



## Scoil Mhuire National School, Rosslare, Co. Wexford

**Principal:** Bobby Kenny      **Board of Management Chairperson:** Fr. James Murphy

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*Acceptance, Appreciation and Achievement for All*

### Mandatory Template 1: Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template

#### **Child Safeguarding Statement (Revised 2023)**

Scoil Mhuire Rosslare is a primary/special/post-primary school providing primary/post-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 [insert school name] 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 **Bobby Kenny**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Anne Marie Carthy**

4 The Relevant Person is

Bobby Kenny

*(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. In a school setting the relevant person shall be the designated liaison person.)*

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-
  - Ø Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
  - Ø Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
  - Ø Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
  - Ø Encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training
  - Ø 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 14/9/23

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 14/9/23

Signed: Fr.James Murphy

Signed: Bobby Kenny

Chairperson of Board of Management

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 14/9/23

Date: 14/9/23

## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

### Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Mhuire Rosslare

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(revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Scoil Mhuire Rosslare

<b>1. List of school activities</b>	<b>2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –</b>	<b>3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -</b>
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff Including substitute personal DLP& DDLP engaged in PDST Training All new staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST Any new training that becomes available will be viewed by existing staff members BOM records all records of staff and board training
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel to a student	School has policy in place for one to one teaching - Glass in door Policies and Procedures Document
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel to a student	Policy on ‘changing clothing and intimate care’ – ‘Policies and Procedures Document’
Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour	Policies and Procedures Document’
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Arrival and dismissal times are communicated to parents at the beginning of each term. ‘Policies and Procedures Document’

Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	Injury to pupils and staff	Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy Supervision – ‘Policies and Procedures Document’ Secured fence around school perimeter (2023)
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place – teacher always present Garda Vetting Procedures followed ‘Policies and Procedures Document’
Students participating in work experience	Harm to primary school student	Teacher always present except where principal permits one to one or small groups work Work Experience Policy Child Safeguarding Statement given to all Garda Vetting Procedures in place
Recreation breaks for pupils	Injury to pupils and staff	Yard supervision by teaching and non-teaching staff Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy Fence around school perimeter (2023) St Aid and toilet – ‘Policies and Procedures’
Outdoor teaching activities	Injury to pupils	Garda Vetting Procedures followed Teacher always present Ratio of teacher/adult to children - 1:10 in general Flight Risk – procedures in place Toileting issues - ‘Policies and Procedures Document’ Secured fence around school perimeter (2023)
Sports Outings	Injury to pupils	Garda Vetting Procedures in place Teacher always present at venue Specific toilet/intimate care needs - ‘Policies and Procedures Document’ Parent/Guardians giving lifts are Garda Vetted
School outings	Injury or harm to students	Desired: 1:10 supervision (1 adult to every 10 students) Emergency contact lists go with every teacher Garda Vetting Procedures followed where necessary List of medical needs go with teacher First Aid box provided Specific Toileting/intimate care needs – ‘Policies and Procedures’ Flight Risk – Policies and Procedures Document’ in place

Use of toilet/changing	Injury or harm to students	Policy on 'Changing,' in place – Policies and Procedures Document
Annual Sports Day	Injury and Harm to students	Garda Vetting for helpers Toileting – Toilet Breaks Teacher supervision
Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Injury/harm to students	Desired 1:10 supervision ratio generally – see 'Policies and Procedures' Emergency Contacts List if necessary Medical needs list if necessary First Aid Box if necessary
School transport arrangements	Injury/harm to students/staff/volunteers	Teacher always present on bus trips Ratio of 1:10 in general
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	Harm to students	Administration of Medication Policy Trained first aiders on staff 'Policy and Procedures Document'
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Incidents not addressed. Policies not adhered to.	Anti-Bullying Policy AUP Policy Code of Behaviour Policy SPHE Curriculum Implementation Supervision-Policies and Procedures Document
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm to student	Teacher always present Child Safeguarding Statement Garda Vetting Procedures followed where necessary
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants</li> <li>● Ukrainian pupils</li> <li>● Members of the Traveller community</li> <li>● Pupils of minority religious faiths</li> <li>● Children in care</li> <li>● SEN pupils</li> </ul>	Harm to student	Code of Behaviour Policy Anti-Bullying Policy SPHE Policy and programmes
Recruitment of school personnel including -	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teachers</li> <li>● SNA's</li> <li>● Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners</li> <li>● Sports coaches</li> <li>● External Tutors/Guest Speakers</li> <li>● Volunteers/Parents in school activities</li> <li>● Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours</li> <li>● Visitors/contractors present during after school activities</li> </ul>	Harm to students	<p>Staff to view Tusla training module &amp; any other online training offered by PDST</p> <p>Garda Vetting Procedures followed</p> <p>Policy for Volunteers and Work Experience Students in place</p>
Use of Information and Communication Technology for school work by pupils in school and at home	Bullying Exposure to inappropriate material	<p>ICT policy</p> <p>Remote Learnig Policy</p> <p>AUP Policy</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Electronic Device/Mobile phone Policy</p> <p>SPHE Policy and Programmes</p>
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Inappropriate use of images	<p>Permission sought on enrolment</p> <p>Reminders sent to Parents/Guardians of using images taken at school events</p>
After school use of school premises by other organisations	Injury to students	If working with students in after school activities – Garda Vetting Procedures for those people adhered to
Altar servers	Harm to children	<p>Altar Server's Room in church – Diocesan Regulations</p> <p>Never one child on their own</p> <p>Parent/Guardian permission sought for children to alter serve</p>
After-school Rackard League Training and matches	Harm to children	<p>Teachers from the three schools co-operate to provide sufficient personnel for training and supervision purposes.</p> <p>Parents/Guardians notified of completion time of training/matches.</p> <p>Students make own arrangements for delivery to venue for training when after school hours.</p> <p>Students are transported to Rackard League matches held during school hours by bus/Garda vetted parents.</p>
Swimming lessons	Harm to children	<p>Desired: 1:10 supervision (1 adult to every 10 students)</p> <p>Member of teaching staff present in changing rooms at all times</p> <p>Emergency contact lists go with every teacher</p>



		Garda Vetting Procedures followed where necessary List of medical needs go with teacher First Aid box provided Specific Toileting/intimate care needs – ‘Policies and Procedures’ Flight Risk – Policies and Procedures Document’ in place
Remote Learning	Harm to children	Anti-Bullying Policy AUP Policy Code of Behaviour Policy SPHE Curriculum Implementation Policy and Procedures document- ‘Online/Remote Learning’

**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.