

# **Burrane National School**

## **Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template**

Burrane National School 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 2017](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of Burrane N.S. 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 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is **Helen Kelly**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Niamh Kelly**
- 4 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.

5 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 2017 and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the DE 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 DE 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 2017, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
- In this school the Board has appointed the abovenamed DLP as the "relevant person" (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the schools child safeguarding statement.
- 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 DE 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.

- 6 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.
- 7 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 September 2018

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 8th December 2021

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

### Written Assessment of Risk of Burrane N.S.

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 [name of school].

List of school activities	The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
Opening time Closing time Break times	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults Risk of harm from other pupils	Supervision by Staff from 9.10 a.m. Parents informed that no supervision occurs prior to the above times Adequate Supervision at break times
Access to school	Access to pupils Access to school by strangers or other adults Flight risk for some pupils	Visitors asked to arrange visit with principal prior to arrival Front door kept closed and bell rang for entry Visitors to report to Principal/office on arrival. Appropriate perimeter fencing and gates closed at break time.
Teaching Classroom teaching One-to-one teaching One-to one learning support Outdoor teaching activities Online teaching and learning remotely	Risk of harm from other pupils Teachers /pupils behaving inappropriately Teachers lacking awareness of child safety issues	All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's <i>Child Safeguarding Statement</i>  The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017</i> are made available to all school personnel  School Personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> and it's Addendum (2019) Glass panels in doors

		<p>The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting</p> <p>The school has a codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff)</p>
Use of external personnel to support the curriculum sports and other extra-curricular activities	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	<p>Visiting tutors from reputable organisations with appropriate garda vetting. Glass panels in doors</p> <p>Visitors never given unsupervised access to any number of pupils</p>
<p>School Tours/Outings</p> <p>Use of off-site facilities for school activities</p> <p>School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts</p>	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons	<p>Adequate supervision.</p> <p>Adequate planning and preparation by staff.</p> <p>School Tour Policy adhered to</p>
<p>Sporting Activities</p> <p>Swimming Lessons</p> <p>Sports Events</p> <p>Sports Day</p>	<p>Potential for unsupervised times in changing areas.</p> <p>Access to pupils by strangers or other adults</p>	<p>Adequate supervision provided.</p> <p>Trained lifeguards in pool</p>
Mobile Phones/Access to internet/Social Media	<p>Potential for bullying</p> <p>Potential for accessing inappropriate material</p> <p>Potential for grooming of pupils</p>	<p>Mobile phones not permitted in school. Handed to class teacher in the morning and returned at end of school day if they are required for after school activity with note from parent.</p> <p>No unsupervised access to computer devices when in school</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Policy including Cyber-bullying sessions with the children</p> <p>SPHE Curriculum-WebWise</p> <p>AUP policy</p>
<p>First Aid</p> <p>Administration of Medicine</p>	Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving first aid	All teachers follow First Aid procedures

Administration of First Aid		
Training of school personnel in child protection matters	Potential that Staff are not aware of procedures	<p>All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's <i>Child Safeguarding Statement</i></p> <p>The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017</i> are made available to all school personnel</p> <p>School Personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> and its Addendum (2019)</p> <p>DLP &amp; Deputy DLP certificates in School</p>

**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.