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Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

For:	St. Joseph's N.S.,	
At:	Rathwire, Killucan, Co. Westmeath, N91E402.	

This school is a: (tick appropriate) ☒ primary ☐ post-primary ☐ special school

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) and 2025, Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024), the board of management has adopted the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment set out in this document.

The board of management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the department's Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Name of the Designated Liaison Person (DLP):

Shane Moloney

Name of the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP/DDLP):

Gráinne Kelly

In the absence of the DLP, the Deputy DLP shall assume responsibilities of the DLP

Name of Relevant Person

Shane Moloney

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

0449374591	stjosephs@rathwirens.ie
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Under the Children First Act 2015 Relevant Person means a person who is appointed by a provider of a relevant service to be the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement. This person is nominated by the board of management to manage and provide oversight of child protection concerns/allegations of child abuse.

Name of Chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the Chief Executive or their delegate:

Father Stan Deegan

In the event that both DLP and DDLP are absent and unavailable, and where there is no staff member formally acting in their role, the chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the chief executive or their delegate, assumes the role of DLP.

The board of management recognises that child protection and safeguarding permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In all of these, 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 happening to children and protect members of school personnel from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of child abuse.
- ☐ Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.
- ☐ Fully respect confidentiality requirements as set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 in dealing with child protection matters.
- ☐ Adhere to the above principles in relation to any vulnerable adult.

Procedures and Measures in Place

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance 2017*, and *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024)*, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

> Procedure for the Management of Allegations of Abuse or Misconduct against School Personnel Relating to a Child Availing of Our Service

~ Where any member of school personnel is the subject of any investigation in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in relation to a child attending the school, the school is required to adhere to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.

> Procedure for the Safe Recruitment and Selection of School Personnel to Work With Children

~ The school is required to adhere to the requirements of the Vetting Act. The selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, requires the school to adhere 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 Youth and available on the gov.ie website and as outlined in Chapter 10 of the procedures.

~ A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons.

> Procedure for Provision of and Access to Child Safeguarding Training and Information, Including the Identification of the Occurrence of Harm

~ The school provides information and training to members of school personnel in relation to the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) as follows:

~ The school has provided each member of school personnel, including any new members of school personnel, (employees and volunteers, board of management members, student teachers and those on work experience) with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

~ The school ensures that members of school personnel have availed of relevant training and completed child protection training.

~ The school encourages board of management members to avail of any relevant training and complete child protection training.

~ The board of management ensures that records of all staff and board member child protection training are maintained.

> Procedure for the Reporting of Child Protection or Welfare Concerns to Tusla

~ All members of school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, in relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla. Mandated reporting applies to all registered teachers and any other mandated person who may be employed by the school, for example a chaplain or nurse. A full list of those people who are mandated persons is set out in Appendix 1 procedures.

> Procedure for Maintaining a List of the Persons (if any) in the Relevant Service Who Are Mandated Persons

~ There is a procedure in place to maintain a list of mandated persons. Schools may on occasion employ additional staff who are mandated by virtue of their profession. This list will include all registered teachers and identify additional employees that are not registered teachers.

> Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person (In schools this person is the DLP)

~ There is a procedure in place for appointing a relevant person.

The various procedures referred to in this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, the board of management 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.

Note: The procedures and measures in place outlined above, are not intended as exhaustive list. Individual boards of management shall also include in this section such other procedures and measures that are of relevance to the school.

This statement has been published on the school's website or will be made available on request by the school. It has been provided to all members of school personnel, the parents' association (if any), the patron and parents. A copy of this statement and risk assessment will be made available to Tusla and the department if requested.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1.	Child protection Training of School Personnel	Indicators of harm /abuse not being recognised by school personnel • Harm / Abuse not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer / parent person while child participating in school activities • Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in school activities • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	The Provision of information and training for all school personnel The BOM : • Provides all school personnel with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment. • Requires that all school personnel sign the 'Acceptance of St. Joseph's N.S. Child Protection Safeguarding Statement • Ensures the DEY child protection procedures are made available to all school personnel • Requires that all school personnel, mandated and non-mandated, adhere to the DEY Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (2025) • Ensures staff avail of relevant training -a) the DLP /DDLp must avail of training provided by a professional organisation - b) All school personnel are required to complete the online Tusla training and provide a copy of the certificate of completion to the DLP - c) The first staff meeting of each September will be utilised on an annual basis to address the DEY child protection • Encourages the board of management members to avail of relevant training • Maintains records of all staff and board member training
2.	Record Keeping	Risk of Sensitive Information not being shared with DLP / DDLp	Record Keeping • All school personnel are made aware of the record keeping

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		as required • Risk of records of a sensitive nature not being properly secured and treated in confidence • Risk of loss of records of a sensitive nature	procedures that are in place in our school. • All child protection records are kept in a secure location and are treated with the strictest of confidence. Related School Policy/Procedure: Data Protection Policy
3.	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Risk of harm to pupils by another child or an adult • Risk of Inadequate supervision	Teachers arrive at school at 9.10am. Supervision is provided from 9.10am to 9.20am in the yard. Parents are asked not to drop children off before 9.10am. Buses arrive between 9.10am and 9.20am. Buses run at 1:50pm and 2:50pm in the evening. Parents collect at 2pm and 3pm. They are asked to collect promptly. Where Afterschool classes run until 4pm parents are also asked to collect and leave the premises promptly.
4.	Recreation breaks	Risk of harm to pupils by another child or an adult • Risk of Inadequate supervision • Staff on supervision duty during the arrival, dismissal and recreation breaks for students. • Risk of Inappropriate Behaviour • Risk of Bullying • Risk of pupil being harmed being allowed to leave school with an unsuitable adult or child	Staff are on playground duty during outdoor breaks- Assigned Teachers and SNAs are rostered to ensure appropriate supervision of children during assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets etc. All staff are vetted Related School Policy/Procedure: Supervision Policy/Bi Cineálta
5.	Classroom teaching	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of allegations being made against a member of staff	All school personnel are vetted and are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement. It is kept in lockable pedestal under the teacher's desk in each classroom and given to all substitute teachers on

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			arrival The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools are made available to all school personnel School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 St. Joseph's N.S. encourages staff to avail of relevant training.. The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DEY circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff.
6.	One-to-one teaching, one to one Learning Support, one to one counselling, coaching.	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of allegations being made against a member of staff	All one to one teaching is conducted in rooms with glass panels on the doors, The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme. All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement. The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel. School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 and it's Addendum (2019). All coaches are vetted under our patron and teachers maintain a supervisory

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			presence. The school has a policy in place for the use of external school coaches. SET – one to one teaching requires open door.
7.	Outdoor teaching activities		Outdoor teaching activities which require leaving the school grounds involve a second staff member being asked to accompany the class teacher to ensure supervision ratio.
8.	Sporting Activities/ School outings	Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately • Risk of an allegation being made against another child/ren or a member of school personnel	On school outings/ sporting events the ratio of adults to children is strictly monitored. Related School Policy/Procedure: School Tours/Excursion Policy
9.	Use of changing/shower areas when attending swimming.	Risk of pupil being harmed by a member of school personnel or another child/ren • Risk of an allegation being made against a another child/children or a member of school personnel • Risk of pupil being harmed by other school personnel or the public.	The ratio of staff to students is closely monitored during swimming sessions. Staff members supervise in the changing room and monitor the cubicles.
10.	Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel	Indicators of harm /abuse not being recognised by school personnel • Harm / Abuse not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel	At Staff Meetings all are reminded of their role in reporting Child Safe guarding concerns - It is an item on the Agenda of every meeting. They are reminded where the Child Safeguarding Statement is kept-in lockable pedestal under the teacher's desk. Staff are reminded to report all concerns and to keep records.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
11.	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel	Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of school personnel not acting in accordance with agreed school protocols and procedures • Risk of allegation being made against school personnel	Staff have received training with regard to the signs to look for and are aware of the procedures in St. Joseph's N.S. Child Safeguarding Statement. Staff are reminded to report all concerns and to keep records. The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme. The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan. The school has codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff), Code of Behaviour. The school complies with disciplinary procedures for teaching staff.
12.	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school.	Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of school personnel not acting in accordance with agreed school protocols and procedures • Risk of allegation being made against school personnel	All adults who visit the school on a regular basis or any visitors who are in the school in a teaching/coaching capacity are vetted. Other visitors wait to be buzzed in by the secretary/ other school staff member in the admin office. The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda Vetting Legislation and relevant DEY circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda Vetting. The school has a policy to cover Work Experience undertaken in the school. Related School Policy/Procedure: External Coaches, Work Experience
13.	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff	Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of school personnel	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and

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	of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons	not acting in accordance with agreed school protocols and procedures • Risk of allegation being made against school personnel or outside organisation	relevant DEY circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting. The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff.
14.	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities.	Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of school personnel not acting in accordance with agreed school protocols and procedures • Risk of allegation being made against school personnel	The school has a supervision policy in place. Procedures are in place for all supervision of breaks and staff are on playground duty during outdoor breaks teachers and SNAs. Rotas are updated termly and there is a rota for cover in case of illness. Related School Policy/Procedure: External Coaches, Work Experience, School Outings
15.	Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner. Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of school personnel not acting in accordance with agreed school protocols and procedures • Risk of allegation being made against school personnel	All students and their parents are familiar with the Internet Acceptable Use Policy for students. All school staff adhere to the Internet Acceptable Use Policy for adults. The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme
16.	Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school	Risk of harm to pupils by school personnel, other adults and children • Risk of pupils accessing inappropriate online material • Risk of Pupils not having the strategies/skills to report bullying / inappropriate behaviour.	Computers and ipads are used for educational purposes under supervision in the school. All staff comply with the guidelines relating to photographs in our Data Protection Policy ratified on the 18th of May 2018. The school has an Internet Acceptable Policy for

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			pupils and for adults. This policy includes provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has been communicated to parents. The school has in place a policy governing the use of smart phones and devices in the school by pupils as per circular 38/2018. Related School Policy/Procedure: Data Protection, AUP, Mobile Phone, Assistive Technology
17.	Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care.	Risk of pupil being harmed by a member of school personnel or another child/ren • Risk of an allegation being made against a another child/ren or a member of school personnel	In cases with children with SEN who are unable to dress themselves at swimming etc parental attendance will be requested. The school has an intimate care policy in respect of students who require such care. In cases where a student needs a change of clothes due to a toileting accident a staff member with. The staff member source the change of clothes and wait outside the toilet until the child has changed. Related School Policy/Procedure: Intimate Care
18.	Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour	Toilets in the Classroom • Children accessing toilets before and after breaks and during the school day in line with supervision policy.
19.	Behaviour	Risk of harm due to non compliance with code of behaviour.	St. Joseph's NS Code of Behaviour is reviewed annually. All parents are asked to read this on entry to the school and the school will seek acknowledgment that they

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			have read it and comply with it. Each year teachers draw up a contract, verbally or in writing with pupils in September. Related School Policy/Procedure: Code of Behaviour
20.	Annual Sports Day	Risk of of harm to a child by an adult (non-staff member) or child • Risk assessment completed before events • Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately • Risk of an allegation being made against another child/ren or a member of school personnel	All staff have designated roles on Annual Sports Day, Junior and Senior in line with St. Joseph's N.S. supervision policy.
21.	Fundraising events involving pupils	Risk of harm to a child by an adult (non-staff member) or child • Risk assessment completed before large scale events • Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately • Risk of an allegation being made against another child/ren or a member of school personnel or other organisation	All fundraising events involving children that take place in the school and outside the school will adhere to the supervision policy of St. Joseph's N.S.
22.	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Risk of harm to a child by an adult (non-staff member) or child • Risk assessment completed before off-site activities • Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately • Risk of an allegation being made against another child/ren or a member of school personnel	When off-site facilities are used supervision is provided by the staff. Related School Policy/Procedure: School Tours/Excursion Policy

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
23.	School transport arrangements	Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately	Children are supervised by staff when buses are hired for all school events. Morning and evening collections are provided by school bus provider. All bus drivers are vetted and inspected. Supervision is provided to ensure that all children using the service are wearing seatbelts and behaving well on the buses. Principal regularly liaises with bus drivers and bus providers and inspectors to ensure pupils are complying with safety measures. Bus escorts are employed and vetted to accompany children in Tír na nÓg to and from school.
24.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required	Risk of harm to a child • Risk of an allegation being made against a member of school personnel	“Minimal reasonable force may be used in extremely rare circumstances.” Department of Education Guidance states reasonable force may be used to prevent pupils from: • committing a criminal offence; • injuring themselves or others; • causing damage to property, including their own property; and • engaging in behaviour which has a negative impact on maintaining good order and discipline at the school. This advice is applicable to ALL teachers, including those in special schools” Related School Policy/Procedure: Managing Behaviours of Concern
25.	Administration of Medicine	Risk of harm to a child • Risk of an allegation being made against a	The school has a policy and procedures in place for the administration of

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		member of school personnel	medication to pupils. In cases where a child has a particular need for administration of medicine the BOM are alerted and staff are trained accordingly. Related School Policy/Procedure : Administration of Medicine
26.	Administration of First Aid	Risk of harm to a child • Risk of an allegation being made against a member of school personnel	The school has a policy and procedures in place for the administration of First Aid to pupils. First Aid during playground duty is administered by the staff on duty. If the injury is more serious the child is assessed by the class teacher/ principal. It is protocol to call home in all cases of head injury. The Yard Book is filled in in all cases where the injury is serious. First Aid packs are brought to Sports outings/ Sports Day/ School Tours. Related School Policy/Procedure: Administration of First Aid
27.	Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Risk of inadequate implementation of the SPHE curriculum and the Stay Safe programme • Risk of pupils not learning the skills and strategies necessary to protect themselves	SPHE, RSE and the Stay Safe Programme are taught on a two year cycle. The Cuntas Miosiuil of individual teachers will highlight the SPHE content objectives covered and the Stay Safe lessons covered in that month Related School Policy/Procedure: SPHE Plean Scoile
28.	Risk of harm due to bullying of child. Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of serious incidents of bullying not being recognised as being a child protection concern • Risk of Pupils not	The school has a Bí Cineálta Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post Primary

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		having the strategies/skills to report bullying / inappropriate behaviour	Schools. All staff follow the school BÍ Cineálta Policy when dealing with incidents.
29.	Training of school personnel in child protection matter	Indicators of harm /abuse not being recognised by school personnel • Harm / Abuse not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer / parent person while child participating in school activities • Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in school activities • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	All staff are vetted and comply with all policies such as the Code of Behaviour, Internet Acceptable Use Policy, Anti bullying Policy, Data Protection and Child Safeguarding Statement.
30.	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants • Members of the Traveller community • Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBTQ+) children • Pupils perceived to be LGBTQ+ • Pupils of minority religious faiths • Children in care	Risk of harm due to Racism or prejudice	As a Catholic Ethos school, St. Joseph's N.S.is inclusive. The vision is that all pupils feel valued regardless of cultural identity, religion, gender or family circumstances.
31.	Recruitment of school personnel including - Teachers/ SNAs - Caretakers/Secretary/ Cleaners • Sports Coaches • External Tutors/ Guest Speakers • Volunteers/ Parents	Risk of recruiting unsuitable personnel • Indicators of harm /abuse not being Recognised by school personnel Harm / Abuse not being reported properly and promptly by school	All school personnel are vetted. All adults who visit the school on a regular basis or any visitors who are in the school in a teaching/coaching capacity are vetted. Visitors to the school

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
	in school Activities • Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours • Visitors/contractors present • during after school activities	personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel, by a volunteer / parent while child is participating school activities, by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in school activities and after school activities.	enter through the front door and wait for the Secretary to electronically open the coded door into the school. All coaches who are brought in to help for P.E. sessions are vetted before they begin coaching.
32.	Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school.	Risk of harm to pupils by school personnel, other adults and children • Risk of pupils accessing inappropriate online material • Risk of Pupils not having the strategies/skills to report bullying / inappropriate behaviour.	All students and their parents are made aware of the Internet Acceptable Use Policy for students which includes provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents. All school staff adhere to the Internet Acceptable Use Policy for adults. As part of the SPHE curriculum targeted age appropriate lessons addressing online safety are provided for all pupils Related School Policy/Procedure: AUP
33.	Students participating in work experience in the school	Indicators of harm /abuse not being recognised by school personnel • Harm / Abuse not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel/ by a volunteer	An arrangement between teacher training colleges exists. This is signed by both parties. The school has a policy to cover Work Experience undertaken in the school. • If the pupil is under 16 they cannot be vetted but if they turn 16 during placement their Parents will need to complete garda vetting for them through the Meath Diocese. Related School Policy/Procedure: Work Experience

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
34.	Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Risk of pupils identity being inappropriately shared • Risk of harm to a child through inappropriately sharing of information	St. Joseph's N.S. has a Data Protection Policy in place. As the data controller of school photographs the school restricts the publishing of photographs or video clips to our school website with consent from parents. The school does not publish photos to social media and will seek consent when working with external groups. Parents attending school events are asked to avoid posting to social media sites in line with this.
35.	After school use of school premises by other organisations/ Use of school premises by other organisations.	Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately • Risk of an allegation being made against another child/ren, a member of school personnel or a member of another organisation	Related School Policy/Procedure: Use of School Buildings
36.	Use of school kitchens and equipment. Use of school facilities for hot lunches.	Risk of harm to a child through the use of kitchen/cooking facilities. Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately • Risk of an allegation being made against another child/ren, a member of school personnel or a member of another organisation	Children are supervised by staff when using kitchen equipment and where possible additional adult supervision may be required. Children do not have access to hot school lunch preparation area and external staff facilitate the delivery of hot lunches.
37.	Use of school cleaning facilities, washing machines/dryers.	Risk of harm to a child through the use of washer/dryer facilities. Risk of harm to a child	Children are supervised and led by staff when using washing machines/dryers.

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		by an adult or child • Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately • Risk of an allegation being made against another child/ren, a member of school personnel or a member of another organisation	
38.	Operation of school gates	Risk of harm to a child through the operation of the school gates. Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately	A rota is in place and directions and instructions have been given for operating the school gates safely.
The School		• Has provided each member of school 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 • Maintains records of all staff and board member training. • The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid • The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils and an Anti Bullying policy - Bí Cineálta	

Online Safety

The *Addendum to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017* published in January 2019 clarifies that organisations providing relevant services to children should consider the specific issue of online safety when carrying out their risk assessment and preparing their Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

The Guidance on Continuity of Schooling for primary and post-primary schools (April 2020) advises of the importance of teachers maintaining the safe and ethical use of the internet during distance learning and assisting parents and guardians to be aware of their role also. Schools should ensure that their Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) informs and guides remote or distance learning activity.

Risk in the context of this Child Safeguarding Statement and 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 the Children First Act 2015: 'harm' means, in relation to a child— (a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child's health, development or welfare, or (b) sexual abuse of the child, whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise.

In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 9 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025, the following is the written Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

In undertaking this Child Safeguarding Statement and 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 Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was reviewed by the board of management on _____ (*most recent review date*)

Signed:*		Date:
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Chairperson of the board of management

Signed:*		Date:
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Principal/Secretary to the board of management

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on _____ (*expected review date*)

** Document to be printed and signed with original signatures*

Appendix - Location of copies of the Child Protection Procedures and Children First Guidance

This may be in the form of specifying the online location for the procedures (Department of Education and Youth website www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools and/or the school website), providing a link to the Children First National Guidance 2017 [Children First National Guidance 2017.pdf](#), and stating the number and location of hard copies of these procedures available in the school.

- Copy of CSS1 on display outside secretary's office. (1)
- Copy of CSS1 published to school website.
- Copy of CSS1 filed in principal's office. (1)
- BOM provide copy of CSS1 to all staff members. (36)