

Child Safeguarding Statement

St. Senan's Primary School is a Primary School providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

In accordance with the requirements of the <u>Children First Act 2015</u>, <u>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</u>, the Addendum to Children First (2019), the <u>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)</u> and <u>Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements</u>, the Board of Management of St. Senan's Primary 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 Avril Bolton
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Anthony Sharkey
- 4 The Relevant Person is **Avril Bolton**
- 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 PostPrimary 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 <u>National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016</u> 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-
 - **O** 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.

- 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 21/03/2018.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 12/12/'23 [most recent review date].

Signed: John SaundersSigned: Avril BoltonChairperson of Board of ManagementPrincipal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 12/12/'23

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Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of St. Senan's Primary 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 PostPrimary Schools (revised 2023), the following is the Written Risk Assessment of St. Senan's Primary School

1. List of school activities	2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
(insert list of school activities in this section)	(insert risks of harm identified in this section)	(insert the procedures in place to address risks of harm in this section)
Training of school personnel in Child Protection Matters	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	 Child safeguarding Statement & DES Procedures made available to all staff DLP & DDLP attend PDST face to face training All Staff have viewed Túsla training module & PDST e-learning module BOM records all records of Staff and Board training
One to One Teaching	Risk of harm by school personnel	 Child Safeguarding Statement Garda Vetting The teacher and the pupil will be visible at all times- either through an open door or through a glass panel on the door and classroom window
		Parental consent given

December 2023

Recreation breaks for pupils	 Risk of child being harmed in school by another Child Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school 	 Child Safeguarding Statement Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Policy Adequate Supervision AUP Policy
Toilet Areas	 Inappropriate behaviour Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particula vulnerabilities Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of child being harmed in school by another child Risk of child being harmed in school by volunteer or visitor to the school 	 Child Safeguarding Statement Toilets in classrooms One child at a time in toilet cubicle Intimate care procedure When going to the toilet outside of classroom, child must be accompanied by another child Designated toilet area at yard times i.e. Teacher on First Aid will assign a classroom Pupils not allowed use Staff Toilets Adequate Supervision External doors are secured
Children accessing toilets when in the Gym/Outdoors during PE	 Risk of child being harmed in school by another child Risk of child being harmed in school by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of harm due to bullying of child 	Safeguarding Statement Investigate the possibility of installing a fob security system on the double doors in the entrance to the Gym

	 Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	 Designated toilet area when in the Gym i.e. Montessori Toilets With the permission of the teacher a child must be accompanied by another child and report back on their return. Before using the toilets they must check with Fiona that the toilets are free to be used. Junior & Senior Infant teachers inform Fiona that they are in the gym and their children may be using the toilets (in all other classes the children check in with Fiona that the toilets are free to be used) If returning to the school to use the toilet children must go to an occupied classroom.
Dealing with an injury at PE /during an external coaching session.	 Risk of child being harmed in school by another child Risk of child being harmed in school by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school. Risk of a child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	 Child Safeguarding Statement With the permission of the teacher two pupils return to the school building for first aid supplies i.e. an ice-pack If the Teacher is at PE (without another adult) and a serious injury happens the teacher remains with the class and sends two children for assistance or teacher returns to the school building with the injured child and the whole class. If the class are engaged with an external coach and a serious injury occurs_ a. The coach may go for assistance while the teacher remains with the class

 b. The teacher brings the injured child to first aid and is replaced y another member of staff in the gym/sporting area. 		
-Child Safeguarding Statement -Anti-Bullying Policy -Code of Behaviour Policy -Adequate Supervision -Garda Vetting of Volunteers	 Risk of child being harmed in school by another child Risk of child being harmed in school by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child is participating in in school and out of school event e.g. Bake Sale, School Walk 	undraising events involving pupils
 Child safeguarding statement Garda vetting of external personnel who supplement curriculum where possible Teacher must be present with external personnel who supplement curriculum 	 Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school. Risk if harm due to inappropriate relationship/ Communications between child and another child or adult 	Use of external personnel to supplement the curriculum
Child safeguarding statementHealth & Safety PolicyCode of Behaviour	 Injury to pupils and staff Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	Managing challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint

		 Removing child/class when dealing with challenging behaviour
Sports Coaches	 Risk of child being harmed in school by volunteer or visitor to the school i.e. sports coach 	 Child Safeguarding Statement Garda Vetting Teacher must be present with coach
Sporting Activities	Risk of child being harmed by another child Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of harm when children access toilets at sporting events Risk of harm when children access first aid at sporting events Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child is participating in out is of school activities e.g. Athletics, Swimming etc.	Child safeguarding statement Health & Safety Policy Code of Behaviour Adequate supervision Garda vetting procedures When going to the toilet at a sporting event the child must be accompanied by another child, they must alert an adult that they are going and on their return. When going to first aid at a sporting event the child must be accompanied by a member of staff, they must also alert another adult that they are going and on their return

Care of Children with special needs including intimate care needs	 Risk of child being harmed in school by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of a child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel, member of staff of another organisation or other person while child is 	Child Safeguarding Statement Garda Vetting Adequate Supervision Intimate care procedure – agreed with Parent and Staff involved
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Outdoor Teaching Activities Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of harm when children access toilets during outdoor teaching activities Risk of harm when children access toilets during outdoor teaching activities With the permission of the teacher a child must be accompanied by another child when going to the toilet and report back on their return If returning to the school to use the toilet children must go to an occupied classroom. 	Classroom Teaching	 Risk of child being harmed in school by another child Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of a child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	 Child Safeguarding Statement Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Policy Teaching Council: Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers Glass Panel on Classroom door and external classroom window AUP Policy External doors are secured
	Outdoor Teaching Activities	of children in school Risk of harm when children access toilets	 Adequate supervision If leaving the school grounds there must be a minimum of two members of staff at all times. With the permission of the teacher a child must be accompanied by another child when going to the toilet and report back on their return If returning to the school to use the toilet

Students participating in work experience	Risk of child being harmed by student Risk of breach of confidentiality	Child Safeguarding Statement Work experience policy Guidance of teacher Teacher present Garda Vetting procedures External supervision by school/college
Homework Club	 Risk of harm not being recognised by homework club personnel Risk of child being harmed by member of homework personnel Risk of child being harmed by another child Risk of child being harmed accessing the toilet Risk of harm to the child if they are due to attend the homework club and if they fail to do so Risk of harm to the child during arrival and dismissal form homework club Risk of harm to the child due to bullying 	Child Safeguarding Statement Garda vetting procedures Roll call taken by homework personnel Homework personnel contact parents if child is not in attendance Homework Club Anti bullying Policy Homework Club Code of Behaviour Child must have the permission of a member of the homework personnel to leave the room to use the designated toilets and report back on return Homework club must provide adequate supervision on arrival, during and at dismissal time
reakfast Club	Risk of harm not being recognised by breakfast club personnel Risk of child being harmed by member of breakfast club personnel Risk of child being harmed by another child Risk of child being harmed accessing the toilet Risk of harm to the child due to bullying	Child Safeguarding Statement Garda vetting procedures Roll call taken Child must have the permission of a member of the breakfast club personnel to leave the room to use the designated toilet and report back on return

School Outings	 Risk of child being harmed during a school outing by another child Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children during school outing Risk of harm due to bullying if child Risk of child being harmed by a member if staff of another organisation or other person while child is 	Child safeguarding statement Health & Safety Policy Code of Behaviour Adequate supervision AUP Policy
	participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons	 If leaving the school grounds there must be a minimum of two members of staff at all times

	Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particula vulnerabilities	times.
1.	Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices during school outings. Risk of chid being harmed while accessing the toilet	 3rd -6th Class: When going to the toilet on a school outing the child must be accompanied by another child, they must also alert and adult that they are going and on their return
		 Infants- 2nd Class When going to the toilet on a school outing the child must be accompanied by another child and must be accompanied by an adult

Annual Sports Day	 Risk of child being harmed in school by another child Risk of child being harmed in school by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school. Risk of harm die to bullying of child Risk of harm when children access toilets during Sports Day Risk of harm when pupils access first aid during Sports Day Risk of a child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	 Child Safeguarding Statement Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Policy Adequate supervision Timetable First Aid and Toileting Procedures: First Aid kits in each designated play area Designated toilets to be decided on the day When going to the toilet during Sports Day the child must be accompanied by another child, they must alert the teacher in charge that they are going and on their return.
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SPHE,RSE, Stay Safe	 Non teaching 	 Child Safeguarding Statement School implements SPHE,RSE and Stay Safe in full Teachers signs to say RSE & Stay Safe have been taught on full

Use of off-site facilities for school activities	 Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particula vulnerabilities Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or another person while child is participating in out o school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons 	 Child safeguarding statement Adequate supervision Garda Vetting If leaving the school grounds there must be a minimum of two members of staff at all times. 3rd -6th Class: When going to the toilet at an offsite facility the child must be accompanied by another child, they must also alert and adult that they are going and on their return Infants- 2nd Class When going to the toilet at an offsite facility the child must be accompanied by another child and must be accompanied by another child and must be accompanied by an adult When going to first aid at an offsite facility the child must be accompanied by a member of staff, they must also alert another adult that they are going and on their return. Intimate care procedure
School transport arrangements ncluding use of Bus Escorts	 Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particula vulnerabilities Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities 	 Child safeguarding statement Adequate supervision Garda Vetting

	 another child or adult Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or another person while child is participating in out o school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons 	 Parental permission (on Aladdin) for all trips requiring transport.
dministration of Medicine Idministration of First Aid	 Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel Risk of child bring harmed in school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particula vulnerabilities. 	 Child safeguarding statement Administration of Medicine Policy When going to first aid station a child must be accompanied by another child, they must also alert an adult that they are going and on their return. First Aid procedures i.e. record of First Aid
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Risk of child being harmed by other persons being present at these times i.e. people dropping off/collecting children Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between child and another child or adult	Child Safeguarding Statement Arrival and dismissal supervised Junior and Senior Infants are collected by designated persons When the Infant Teachers are absent an existing member of staff will assist the substitute with the dismissal of the class All children leaving the school during school hours must be signed out in reception by an adult School informs Parents/Bus/Bus Escort of changes to dismissal time

		 Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy School Warden Stay Safe Programme
Use of the school premises by other organisation during the school day	 Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation Risk of harm caused by member of staff of another organisation accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner 	Child Safeguarding Statement Adequate supervision Our facility is rarely used by other organisations during the school day.

Care of Pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as	Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel Risk of harm not being reported properly and	Child Safeguarding Statement Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Policy
 Pupils from ethnic minorities /migrants Members of the Traveller community Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children Pupils perceived to be LGBT Gender neutral children Pupils of minority religious faiths Children in care Children on CPNS 	 promptly by school personnel Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Risk of harm due to bullying of child 	SPHE Programme Give Racism the Red Card Resources Procedures on attendance at religious ceremonies

Recruitment of school personnel including- • Teachers • SNAs • 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	 Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel Risk of child being harmed in school by a member of school personnel Rick of child being harmed in school by volunteer or visitor to the school. 	 Child safeguarding statement and DES procedures made available to all staff Staff to view TUSLA training module and Oide training module Garda vetting procedures Procedures for visitors/volunteers- report to reception on arrival, controlled entrance Contractors- see health and safety statement Staff Handbook- Professionalism
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Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	 Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children Risk of child being harmed in school by a member of school personnel 	 Child Safeguarding Statement Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Policy AUP Policy The teacher and the pupil will be visible at all times either through an open door or through a glass panel on the door and external window. Teaching Council: Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers
After school use of school premises by other organisations	 Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending after school activities Risk or harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while attending after school activities. Risk if child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person 	Safeguarding Statement Our facility is rarely used by other organisations after the school day Clear communication with a member if the school personnel and a member if the other organisation Stay Safe Programme

Use of Information and	Risk of harm due to bullying of child	Child Safeguarding Statement
Communication	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of	AUP Policy /NCTE Filtering
Technology by pupils in the school	children in school Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school.	Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones to school Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Adequate supervision, teacher present a all times

Student Teachers undertaking placement in school	 Risk of child being harmed by student Risk of breach of confidentiality 	 Child safeguarding statement Work experience policy Guidance of teacher Teacher present Garda vetting procedures External supervision by school/college
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	 Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing /circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner 	Child Safeguarding Statement Adequate supervision AUP Policy
Mass Serving: 5 th & 6 th Class Pupils leaving school to serve mass/funerals	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children	Minimum of two pupils Teacher aware of when they leave and

 Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while participating in out of school activities i.e. mass Teacher aware of when they in the participating in out of school activities i.e. mass 	
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Pupils doing messages within the school/movement breaks for individuals/going to and from SET rooms/visiting A.R. Library	 Risk of child being harmed in school by another child Risk of child being harmed in school by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school. Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of a child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	Child Safeguarding Statement Pupils must have permission to leave the classroom and will report to teacher on their return. School personnel vigilance of pupils on messages/movement breaks Buddy System: two pupils go on a message Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy
After-school Activities organised/run by school personnel	 Risk of child being harmed in school by another child Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending after school activities Risk of a child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	Child Safeguarding Statement Parental Consent Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy Parent informed of timetable Roll Call Contact parent if concerned about absence Always a group situation
People delivering sanitary/cleaning supplies, general deliveries and maintenance personnel	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a delivery/maintenance person	 Child Safeguarding Statement All visitors report to reception Adequate supervision Stay safe Programme
Carambola Hot Lunch Programme	 Risk of child being harmed in the school by Carambola Personnel 	 Child Safeguarding Statement Garda Vetting Adequate supervision

Online Teaching and Learning Remotely	 Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited guest 	 School has an AUP in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely.
		School uses the education licence for Zoom