



Derryooper National School

Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment

Roll Number: 17547R

Patron: Most Rev. Michael Duignan, Bishop of Clonfert

Chairperson: Fr. Kieran O'Rourke P.P.

Phone: 0860483344

Principal: Pdraig Lohan

Child Safeguarding Statement

Derryooper National School is committed to safeguarding children. In accordance with the requirements of the **Children First Act 2015**, **Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017**, and the **Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2023**, our school has developed and implemented the following child safeguarding statement.

1. Principles and Commitment to Child Safety

Our school is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment where:

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children have the right to be protected from harm, neglect, abuse, and exploitation.
- Policies and procedures are in place to protect children from risk and harm.
- All school personnel comply with child protection procedures and reporting obligations.
- The school fosters open communication with children, staff, and parents to ensure the safety and well-being of all pupils.

2. Risk Assessment

In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015, the Board of Management has carried out an assessment of potential risks to children while in the care of the school and has outlined the measures in place to mitigate those risks.

Potential Risks and Safeguarding Measures

Potential Risk Identified	School Safeguarding Measures in Place
Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children	Supervision Policy in place and reviewed annually. Staff assigned specific supervision duties.
Risk of harm from school personnel	Garda vetting of all staff and volunteers. Child Protection Training for all staff.
Risk of bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy and Code of Behaviour implemented and monitored.
Risk of inappropriate use of ICT	Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) in place. Restricted access to online content.
Risk of harm during school trips or external activities	School Tour Policy and adequate staff-to-student ratios maintained.
Risk of harm due to inappropriate contact with adults	Visitors' Policy requiring all visitors to be signed in and accompanied.
Risk of harm from external coaches or volunteers	Vetting and supervision of all external personnel engaged with students.

3. Child Safeguarding Policies and Procedures

Derryoover National School has the following procedures in place:

- **Child Protection Policy**, in line with DES guidelines.
- **Procedures for Reporting Child Protection Concerns** to the Designated Liaison Person (DLP).
- **Supervision Policy** ensuring children are supervised during school hours and activities.
- **Anti-Bullying Policy**, aligned with DES requirements.
- **Code of Behaviour**, ensuring positive discipline and respect for all students.
- **Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)** for responsible internet and ICT usage.
- **Health & Safety Policy**, ensuring a safe school environment.
- **Recruitment and Vetting Procedures** in compliance with national guidelines.
- **Procedures for the Administration of Medicine** to ensure safe handling of medical needs.

4. Designated Liaison Persons (DLPs)

- **DLP:** Pdraig Lohan, Principal
- **Deputy DLP:** (To be confirmed by Board of Management)

All concerns regarding child protection should be reported to the DLP, who will follow the procedures outlined in the **Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2023**.

5. Implementation and Review

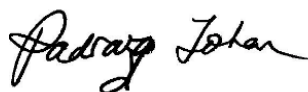
- This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually by the Board of Management.
- The school community, including staff and parents, will be informed of any updates or amendments.
- The statement is available upon request from the school office and is published on the school website.

6. Ratification and Signatures

Signed:

Chairperson, Board of Management: _____

Principal, Derryoover National School:



Date:

19 February 2025

Appendices

Appendix 1: Mandatory Template 1 - Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Risk	Mitigation Strategies
Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision	Implemented Supervision Policy. Duty roster for all break times.
Risk of inappropriate communication with students	Staff Code of Conduct in place. No unsupervised one-on-one meetings.
Risk of harm from online exposure	Internet Safety Policy in place. Supervised use of technology.

Appendix 2: Mandatory Template 2 - Notification Regarding the Board of Management's Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

Notification of Review

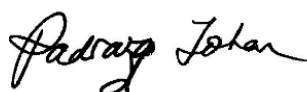
The Board of Management of **Derryoover National School** wishes to inform all stakeholders that:

- The annual review of the **Child Safeguarding Statement** has been completed.
- Policies and procedures have been updated to align with **Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2023**.
- The review report is available upon request.

Signed:

Chairperson, Board of Management: _____

Principal, Derryoover National School:



Date:

19 February 2025

Appendix 3: Mandatory Template 3 - Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

Checklist for Child Safeguarding Review

Checklist Item	Completed
Has the Board of Management formally adopted a Child Safeguarding Statement?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Have all school personnel completed the required child protection training?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Are procedures in place for handling child protection concerns?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the statement publicly available to parents and school community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

This policy was adopted by the **Board of Management of Derryoover National School** on **(Date)** and will be reviewed annually in accordance with **Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015**.