

**Presentation Primary School,
Station Road,
Portarlinton,
Co. Laois**



Presentation Primary School Mission Statement

We endeavour to provide a holistic Catholic education for each child, where respect and care for all, are central values.

Introduction

Presentation Primary School is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class. In addition to its mainstream classes, it has two special classes for children with autism.

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 and Túsla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Presentation Primary 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 Cathal Ruane
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLp) is Mairéad Terry
- 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/employee 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 DES 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 DES and available on the DES 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 Túsla, 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 above named DLP as the “relevant person” (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the 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, 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 attached as an appendix to these procedures.
 - The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school’s website, the DES 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 Túsla 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 April 10th 2018.

Signed _____ Date _____

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed _____ Date _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Appendix 1: Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

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 Presentation Primary School.

List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the measures in place to address risk
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	High	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Supervision by SN ✓ Note required from parents when leaving before school ✓ Infants are released to parents or adults identified to the school. If these adults is to be released on any day, the school must be contacted by an adult by phone, or email. If not been informed of the release, the school will not release the pupils. The school will attempt to contact the guardians to confirm the release. ✓ If a child is being released to a person who is not be provided. A child will not be released to anyone other than a legal guardian. A note from a parent is required.
Break Times for pupils	Med	Risk of harm from other pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Adequate Supervision
School Access	Med	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Back Gate will be locked ✓ Entrance is through the front gate. All visitors must be entered with a copy of the visitor's name and contact details. ✓ All visitors must present a valid ID card.

One to one teaching	Med	Harm by school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Table between tea ✓ Glass panel in doc door is kept open
Sports Coaches	Med	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff will maintain supervision of the ✓ Garda Vetting Pro ✓ Policy & Procedure
Students participating in work experience	Med	Harm by students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Garda Vetting Pro ✓ U/16's are not per Teachers or Work ✓ Where the school that student is be Parental Consent ✓ Work Experience l ✓ Child Safeguardin ✓ Induction by sch
Volunteers / Helpers	Low	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Garda Vetting Pro ✓ Child Safeguardin
Visitors/Guests	Low	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ All visitors and gu visitor pass. ✓ Staff will ensure t visitor pass are ap administrative offi
Swimming	High	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Teachers are in pu necessary. ✓ Staff do not assist exception of child assisted by an SN teacher. ✓ Pupils are supervi area in public cha

Use of toilets in school	Low	Inappropriate behaviour Harm from other children Harm from school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Toilets – one child per classroom. ✓ Only toilets closed and teacher will be present in toilet.
School outings & Sports Matches	High	Harm from other pupils/unknown adults outside the school grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff will maintain supervision of the pupils in the school grounds ✓ Policy and Procedures in place
Open Days/Parents' Day/Grandparents' Day	Low	Harm from adults inside school grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff will maintain supervision of the pupils in the school grounds
School trips involving overnight stay	High	Harm from other pupils or adults outside the school grounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff will maintain supervision of the pupils in the school grounds ✓ Overnight School Trip Policy in place
Changing for sport activities	Med	Harm from other pupils/unknown adults outside the school grounds. Inappropriate Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Policy and procedures in place ✓ Adequate Supervision
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs.	High	Harm by school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Policy on intimate care needs
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint.	Low	Injury to pupils and staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Restraint Policy ✓ Health & Safety Policy ✓ Code of Behaviour
School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	Med	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Garda Vetting Procedures
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	Low	Harm to Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Administration of Medicine Policy ✓ Training provided ✓ Trained First Aiders

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ First Aid kits available ✓ First Aid is administered ✓ Defibrillators available
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Med	Harm to pupil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Code of Behaviour ✓ Anti Bullying Policy ✓ School implemented
Recruitment of school personnel including - <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 	Low	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Child Safeguarding available to all staff ✓ Staff to view Tusla training offered by ✓ Vetting Procedure
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	High	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Child Safeguarding available to all staff ✓ DLP & DDLP to attend ✓ All Staff to view Tusla online training offered ✓ BOM records all reports
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	High	Non-teaching of same	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ School implemented

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.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on *10th April 2018*. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed _____ Date _____

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed _____ Date _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management