



NORTH CONNAUGHT COLLEGE

- **CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT**
- **CHILD SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT**

Mandatory Template 1 - Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement of North Connaught College

North Connaught College of Further Education is a college of Further Education providing post-leaving certificate education to pupils from 16 years of age and older.

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 North Connaught College of Further Education 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 _____James Hardiman_____
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is _____Deirdre O'Connor_____
- 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 ___14th December 2022_____ [date].

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on _____9th December 2021_____ [most recent review date].

Signed: ___Dara Mulvey_____

Signed: _____James Hardiman_____

Chairperson of Board of Management

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: _____14th December 2022_____

Date: _____14th December 2022_____

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of North Connaught College

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 North Connaught College of Further Education.

Updated 10/12/2022 (the list of college activities, the identification of the risks of harm to the child and the procedures in place to address the risks of harm have been put into a table below)

1. List of school activities

1. Classroom Teaching
2. One-to-one teaching
3. One-to-one counselling and/or student support
4. Outdoor teaching activities
5. College outings
6. College trips involving overnight stay and foreign travel
7. Use of toilet in College
8. Fundraising events involving students
9. Use of off-site facilities for College activities. An Chroí
10. College transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
11. Care of student with special educational needs and vulnerable adult student including intimate care where needed
12. Management of challenging behaviour amongst students.
13. Administration of medicine and first aid
14. Training of College personnel in child protection matters
15. Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
16. Care of students with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as;

- Students from ethnic minorities/migrants
- Members of the Traveller community
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) students
- Students perceived to be LGBT
- Students of minority religious faiths
- Children in care
- Children on CPNS

17. Recruitment of school personnel including;

- Teachers/SNA's (ETB HR)
- Caretaker/Secretary/ Cleaners (ETB HR)
- External Tutors/Guest Speakers ' Volunteers/Parents in College activities
- Visitors/contractors present in College during school hours
- Visitors/contractors present during/after College activities.

18. Use of ICT by students in the College.

19. Students from the College participating in work experience **

20. Student teachers undertaking placement in College.

21. Use of video, photograph and other media to record College events.

22. After school use of the College premises by other organisation

23. Use of College premises by other organisations during College day.

24. Children accompanying parents to College

25. Online teaching and learning remotely

2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –

1. Child being harmed by a member of school personnel, by another child, by a volunteer/visitor. Risk of harm not being recognised by College personnel.

- -Risk of harm not being properly and promptly reported.
- -Risk of harm due to inappropriate
- relationship/communications between student and
- another student or adult.

2. As per No. 1

Risk of harm to the child in one-to-one teaching, counselling, student support.

3. As per No. 2

4. As per No. 1

5. -Risk of harm due to child inappropriately accessing/using mobile phones.

-Risk of child being harmed by a member of the College personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in out of College activities e.g. College trip. --Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.

-Risk of harm due to student inappropriately using mobile phones.

- Risk of harm caused by member of College personnel communicating with students in appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.

6. -As per No. 5

7. Risk of harm to the child by another child/student.

-Risk of harm due to student inappropriate use of mobile phones.

-Risk of harm due to bullying.

8. Risk of harm to the child by an unknown person.
-Risk of harm to the child by another child.
9. -Risk of harm to the child by a member of school personnel, by another child, by an unknown person.
10. -Risk of harm to the child by a member of school personnel, by another child, by external contractors.
11. Risk of harm to student with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities.
-Risk of harm to student while a student is receiving intimate care.
12. -Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour.
13. Risk of harm to the child by inappropriate administration of medicine/first aid.
14. Lack of training could result in:
-Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel.
-Risk of harm not being properly and promptly reported.
-Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between student and another student or adult.
-Risk of harm caused by member of College personnel communicating with students in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.
15. As per No. 1
16. Risk of child being bullied.

-Risk due to racism discrimination

17. As per No. 1

18. Risk of harm due to student inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at College.

19. Risk of harm to the child by an unknown person.

20. Risk of child being harmed by student teacher.

-Risk of harm by student teacher accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.

21. As per No. 18.

22. Risk of harm due to inappropriate videoing, photography and other media recording.

-Risk of harm due to student inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at College.

23. Risk of child being harmed by member of organisation.

-Risk of harm caused by member of organisation accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.

Risk of child being harmed by member of organisation.

-Risk of harm caused by member of organisation accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.

24. Risk of harm to the child.

25. Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms.

3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment –

(insert the procedures in place to address risks of harm in this section)

1. -Has provided each member of College staff with a copy of the College's Child Safeguarding Statement.

-Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the College's Child Statement.

-All staff teaching and non-teaching must complete Garda Vetting.

-Has codes of conduct for all staff teaching and non-teaching staff.

-Encourages staff to avail of Safeguarding training.

-Encourages Board of Management members to avail of Safeguarding training.

-Has policy on Learner

Has special Attendance & Participation for students.

2 Has Special Education Policy

Intimate care policy

Administration of medicine/first aid policy

Open-door procedure

3.-Has one-to-one counselling policy.

-Has one- to- one guidance intimate care policy.

-Student support policy.

4.-Has Health and Safety Policy.

-Has use of mobile phone policy/ Internet Safety Policy (mobile phone usage included here)

5. -Has Attendance and Participation Policy.

-Has Health and Safety Policy.

-Has mobile phone policy/ Internet Safety Policy (mobile phone usage included here).

-Has codes of conduct for all staff teaching and non-teaching staff.

-Has code of behaviour for students.

-Has provided each member of College staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement.

- Has codes of conduct for all staff teaching and non-teaching staff.

All staff to maintain up to date safe-guarding training.

6.-As per No. 5

-ERAMSUS+ guidelines adhered to re. foreign travel only.

7. -Has anti-bullying policy.

-Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.

-Has use of mobile phone policy.

-Internet Safety Policy (mobile phone usage included here)

- Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.

8. - Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.

9. -NCC CSS and Risk Assessment will apply to offsite facilities.

-Has Health & Safety policy.

-Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.

10. -All staff teaching and non-teaching must complete Garda Vetting.
-External personnel must comply with College garda vetting procedure.
-Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.

11. -Has Health & Safety policy.
-Has Special Education policy.
-Has Intimate care policy.
-Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.
-Staff training in managing challenging behaviour.

12. -Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.
-Staff training in managing challenging behaviour.

13. -Has administration of medicine and first aid policy.

14. -Encourages staff to avail of relevant training.

-Has provided each member of College staff with a copy of the College's Child Safeguarding Statement.

-Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the College's Child Safeguarding Statement.

-Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training.

-Maintains records of all staff and board member training.

-Has codes of conduct for all staff teaching and non-teaching staff.

15. -External personnel must comply with all college policies and procedures in respect of Safeguarding Children and Garda Vetting.

16. -Has anti-bullying policy.

-Admissions policy

17. -As per No. 1.

18. -Has ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by students.

-Has mobile phone policy.

-Internet Safety Policy (AUP)

19. -Has policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in external organisations.

-Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.

20. -Has policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placement.

-Student teacher must comply with all College policies and procedures in respect to safeguarding children.

21. -Has a use of video, photography and other media recording devices at College events.

-Has ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by students.

--Has mobile phone policy.

-Consent form for use of imagery in registration process. Parental consent where required (using ETB template)

22. -Has after school use of the College premises by other organisations policy.

-Organisation/s must comply with all college policies and procedures in respect of Safeguarding Children.

23. -Has use of the College premises by other organisations during College day policy.

-Organisation/s must comply with all college policies and procedures in respect of Safeguarding Children.

24. -Has Health & Safety policy.

25. -The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to learners/parents.

	College activities	Potential risk of harm to the child (a child is defined as anyone under 18 years of age)	Likelihood of harm occurring	Required policy, guidance and procedure The College-	Further action required The College/MSL ETB-
1	Classroom Teaching	-Child being harmed by a member of school personnel, by another child, by a volunteer/visitor. Risk of harm not being recognised by College personnel. -Risk of harm not being properly and promptly reported. -Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between student and another student or adult.	M	-Has provided each member of College staff with a copy of the College's Child Safeguarding Statement. -Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the College's Child Statement. -All staff teaching and non-teaching must complete Garda Vetting. -Has codes of conduct for all staff teaching and non-teaching staff. -Encourages staff to avail of Safeguarding training. -Encourages Board of Management members to avail of Safeguarding training. -Has policy on Learner Attendance & Participation for students.	-Maintains records of all staff Garda Vetting. -- Maintains records of all staff and board member Safeguarding Training. Teaching Council of Ireland (Guidelines for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Persons) Available on Sharepoint Teaching Council of Ireland and MSLETB staff Code of Conduct available on Sharepoint.
2	One-to-one teaching	-As per No. 1	M	Has Special Education Policy Intimate care policy	- As per No. 1

		-Risk of harm to the child in one-to-one teaching, counselling, student support.		Administration of medicine/first aid policy Open-door procedure	
3	One-to-one counselling and/or student support	-As per No. 2	M	-Has one-to-one counselling policy. -Has one- to- one guidance intimate care policy. -Student support policy.	-Core care team in place (Meetings called on a needs basis and to provide updates)
4	Outdoor teaching activities	-As per No. 1 -Risk of harm due to child inappropriately accessing/using mobile phones.	M	-Has Health and Safety Policy. -Has use of mobile phone policy/ Internet Safety Policy (mobile phone usage included here).	
5	College outings	-Risk of child being harmed by a member of the College personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in out of College activities e.g. College trip. - -Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision. -Risk of harm due to student inappropriately using mobile phones. - Risk of harm caused by member of College personnel communicating with students in appropriate manner via social	M	-Has Attendance and Participation Policy. -Has Health and Safety Policy. -Has mobile phone policy/ Internet Safety Policy (mobile phone usage included here). -Has codes of conduct for all staff teaching and non-teaching staff. -Has code of behaviour for students. -Has provided each member of College staff with a copy	Attendance and participation policy will be inclusive of College Outings procedure.

		media, texting, digital device or other manner.		of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement. - Has codes of conduct for all staff teaching and non-teaching staff. All staff to maintain up to date safe-guarding training.	
6	College trips involving overnight stay and foreign travel	-As per No. 5	H	-As per No. 5 -ERAMSUS+ guidelines adhered to re. foreign travel only.	
7	Use of toilet in College	-Risk of harm to the child by another child/student. -Risk of harm due to student inappropriate use of mobile phones. -Risk of harm due to bullying.	M	-Has anti-bullying policy. -Has learner attendance and participation policy for students. -Has use of mobile phone policy. -Internet Safety Policy (mobile phone usage included here)	
8	Fundraising events involving students	-Risk of harm to the child by an unknown person. -Risk of harm to the child by another child.	M	- Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.	-Change Attendance and Participation. Policy to include students under 18 to be accompanied by a person over 18 when fundraising. (Done Jan 2020)

9	Use of off-site facilities for College activities.	-Risk of harm to the child by a member of school personnel, by another child, by an unknown person.	M	-NCC CSS and Risk Assessment will apply. -Has Health & Safety policy. -Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.	See Section 1 also.
10	College transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	-Risk of harm to the child by a member of school personnel, by another child, by external contractors.	H	-All staff teaching and non-teaching must complete Garda Vetting. -External personnel must comply with College garda vetting procedure. -Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.	
11	Care of student with special educational needs and vulnerable adult students including intimate care where needed	-Risk of harm to student with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities. -Risk of harm to student while a student is receiving intimate care.	H	-Has Health & Safety policy. -Has Special Education policy. -Has Intimate care policy.	
12	Management of challenging behaviour amongst students.	-Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour.	H	-Has learner attendance and participation policy for students. -Staff training in managing challenging behaviour.	Staff Training in managing behaviour – Joe O'Donnell 02/09/2021 Understanding Conflict

13	Administration of medicine and first aid	-Risk of harm to the child by inappropriate administration of medicine/first aid.	M	-Has administration of medicine and first aid policy.	
14	Training of College personnel in child protection matters	Lack of training could result in: -Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel. -Risk of harm not being properly and promptly reported. -Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between student and another student or adult. -Risk of harm caused by member of College personnel communicating with students in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.	H	-Encourages staff to avail of relevant training. -Has provided each member of College staff with a copy of the College's Child Safeguarding Statement. -Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the College's Child Safeguarding Statement. -Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training. -Maintains records of all staff and board member training. -Has codes of conduct for all staff teaching and non-teaching staff.	BOM Safeguarding training - Not all submitted completion certs.
15	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	-As per No. 1	M	-External personnel must comply with all college policies and procedures in respect of Safeguarding Children and Garda Vetting.	

16	<p>Care of students with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☑ Students from ethnic minorities/migrants ☑ Members of the Traveller community ☑ Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) students ☑ Students perceived to be LGBT ☑ Students of minority religious faiths ☑ Children in care ☑ Children on CPNS . 	<p>-Risk of child being bullied. -Risk due to racism discrimination</p>	M	<p>-Has anti-bullying policy. -Admissions policy</p>	
17	<p>Recruitment of school personnel including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☑ Teachers/SNA's (ETB HR) ☑ Caretaker/Secretary/ Cleaners (ETB HR) ☑ External Tutors/Guest Speakers ☑ Volunteers/Parents in College activities ☑ Visitors/contractors present in College during school hours 	-As per No. 1	H	-As per No. 1.	Refer to MSLETB HR re. recruitment procedures.

	☒ Visitors/contractors present during/after College activities.				
18	Use of ICT by students in the College.	-Risk of harm due to student inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at College.	H	-Has ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by students. -Has mobile phone policy. -Internet Safety Policy (AUP)	
19	Students from the College participating in work experience **	-Risk of harm to the child by an unknown person.	H	-Has policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in external organisations. -Has learner attendance and participation policy for students.	-Awaiting policy from MSLETB – check policy and procedure for placement. Refer to work experience booklet. To be completed (Oct 2020). Revisit in April 2022 or when the WE booklet is been prepared.
20	Student teachers undertaking placement in College	-Risk of child being harmed by student teacher. -Risk of harm by student teacher accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.	M	-Has policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placement. -Student teacher must comply with all College policies and procedures in respect to safeguarding children.	
21	Use of video, photograph and other media to record College events	-As per No. 18. -Risk of harm due to inappropriate videoing, photography and other media recording.	H	-Has a use of video, photography and other media recording devices at College events.	

		-Risk of harm due to student inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at College.		-Has ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by students. --Has mobile phone policy. -Consent form for use of imagery in registration process. Parental consent where required (using ETB template)	
22	After school use of the College premises by other organisation	-Risk of child being harmed by member of organisation. -Risk of harm caused by member of organisation accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.	H	-Has after school use of the College premises by other organisations policy. -Organisation/s must comply with all college policies and procedures in respect of Safeguarding Children.	Examine Child Safeguarding Statement in relation to attending the College (ensure that risk assessment is carried out)
23	Use of College premises by other organisations during College day.	-Risk of child being harmed by member of organisation. -Risk of harm caused by member of organisation accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.	H	-Has use of the College premises by other organisations during College day policy. -Organisation/s must comply with all college policies and procedures in respect of Safeguarding Children.	Examine Child Safeguarding Statement in relation to attending the College (ensure that risk assessment is carried out).
24	Children accompanying parents to College	-Risk of harm to the child.	H	-Has Health & Safety policy.	Child must be supervised by the parent/guardian at all times when accompanying

					parent/guardian to College or College grounds (car). Follow MSLETB guidelines from safety statement.
25	Online teaching and learning remotely	-Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms	L	-The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to learners/parents.	

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.

Examples of activities, risks and procedures

The examples listed in this document are provided to assist schools in undertaking their risk assessment under the Children First Act, 2015. Schools should note that this list of examples is not intended to be exhaustive. It is the responsibility of each school to ensure, as far as possible, that any

other risks and procedures that are relevant to its own particular circumstances are identified and specified in the written risk assessment and that adequate procedures are in place to address all risks identified.

It is acknowledged that schools already have in place a range of policies, practices and procedures to mitigate the risk of harm to children while they are participating in the activities of the school and that some school activities will carry low or minimal risks of harm compared to others. In the context of the risk assessment that must be undertaken by schools, the Children First Act, 2015 refers to risk as “any potential for harm”. Therefore, it is important that, as part of its risk assessment process, each school lists and reviews all of its various activities (which shall include identifying those that may carry low risk of harm as well as those that carry higher risks of harm). Doing so will help the school to (1) identify, as required under the Children First Act, 2015, any risks of harm that may exist in respect of the school’s activities, (2) identify and assess the adequacy of the various procedures already in place to manage those risks of harm and (3) identify and put in place any such additional procedures as are considered necessary to manage any risk identified.

The Addendum to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 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.

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.

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.

Examples of School Activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
- Recreation breaks for pupils
- Classroom teaching
- One-to-one teaching
- One-to one learning support
- One-to-one counselling

- Outdoor teaching activities
- Online teaching and learning remotely
- Sporting Activities
- School outings
- School trips involving overnight stay
- School trips involving foreign travel
- Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools
- Provision of residential facilities for boarders
- Annual Sports Day
- Fundraising events involving pupils
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
- Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed,
- Care of any vulnerable adult students, including intimate care where needed
- Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required
- Management of provision of food and drink
- Administration of Medicine
- Administration of First Aid
- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
- Training of school personnel in child protection matters
- Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
- Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities
- Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as
 - Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants
 - Members of the Traveller community
 - Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children
 - Pupils perceived to be LGBT

- Pupils of minority religious faiths
- Children in care
- Children on CPNS
- Children with medical needs
- Recruitment of school personnel including -
 - Teachers/SNA's
 - 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
- Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media
- Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.
- Students participating in work experience in the school
- Students from the school participating in work experience elsewhere
- Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
- Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
- After school use of school premises by other organisations
- Use of school premises by other organisation during school day
- Breakfast club
- Homework club/evening study

Examples of Risks of Harm

- 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 the school by a member of school personnel
- Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child

- Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- 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
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms
- Risk of harm due to bullying of child
- Risk of harm due to racism
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school
- 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 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 particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities
- Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care
- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation
- 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

Examples of Procedures to address risks of harm

- 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 2017* are made available to all school personnel
- School Personnel are required to adhere to the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017* and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the *Children First Act 2015* and its Addendum (2019)
- The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme

- The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum
- The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle
- The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's *Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools*
- The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives
- The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.
- The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings
- The school has a Health and safety policy
- The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
- The school has a codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff)
- The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff
- The school has a Special Educational Needs policy
- The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils
- 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
- The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents
- The school has in place a policy governing the use of smart phones and tables devices in the school by pupils as per circular 38/2018
- The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
- The school has in place a Home School Liaison policy and related procedures

- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches
- The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to-one counselling
- The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements
- The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school
- The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils of the school undertaking work experience in external organisation.

Guidance Note 1 – Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

The [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017](#) require that the Board of Management must undertake a review of its Child Safeguarding Statement and that the following checklist shall be used for this purpose. **The review must be completed every year or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the Child Safeguarding Statement refers.** Undertaking an annual review will also ensure that a school also meets its statutory obligation under section 11(8) of the [Children First Act 2015](#), to review its Child Safeguarding Statement every two years.

The checklist is designed as an aid to conducting this review and is not intended as an exhaustive list of the issues to be considered. Individual Boards of Management shall include other items in the checklist that are of relevance to the school in question.

As part of the overall review process, Boards of Management should also assess relevant school policies, procedures, practices and activities vis a vis their adherence to the principles of best practice in child protection and welfare as set out in the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement, the [Children First Act 2015](#), the [Addendum to Children First \(2019\)](#) and the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017](#).

	Yes/No
1. Has the Board formally adopted a Child Safeguarding Statement in accordance with the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017’?	Y
2. Is the Board satisfied that the Child Safeguarding Statement is displayed in a prominent place near the main entrance to the school?	Y
3. As part of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement, has the Board formally adopted, without modification, the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017’?	Y
4. Does the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement include a written assessment of risk as required under the Children First Act 2015 ? (This includes considering the specific issue of online safety as required by the Addendum to Children First)	Y
5. Has the Board reviewed and updated where necessary the written assessment of risk as part of this overall review?	Y
6. Has the Risk Assessment taken account of the risk of harm relevant to online teaching and learning remotely?	Y
7. Has the DLP attended available child protection training?	Y
8. Has the Deputy DLP attended available child protection training?	Y
9. Have any members of the Board attended child protection training?	Y
10. Are there both a DLP and a Deputy DLP currently appointed?	Y

11. Are the relevant contact details (Tusla and An Garda Síochána) to hand?	Y
12. Has the Board arrangements in place to communicate the school's Child Safeguarding Statement to new school personnel?	Y
13. Is the Board satisfied that all school personnel have been made aware of their responsibilities under the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017' and the Children First Act 2015?	Y
14. Has the Board received a Principals Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR) at each Board meeting held since the last review was undertaken?	Y
15. Since the Board's last review, did each CPOR contain all of the information required under each of the 4 headings set out in sections 9.5 to 9.8 inclusive of the procedures?	Y
16. Since the Board's last review, has the Board been provided with and reviewed all documents relevant to the CPOR?	Y
17. Since the Board's last review, have the minutes of each Board meeting appropriately recorded the records provided to the Board as part of CPOR report?	Y
18. Have the minutes of each Board meeting appropriately recorded the CPOR report?	Y
19. Is the Board satisfied that the child protection procedures in relation to the making of reports to Tusla/An Garda Síochána were appropriately followed in each case reviewed?	N/A
20. Is the Board satisfied that, since the last review, all appropriate actions are being or have been taken in respect of any member of school personnel against whom an allegation of abuse or neglect has been made?*	N/A
21. Where applicable, were unique identifiers used to record child protection matters in the Board minutes?	N/A
22. Is the Board satisfied that all records relating to child protection are appropriately filed and stored securely?	N/A
23. Has the Board been notified by any parent in relation to that parent not receiving the standard notification required under section 5.6 of the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017'?	N/A
24. In relation to any cases identified at question 21 above, has the Board ensured that any notifications required under section 5.6 of the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017' were subsequently issued by the DLP?	N/A
25. Has the Board ensured that the Parents' Association (if any), has been provided with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	N/A
26. Has the Board ensured that the patron has been provided with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	Y

27. Has the Board ensured that the school's Child Safeguarding Statement is available to parents on request?	Y
28. Has the Board ensured that the Stay Safe programme is implemented in full in the school? (applies to primary schools)	N/A
29. Has the Board ensured that the Wellbeing Programme for Junior Cycle students is implemented in full in the school? (applies to post- primary schools)	N/A
30. Has the Board ensured that the SPHE curriculum is implemented in full in the school?	N/A
31. Is the Board satisfied that the statutory requirements for Garda Vetting have been met in respect of all school personnel (employees and volunteers)? *	Y (HR)
32. Is the Board satisfied that the Department's requirements in relation to the provision of a child protection related statutory declaration and associated form of undertaking have been met in respect of persons appointed to teaching and non-teaching positions?*	Y (HR)
33. Is the Board satisfied that, from a child protection perspective, thorough recruitment and selection procedures are applied by the school in relation to all school personnel (employees and volunteers)?*	Y (HR)
34. Has the Board considered and addressed any complaints or suggestions for improvements regarding the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	Y
35. Has the Board sought the feedback of parents in relation to the school's compliance with the requirements of the child safeguarding requirements of the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017'?	N
36. Has the Board sought the feedback of pupils in relation to the school's child safeguarding arrangements?	N
37. Is the Board satisfied that the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017' are being fully and adequately implemented by the school?	Y
38. Has the Board identified any aspects of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and/or its implementation that require further improvement?	N
39. Has the Board put in place an action plan containing appropriate timelines to address those aspects of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and/or its implementation that have been identified as requiring further improvement?	Y
40. Has the Board ensured that any areas for improvement that were identified in any previous review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement have been adequately addressed?	Y

*In schools where the ETB is the employer the responsibility for meeting the employer's requirements rests with the ETB concerned. In such cases, this question should be completed following consultation with the ETB.

Signed _____Dara Mulvey_____ Date ____14th December 2022_____

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed _____James Hardiman_____ Date ____14th December 2022_____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Note: Where a school is undertaking its first review, references in this checklist to the “last review” shall be taken to refer to the date on which the Child Safeguarding Statement was first put in place.

Mandatory Template 3 - Notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

To: _____ Mayo, Sligo & Leitrim ETB _____

The Board of Management of North Connaught College of Further Education wishes to inform you that:

- The Board of Management's annual review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement was completed at the Board meeting of 14th December 2022.
- This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the Department's website www.education.ie

Signed _____ Dara Mulvey _____

Date _14th December 2022 _____

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed _____ James Hardiman _____

Date _____ 14th December 2022 _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

