



New Ross Educate Together National School

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Roll no 20458m

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

New Ross Educate Together National school 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 New Ross Educate Together National 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 (revised 2023)* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Rachel Lyng
- 3 Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Lorraine Lawloe
- 4 The Relevant Person is Rachel Lyng
(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-
 - 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 03/10/23

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management in January 2025

Signed: 

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 3rd Nov 2025

Signed: 

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 3/11/25

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of New Ross Educate Together National School

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 New Ross Educate Together National School.

School Activity	The school has identified the following potential risk of harm to children in relation to the following areas	L-M-H Risk	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment	
			Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Further action required ...
Daily Arrival and Dismissal of Pupils	Different People Collecting a Child	L	Arrival and Dismissal Policy Class Folders - List of People who can collect the child	Folder in Office for Substitutes
	Class left unattended due to late arrivals teacher answering door.	L	Attendance and Punctuality Strategy Late Card – Recorded on Aladdin Yard & Supervision Policy	
	Use of Appropriate Entrance	L	Arrival and Dismissal Policy	Communication to parents at start of school year
	Late Collection	L	Arrival and Dismissal Policy Yard & Supervision Policy	Recording on Aladdin
	Early Leaving	L	Arrival and Dismissal Policy	Student sign out at office
	Flight Risk of pupils- Gate left open by someone exiting	L	Arrival and Dismissal Policy Yard & Supervision Policy	Reminders to parents throughout the school year
Break Times	Running to the Line	M	Yard & Supervision Policy	
	Children sent inside at break time if feeling very unwell or in need of first aid	L	Yard & Supervision Policy Accidents and Injuries Policy	Child accompanied by a peer
	Wet days	L	Yard & Supervision Policy	

School Activity	The school has identified the following potential risk of harm to children in relation to the following areas	L-M-H Risk	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment	
			Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Further action required ...
	Blind Spots on Yard	H	Yard & Supervision Policy	<i>Line Marking/ Chain Barrier</i>
	Using toilet during break time	L	Yard & Supervision Policy	

Classroom Teaching	Teacher needing to leave the classroom for various reasons- using the toilet, answering the door	M	Health Safety Statement; children must remain seated	
	Accessing inappropriate material when using ICT	L	Acceptable Use Policy ICT Policy including Use of Mobile Devices	Accessibility settings on Tablets/ IPads
	Students participating in work experience in the school	L	Teaching Practice & Work Experience Policy Garda Vetting Policy Child Safeguarding Statement Volunteer Agreement	
	Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	L	Teaching Practice & Work Experience Policy Garda Vetting Policy Child Safeguarding Statement Volunteer Agreement	
Classroom Teaching contd.	One-to-one teaching	M	S.E.T. Policy Health & Safety Statement Yard & Supervision Policy Child Safeguarding Statement	
	Group Teaching;	M	SEN Policy Health & Safety Statement Yard & Supervision Policy Child Safeguarding Statement	
	Disclosures from children during SPHE lessons	L	Child Safeguarding Policy SPHE Plan Stay Safe Programme	
	Volunteers/ Sports Coaches/ PDST Advisors/ Curricular Visitors/ Inspectorate	L	Child Safeguarding Statement Visitor and Volunteer Policy Health & Safety Statement	List of Garda Vetted Persons on Display

School Activity	The school has identified the following potential risk of harm to children in relation to the following areas	L-M-H Risk	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment	
			Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Further action required ...
	Use of video/photography/other media	M	Filming & Photography Policy ICT Policy Mobile Device Policy	
	Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	M	Health and Safety Statement Code of Positive Behaviour General Conduct Practices/Procedures	
	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as • Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants • Members of the Traveller community • LGBT children • Pupils perceived to be LGBT • Pupils of minority religious faiths • Children in care • Children on Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) • Families availing of homeless services	L	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Positive Behaviour Learn Together Plan SPHE Plan Educate Together ethos	
	Flight Risk – Fire Escape Exit	L	Child Safeguarding Statement CCTV Policy Yard and Supervision Policy Continuum of Support Plans	Min 2 adults present in main building during school day
External Organisation Visitors e.g. NEPS/ HSE	Garda Vetting	M	Child Safeguarding Statement Visitor and Volunteer Policy Garda Vetting Policy	Shared Vetting Declarations
	One on One work with the Child	L	Child Safeguarding Statement Visitor and Volunteer Policy	

School Activity	The school has identified the following potential risk of harm to children in relation to the following areas	L-M-H Risk	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment	Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Further action required ...
	Divulging of Sensitive Information	L		Child Safeguarding Statement Data Protection Policy	
Outdoor Teaching	Flight Risk of Students	L		Yard & Supervision Policy Continuum of Support Plans	
	Behaviour	M		S.E.T Policy Code of Positive Behaviour Yard & Supervision Policy	
	Visibility of Students & Teachers	L		Yard & Supervision Policy	
	Administration of First Aid	L		Sun Safety in Health & Safety Statement Accidents and Injury Policy	
Sporting Activities	Use of video/photography/other media	M		Filming & Photography Policy ICT Policy including the Use of Mobile Devices	
	Administration of First Aid	L		Yard & Supervision Policy Health and Safety Statement Accident and Injury Policy	
	Swimming	M		Child Safeguarding Statement Yard & Supervision Policy/ Health and Safety Statement	<i>Sharing of Vetting Declarations</i>
Sporting Activities contd.	Vetting of external coaches	L		Child Safeguarding Statement Garda Vetting Policy Volunteer and Visitor Policy	<i>Sharing of Vetting Declarations</i>
	School Sports Day	L		Yard & Supervision Policy Volunteers and Visitors Policy	
	Divulging of potentially sensitive Information	L		Data Protection Policy	

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			Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Further action required ...
School Outings	Administration of First Aid	L	Yard & Supervision Policy Health and Safety Statement Accident and Injury Policy	
	Behaviour	L	Code of Behaviour SEN Policy	
	Supervision	L	Yard & Supervision Policy	
	Garda Vetting of Volunteers	L	Child Safeguarding Statement Garda Vetting Policy	
	Use of off-site facilities for school activities e.g. swimming pool	L	Yard & Supervision Policy	
	Divulging of potentially sensitive Information	L	Data Protection Policy Child Safeguarding Statement	

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			Further action required ...
School Outings contd.	Transporting children	L	School Tour Policy Child Safeguarding Statement A staff member will not transport a pupil alone in a personal car unless it is deemed to be a health and safety necessity and with prior permission from the principal or deputy principal. Buses or taxis will be hired for planned excursions, and staff and parent vehicles will not be used
General Welfare	Lack of healthy lunch or insufficient lunch Children presenting with social, emotional, behavioural or medical needs in school	L M	Healthy Eating Policy Continuum of Support Procedures Child Safeguarding Statement Assessment and Recording Policy Yard and Supervision Policy Child Safeguarding Statement Communications and Confidentiality Policy

School Activity	The school has identified the following potential risk of harm to children in relation to the following areas	L-M-H Risk	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment	
			Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Further action required ...
Parents Association	Late drop-offs, early collection, late pick up, attendance	M	Arrivals and Dismissals Policy Child Safeguarding Statement Punctuality and Attendance Strategy	
	Images of children may be used inappropriately or children's identity may be revealed	M	Filming and Photography Policy Visitors and Volunteers Policy	<i>Children must be under parental supervision at all times</i>
	A visitor attending an event or connected to an organisation renting space in the school could cause harm to a child	L	Rental of School Premises Policy Visitors and Volunteers Policy	<i>Children must be under parental supervision at all times</i>
Prefab Classroom	Children moving to and from Prefab Classroom	M	Yard and Supervision Policy Child Safeguarding Statement Code of Behaviour General Behaviour	<i>Child to accompany peer at all times Only to occur when absolutely necessary</i>
	Late arrival to Prefab Classroom	M	Attendance and Punctuality Strategy Child Safeguarding Statement	<i>All children must report to main school building and then be escorted by parent/guardian to prefab classroom</i>
	Security of Prefab Classroom	M	Child Safeguarding Statement Working Alone Policy	<i>Prefab locked when unoccupied at all times</i>
	Flight Risk – Fire Escape Exit	L	Child Safeguarding Statement Continuum of Support Plans	

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			Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Further action required ...
External Car Parking	Children Travelling to and from school	H	Car Park at GAA- Car Parking Steward Regular Communication (reminders) to parents of appropriate parking in line with road safety laws Road Safety Week	
Board of Management	Recruitment of school personnel including - -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 After school use of school premises by other organisations including Parents' Association	M	Visitors & Volunteers Policy Garda Vetting Policy Communications and Confidentiality Policy	
Board of Management.contd		L	Rental of School Premises Policy Visitors and Volunteers Policy Garda Vetting Policy	PA insurance or BOM member onsite for events
	Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	H	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff DLP& DDLP training All Staff complete Tusla online training biannually	BOM records all records of staff and board training Yearly Review of Training

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			Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document	Further action required ...
	Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	M	SPHE School Plan	<i>School requires parental permission to teach sensitive RSE topics permission slips are sent home each year prior to teaching.</i>
	Data Protection – sensitive information sharing	M	Data Protection Policy Data Protection Training	
	Children access inappropriate content. Cyber Bullying	M	Acceptable Use Policy Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy	<i>Children are supervised while on devices.</i>
School is closed and children are remote learning	Children do not have the same opportunities to access learning as their peers. Children are in a situation where they cannot make disclosures due to monitoring	M	Acceptable Use Policy Remote Learning Plan Child Safeguarding Statement Anti-Bullying Policy	<i>If possible, the school can provide some devices to access remote learning for children who need them Staff to have as much online contact with children as possible and</i>

School Activity	The school has identified the following potential risk of harm to children in relation to the following areas	L-M-H Risk	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment Required Policy, Guidance and Procedure document Further action required ...
DEIS Summer Camp Activities			<i>provide support to the family. Children have opportunities to speak to the teacher via Google Meet, Google Classroom and Seesaw.</i>
	All situations previously covered in the school day apply here also. DLP and or DDLP not part of camp staff Transporting children	H H H	Child safeguarding statement and Risk Assessment Code of Behaviour School DLP or DDLP to be involved in camps Tour Policy All school policies applied in risk assessment so far as children will be doing normal school activities <i>BoM to ratify the new addition to this Risk Assessment All personnel within the camp must have completed safeguarding training</i>

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 reviewed by the Board of Management in January 2025. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed CSZS Date 25/10/25

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed Rachel Hyney Date 22/10/25

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

