

Notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

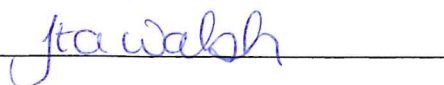
To: The Patron of Scoil Íosagáin Ballybunion

The Board of Management of Scoil Íosagáin 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 07.05.2025
- This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the gov.ie website

Signed:  Date: 07.05.2025

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed: 


Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

To: The Parents Association

The Board of Management of Scoil Íosagáin 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 07.05.2025
- This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the gov.ie website

Signed:  Date 07.05.2025

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed:  Date 07.05.2025

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Mandatory Template 2: Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

The [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools \(revised 2023\)](#) require that the Board of Management must undertake a review of its Child Safeguarding Statement and that the following checklist shall be used for this purpose. **The review must be completed every year or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the Child Safeguarding Statement refers.** Undertaking an annual review will also ensure that a school also meets its statutory obligation under section 11(8) of the Children First Act 2015, to review its Child Safeguarding Statement every two years.

The checklist is designed as an aid to conducting this review and is not intended as an exhaustive list of the issues to be considered. Individual Boards of Management shall include other items in the checklist that are of relevance to the school in question.

As part of the overall review process, Boards of Management should also assess relevant school policies, procedures, practices and activities vis a vis their adherence to the principles of best practice in child protection and welfare as set out in the school's Child Safeguarding Statement, the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First (2019) and the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)*.

	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 previously but none available this year
8. Has the Deputy DLP attended available child protection training?	Yes previously but none available this year
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?	DLP continues to work on this
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?*	N/A
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 (additional filing cabinets required)
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 (available on our website)
27. Has the Board ensured that the patron has been provided with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	Yes (emailed)
28. Has the Board ensured that the school's Child Safeguarding Statement is available to parents on request?	Yes (available on website and given to new parents in Prospectus annually)
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 (See sub padlet for

	temporary staff)
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?	Yes (Principal has ongoing concerns in relation to substitute teacher recruitment for short term substitutes)
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..info sent to Chairperson of PA
37. Has the Board sought the feedback of pupils in relation to the school's child safeguarding arrangements?	June 2023, feeling safe in school survey. Ongoing Bi Cinealta work throughout 2024/25 school year
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?	AUP was reviewed. Continued work with substituted teachers and consideration in relation to same
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?	Yes
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?	Yes

*In schools where the ETB is the employer, the responsibility for meeting the employer's requirements rests with the ETB concerned. In such cases, this question should be completed following consultation with the ETB.

Signed:  Date 07.05.2025

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed *Jawalsk* Date 07.05.2025

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Note: Where a school is undertaking its first review, references in this checklist to the “last review” shall be taken to refer to the date on which the Child Safeguarding Statement was first put in place.



Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Íosagáin 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 Scoil Íosagáin 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 Ita Walsh
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Catriona Comerford
- 4 The Relevant Person is Ita Walsh
- 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 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 May 7th 2025. This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on May 7th 2025

Signed: 

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: 

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 07/05/2025

Date: 07/05/2025

**Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment
(of any potential harm)**

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 (revised 2023), the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Scoil Íosagáin Ballybunion

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	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff (display in main hall)</p> <p>DLP& DDLP to attend PDST face to face training (as available) requested training Sept 2023 and none was offered. Requested again in 2024, none offered.</p> <p>All Staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST. New staff members asked to familiarise themselves with our policies and procedures and to engage with TUSLA training modules</p> <p>School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015</p>
One to one teaching	Med	Harm by school personnel	<p>BOM records all records of staff and board training (from February 2018 onwards)</p> <p>School has procedure in place for one to one teaching Table between teacher and pupil Glass in window or door to remain open</p>
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	High	Harm by school personnel	<p>Policy on intimate care Code of conduct for teachers Agreed code of conduct for SNAs</p>

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Toilet areas	High	Inappropriate behaviour Safety concerns around bathroom facilities	Supervision policy Code of Behaviour Health and Safety Policy
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Med	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full on a 2 yearly cycle. SPHE is carried out in all classes on Monday afternoons and Tuesday afternoons as per SPHE policy CM records same
LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT	Low	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy/ Changing to Bí Cineálta policy from Sept 2025 Code of Behaviour Seek advice from NEPS where necessary ¹
List of School Activities		The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Med	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	As per supervision policy
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	High	Injury to pupils and staff	Professional code of conduct Health & Safety Policy Code of Behaviour Supervision Policy Written consent from individual parents as appropriate
Sports Coaches	Med	Harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place
Students participating in work experience	Low	Harm by student	Work experience Policy Child Safeguarding Statement.
Recreation breaks for pupils	High	Harm from other children	Supervision policy Health and Safety Policy Code of Behaviour

¹ Please note, in the academic year 2024/25 Scoil Íosagáin Ballybunion did not have access to a full time NEPS psychologist. We have not been informed if this will continue for 25/26

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Classroom teaching	Med	Harm from teacher, SNA or other students	Professional code of conduct for teachers Correct recruitment procedures Vetting process Anti Bullying Policy Changing to Bí Cineálta policy from Sept 2025 Code of Behaviour
One-to-one teaching	High	Harm by school personnel	Agreed procedure for one to one teaching-table between teacher and pupil, glass in window or door to remain open Professional code of conduct for teachers
Outdoor teaching activities	Med	Harm to pupils	Professional code of conduct for teachers Code of Behaviour Anti Bullying Policy Changing to Bí Cineálta policy from Sept 2025 Visiting teachers policy as appropriate
Sporting Activities	Med	Harm to pupils	Professional code of conduct for teachers Code of Behaviour Supervision Policy
List of School Activities		The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
School outings	High	Harm to pupils	Professional code of conduct for teachers Code of Behaviour Supervision Policy Critical incident policy
Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools	High	Harm to Pupils	Toileting and Intimate policy in place Supervision policy
Annual Sports Day	Med	Harm to Pupils	Professional Code of Conduct for teachers Code of Behaviour Supervision policy
Fundraising events involving pupils	Med	Harm to Pupils	Code of Behaviour Supervision Policy
Use of off-site facilities for school activities (swimming)	High	Harm to pupils	Code of Behaviour Supervision Policy

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				Toileting and Intimate care policy Critical incident policy Regular contact with pool staff
School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	High	Harm to pupils Harm to escort and/or driver		Code of Behaviour Correct recruitment procedures GARDA vetting
Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school	Med/High	Harm to pupils		Code of Behaviour Anti Bullying policy Changing to Bí Cineálta policy from Sept 2025 Teacher and SNA agreed code of conduct in line with church's own child protection safety statement
List of School Activities		The School has identified the following Risk of Harm		The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required	High	Harm to Pupils Harm to Staff		Code of Behaviour Professional Code of Conduct for Teachers
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	High	Harm to Pupils		Administration of Medicines Policy Health and Safety Policy Indemnity form
Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Low	Ensuring SPHE curriculum is fully implemented over a 2year period		SPHE Policy CM
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	High	Harm to Pupils		Code of Behaviour including Anti Bullying Policy Changing to Bí Cineálta policy from Sept 2025 SPHE Policy Regular CPD for staff (as available)
Training of school personnel in child protection matters	Med-High	Ensuring that all staff are up to date on CP issues, that they are appropriately		All staff have reviewed TUSLA online resources and have completed the necessary assessment obtaining

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Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Med-High	vetted and that they are aware of how to report potential CP issues	a minimum of 90% in the assessment, certificates are available in the office. These are valid until 2025 DLP and DDLP attend all training provided as it arises Staff keep CP at the forefront of all discussion and have at least one training/review session per year Visiting teacher Policy Supervision Policy Professional Code of Conduct for Teachers
<p>List of School Activities</p> <p>Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants • Members of the Traveller community • Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children • Pupils perceived to be LGBT • Pupils of minority religious faiths • Children in care • Children on CPNS • Children with special needs (particularly children with ASD) 	High	<p>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</p> <p>Harm to pupils</p>	<p>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</p> <p>Code of Behaviour, including anti bullying policy Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers Consistent communication strategies for parents to address any concerns Liaison with NEPS psychologist for advice as and when situation arises</p>
<p>Recruitment of school personnel including -</p> <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 	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff</p> <p>Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST</p> <p>Vetting Procedures</p> <p>Principal to attend Recruitment Training when it arises (most recent attendance May 22nd 2024.)</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitors/contractors present during after school activities 			
<p>Use of school premises by other organisation during school day- Construction workers and their associated contractors for the duration of the school build project</p>	Med/High	<p>Harm to pupils Harm to staff Harm to the wider community</p>	<p>A PSDP has been appointed to ensure that necessary health and safety precautions are taken by parties entering the school premises (site signage etc)</p> <p>Supervision policy in place</p>
<p>List of School Activities</p>		<p>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</p>	<p>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</p>
<p>Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school</p>	Med	<p>Bullying Online abuse/predator</p>	<p>ICT policy/Digital Learning Plan AUP Anti-Bullying Policy Changing to Bí Cineálta policy from Sept 2025 Code of Behaviour</p>
<p>Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.</p>	Med	<p>Harm to Pupils</p>	<p>Code of Behaviour Professional Code of Conduct for teachers Mobile Phone Policy</p>
<p>Students participating in work experience in the school</p>	High	<p>Harm by Pupils Harm to Pupils</p>	<p>Work experience policy Safety Statement Liaison with secondary school to ensure correct procedures RE vetting etc are followed</p>
<p>Student teachers undertaking training placement in school</p>	Med	<p>Harm to Pupils</p>	<p>Work experience policy Safety Statement Professional Code of Conduct for Teachers Liaison with colleges to ensure correct procedures RE vetting etc are followed</p>
<p>Use of video/photography/other media to record school events</p>	Med/high	<p>CP issues</p>	<p>Communication Policy Registration/Enrolment Form (Parental requests)</p>

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After school use of school premises by other organisations	Low	Harm to pupils	Follow CPSMA guidelines RE insurance, CP, Garda Vetting
DEIS Summer camp	Med/High	Harm to pupils Harm to staff CP issues	Code of professional conduct for teachers Correct recruitment procedures Necessary policies in place (CP, H&S, etc) Code of Behaviour Vetting Process
School Transport Service/Escort	High	Harm to pupils Harm to staff CP issues	Code of conduct for ancillary staff Correct recruitment procedures Policies in place (Health and Safety, Child Protection, Critical Incident Policy) Relevant insurance and correct procedures with Bus Eireann (This arrangement will be ending in June 2022 but could arise again in the future)

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 (revised 2023)

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 May 7th 2025. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed:  Sean Costelloe Date 07.05.2025

Signed:  Ita Walsh Date: 07.05.2025

Chairperson, Board of Management

Principal/Secretary, Board of Management