



Lucan CNS 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 \(revised 2023\)](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of Lucan CNS 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 Claire Downes
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) is Laura Duff
4. The Relevant Person is Claire Downes
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 DES 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, 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 attached as an appendix to these procedures.
- 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.

7. This statement has been published on the school’s website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents’ Association 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 10th February 2020 and most recently updated and reviewed in September 2023.

Signed: _____

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: _____

Signed hard-copy in reception area.

Written Assessment of Risk at Lucan CNS. 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 (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Lucan CNS. 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 assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

List of school activities	The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of listed activity:	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risk of harm identified:
Daily arrival/dismissal of pupils	Harm by other pupils; Unknown adults on the playground; Different adults dropping/collecting (non-recognition); Adults seeking to enter school	Arrival & dismissal supervised by teachers/SNAs; Class teacher, secretary or DLP informed of changes to adults dropping/collecting; Sign in/out log book for late arrivals/early dismissals; Entry to the school is by permission only through specific door.
Recreation breaks for pupils	Adults may enter the yard; Bullying	Yard supervised by teachers/SNAs; Entry to the school is by permission only through specific door; Anti-bullying Policy; Code of Behaviour; Restorative Practice training for teachers and pupils as Friendship Keepers.
Classroom teaching	Harm by school personnel; Harm by other pupils	Glass panel in all doors; Other adults visit or are present; Other children present, Restorative Practice training for teachers.
One-to-one teaching	Harm by school personnel	Glass panel in all doors; Other adults visit or are present
One-to-one counselling/Play Therapy	Harm by personnel	Personnel vetted; Glass panel in all doors
Curricular Activities: Sporting, Music, Languages.	Pupil: Adult ratio; Catering for children with SEN; Non-school sporting resources; Improper handling of musical instruments; Harm by pupils including bullying; Harm by school personnel; Harm by adults	All personnel vetted. Class teacher/SNA (where applicable) attends all curricular/sporting activities; Class teacher responsible for ensuring child with SEN is facilitated and the SNA follows teacher's directions regarding the needs of the pupil to enable access to the activity; School ensures that resources are appropriate and that safety gear is worn when required; Children instructed in correct use of musical instruments; Code of Behaviour; Anti-Bullying Policy
Extra-curricular activities/ After-school activities involving pupils for which school building is used	Harm by personnel	All personnel vetted; In the case of vetting of non-school personnel from external agencies not vetted through the ETB: only personnel vetted through their own agency will be permitted to deliver extra-curricular activities.
School outings/trips	- Harm by pupils including bullying; Harm by school personnel; Harm by adults - Children with SEN	- Class teachers monitor and supervise; Code of Behaviour; Anti-bullying policy; All personnel vetted; Pupil: Adult ratio adhered to; Teachers supervise gear change if required; Children must return to the school; Children must wear school uniform. - SNA closely shadowing/accompanying child as appropriate; Class teacher monitoring children with SEN; Pre-planning by teacher/SNA to ensure needs met.
Use of toilet/shower/changing areas in schools	Inappropriate behaviour; Harm by school personnel; Harm by adults	Toileting- one child at a time; All personnel vetted; Door must remain ajar when assisting with changing; ICPs in place where necessary.
Annual Sports Day	Inappropriate behaviour; Harm by other children; Harm by school personnel; Harm by external personnel	School personnel vetted; External personnel vetted; Code of Behaviour; Anti-Bullying policy
Parent Activities	Inappropriate behaviour; Harm by other children; Harm by school personnel; Harm by parent/adults	Class teachers monitor and supervise; Code of Behaviour; Anti-Bullying Policy; School Personnel vetted. PTP and other volunteers vetted; No child left alone with external personnel under any circumstances.
School transport arrangements	Boarding and disembarking school transport	Bus escort vetted. Pupil: Adult ratio met. Adult supervising alighting and disembarking from the bus.
Care of children with SEN	Harm by school personnel; Harm by other pupils	All personnel vetted; Anti-Bullying Policy; Code of Behaviour; SEN policy (draft); Individual PPPs
Management of challenging behaviour among pupils incl. appropriate use of restraint	Injury/harm to pupils/staff	Code of Behaviour; Individual Support Plans

Administration of medicine	Harm to school personnel; Harm to pupil(s)	Administration of Medicines Policy; Training arranged as required
Administration of first aid	Harm to pupil; Harm by school personnel	Health & Safety Policy; Doors must remain open; Records kept in staffroom
Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Non-teaching of content	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy; Code of Behaviour
Training of school personnel in respect of child protection matters	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to staff; DLP & DDLP have attended necessary PDST training; BOM records all records of staff and Board training
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm by external personnel	All adults, visitors and volunteers are screened, and vetted (where possible); the class teacher must remain with their class when supported by external personnel; All external personnel require Garda Vetting; No child left alone with external personnel under any circumstances.
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as: Ethnic minorities/migrants; Members of the Traveller community; LGBT (or perceived to be) children; Pupils of minority beliefs; Children in care; Children on CPNS	Bullying; Harm by personnel; Harm by pupils; Harm by adults	SPHE programme taught in its entirety; Code of Behaviour; Anti-Bullying Policy
Recruitment of school personnel: Teachers; SNAs; Secretary; Caretaker; Cleaner; Sports coaches; External tutors/Guest speakers; Parent/volunteers in school activities; Visitors/contractors present during school hours; Visitors/contractors present during after-school activities.	Harm by personnel	Current vetting procedures carried out when recruiting; All existing school employees are vetted; All adults, visitors and volunteers are properly screened, and vetted (where required).
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Harm by pupils; Bullying – Cyber Bullying	Anti-bullying policy; AUP; Restricted access to Internet; Management system in place; Staff and parents have/will receive(d) training/attend(ed) talks
Students participating in work experience in the school	Harm by student	Students must be supervised by the relevant teacher; Garda Vetting is required for all students as appropriate from school of origin
Student teachers undertaking training placement in the school	Harm by student teacher	Student teacher must be supervised by the relevant teacher; Garda Vetting is required for all students provided by College
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Harm by adults; Bullying	Parental permission is required; School equipment is used; Anti-Bullying Policy; Code of Behaviour; Parents not permitted to distribute footage of school events (e.g. social media)
Online video conference calls during distance learning	Harm to pupils through incorrect security settings, taking pictures of calls.	Security settings in place, Procedures for expected behaviour in conference calls relayed to staff, parents and pupils in writing and during calls at regular intervals. AUP in place. CoB in place
<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 <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i></p>		