



Reenascreena N.S.
Reenascreena, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork. P85 XE17
Roll Number: 17765E
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Child Safeguarding Statement

Reenascreena NS 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 \(revised 2023\)](#), the [Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities associated with Recognised Schools 2023](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the board of management of Reenascreena NS has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The board of management of Reenascreena NS has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)* and the *Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities associated with Recognised Schools 2023* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) **is Eimear O'Donovan (Principal)**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Colm O'Mahony (Deputy Principal)**
- 4 The Relevant Person is Eimear O'Donovan
(The relevant person is one who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. This person can also be the DLP)
- 5 The Board of Management of Reenascreena NS recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school and boarding 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 board of management will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The board of management 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 and care of their children; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

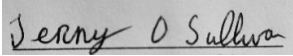
6 The following procedures/measures are in place:


- 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/boarding facility, the board of management/management authority adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)*, the relevant procedures set out in the *Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities associated with Recognised Schools 2023* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school/boarding facility staff which are published on the gov.ie.
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the board of management 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 gov.ie.
- 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 board of management -
 - Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school 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)* and the *Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities associated with Recognised Schools 2023* including, in the case of registered teachers who are mandated persons, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
- There is a procedure in place for maintaining a list of mandated persons. 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 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 website, gov.ie or will be made available on request by the school.

- 7 This statement has been published on the school 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 March 18th 2018

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the board of management on September 24th 2024

Signed: 
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: 
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 24/9/2024

Date: 24/9/2024

For information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed or to request a copy of the statement, please contact the Principal by phone 023 8848000 or email principal@reenascreenans.ie

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment of any potential harm

List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	High	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff DLP& DDLP to attend Oide face to face training All Staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by OIDE BOM records all records of staff and board training
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Med	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Arrival and dismissal supervised by Teachers
One to one teaching	Med	Harm by school personnel	Open doors Table between teacher and pupil Glass in window
Classroom teaching	Med	Harm by school personnel Bullying	Normal supervision by teachers Glass panels in doors Anti-Bullying policy
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	High	Harm by school personnel	Supervision by SNA in a 1:1 capacity as per individual's needs Open doors Glass in window
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children • Pupils perceived to be LGBT • Pupils of minority religious faiths 	High	Harm to pupils Harm by school personnel Bullying	Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying policy SPHE programme Professional code of conduct Pupils of other / no faith(s) do not have to study Religion
Toilet areas	High	Inappropriate behaviour	Usage and supervision policy
Recreation breaks for pupils	High	Harm by pupils Bullying	Normal supervision by teachers Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying policy SPHE programme
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Med	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	High	Harm to pupils Harm by school personnel	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff Open doors

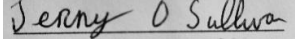
			Table between teacher and pupil Glass in window
LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT	Low	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	High	Injury to pupils and staff	Health and Safety policy Code Of Behaviour
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	High	Harm to pupils	Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying policy SPHE programme
Sports Coaches	Med	Harm to pupils	Visitors must be Garda vetted Normal supervision by teachers
Students participating in work experience	Low	Harm by student	Work experience policy Teacher supervision at all times Child Safeguarding Statement
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	High	Harm by student	Visitors must be Garda vetted Statutory Declaration Child Safeguarding Statement Normal supervision by teachers
Outdoor teaching activities	Med	Harm to pupils	Normal supervision by teachers
Sporting Activities	Med	Harm to pupils	Normal supervision by teachers
School outings	High	Harm to pupils	Normal supervision by teachers including sufficient pupil-teacher ratio
Annual Sports Day	High	Harm to pupils Unfamiliar adults in attendance	Normal supervision by teachers including sufficient pupil-teacher ratio
Fundraising events involving pupils	High	Harm to pupils Unfamiliar adults in attendance	Normal supervision by teachers including sufficient pupil-teacher ratio
School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	High	Harm to pupils	Normal supervision by teachers including sufficient pupil-teacher ratio
Administration of Medicine	High	Harm to pupils Harm by school personnel	Administration of Medicine policy
Administration of First Aid	High	Harm to pupils Harm by school personnel	Administration of First Aid policy
Recruitment of school personnel including - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers • SNAs • Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners 		Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by Oide Vetting Procedures


<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 			Statutory Declarations Normal supervision by teachers including sufficient pupil-teacher ratio
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	High	Bullying	ICT policy Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	High	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	High	Harm to pupils	Written parental permission is obtained when a child enrolls in our school
Use of school premises by other organisation during school day – use of a classroom to the rear of the building by Reenascreena Community Playgroup. They have their own access and bathrooms.	High	Unfamiliar adults on school premises for drop off and collection	Normal supervision by teachers The Playgroup adhere to their own procedures and policies
Online teaching and remote learning	High	Potential for misuse of technology; inappropriate information shared; inadvertent access to unsuitable material when engaging in research; misbehaviour on camera during live lessons	Dealt with in the school's AUP and remote teaching and online learning policy

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 Tuesday September 24th 2024. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: 
 Chairperson of Board of Management
 Date: 24/9/2024

Signed: 
 Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management
 Date: 24/9/2024