the minutes of each Board meeting appropriately recorded the records provided to the Board as part of CPOR?	Yes
19. Have the minutes of each Board meeting appropriately recorded the CPOR?	Yes
20. Is the Board satisfied that the child protection procedures in relation to the making of reports to Tusla/An Garda Síochána were appropriately followed in each case reviewed?	Yes
21. Is the Board satisfied that, since the last review, all appropriate actions are being or have been taken in respect of any member of school personnel against whom an allegation of abuse or neglect has been made?*	Yes
22. Where applicable, were unique identifiers used to record child protection matters in the Board minutes?	Yes
23. Is the Board satisfied that all records relating to child protection are appropriately filed and stored securely?	Yes

24. Has the Board been notified by any parent in relation to that parent not receiving the standard notification required under section 5.6 of the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i> ?	No
25. In relation to any cases identified at question 20 above, has the Board ensured that any notifications required under section 5.6 of the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i> were subsequently issued by the DLP?	Yes
26. Has the Board ensured that the Parents' Association (if any), has been provided with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	Yes
27. Has the Board ensured that the patron has been provided with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	Yes
28. Has the Board ensured that the school's Child Safeguarding Statement is available to parents on request?	Yes
29. Has the Board ensured that the Stay Safe programme is implemented in full in the school? (applies to primary schools)	Yes
30. Has the Board ensured that the Wellbeing Programme for Junior Cycle students is implemented in full in the school? (applies to post-primary schools)	N/A
31. Has the Board ensured that the SPHE curriculum is implemented in full in the school?	Yes
32. Is the Board satisfied that the statutory requirements for Garda Vetting have been met in respect of all school personnel (employees and volunteers)? *	Yes
33. Is the Board satisfied that the Department's requirements in relation to the provision of a child protection related statutory declaration and associated form of undertaking have been met in respect of persons appointed to teaching and non-teaching positions?*	Yes
34. Is the Board satisfied that, from a child protection perspective, thorough recruitment and selection procedures are applied by the school in relation to all school personnel (employees and volunteers)?*	Yes
35. Has the Board considered and addressed any complaints or suggestions for improvements regarding the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	N/A
36. Has the Board sought the feedback of parents in relation to the school's compliance with the requirements of the child safeguarding requirements of the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i> ?	Yes
37. Has the Board sought the feedback of pupils in relation to the school's child safeguarding arrangements?	Yes
38. Is the Board satisfied that the ' <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i> are being fully and adequately implemented by the school?	Yes
39. Has the Board identified any aspects of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and/or its implementation that require further improvement?	No
40. Has the Board put in place an action plan containing appropriate timelines to address those aspects of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and/or its implementation that have been identified as requiring further improvement?	No
41. Has the Board ensured that any areas for improvement that were identified in any previous review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement have been adequately addressed?	N/A

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Principal

## Notification regarding the Board of Management’s review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

To: The Parents Association/Parents of Lismullen N.S.

The Board of Management of Lismullen N.S. wishes to inform you that:

- The Board of Management’s annual review of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement was completed at the Board meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2024.
- This review was conducted in accordance with the “Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement” published on the Department’s ‘website [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date -----

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date -----

Principal

I have received and read a copy of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2024.

Name	Signature	Date
Violet Molloy		
Aoife O'Halloran		
Darina Buchanan		
Jean Flanagan		
Michelle Quirke		
Jenny Dempsey		
Angela Lyons		
Fiona Finnegan		
Niall Gillic		
Pamela Downey		
Aoife Galligan		
Pamela McGuinness		
Audrey Murray		
Shauna Kinsella		
Pamela Brady		
Aoife McNulty		
Paula Tyndall		
Anne Mooney		
Bridget Carroll		
Deirdre O'Dwyer		
Niamh Molyneaux		
Emer Hussey		
Leesa Flynn		
Maria Juhel Bradshaw		