

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Castlebar Educate Together National School (CETNS) is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Fourth Class in the 2021/2022 school year. As a developing school, CETNS will grow each year, and will be up to Sixth Class in 2023/2024.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was first developed in collaboration with all teaching and non-teaching staff of Castlebar Educate Together National School in March 2018, following professional development in the form of Tusla and PDST guidance.

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 Castlebar Educate Together National 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 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is **Sarah Calvey**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Brenda Murphy**
- 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 DES 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 DES 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. The school’s template for recording any child safeguarding allegation and/or concerns is attached as **Appendix 1**. The template for recording how the allegation and/or concern came to be known to the DLP and record of DLP’s phone call seeking advice of Tusla is attached as **Appendix 2**. The Child Protection and Welfare Reporting Form is available at :
https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Child_Protection_and_Welfare_Report_Form_FINAL.pdf

- If a member of school personnel brings an allegation and/or concern to the DLP, and the DLP does not report this to Tusla, the DLP will provide a statement from DLP to a member of school personnel as to the reasons why a report has not been made to Tusla (**Appendix 3**). In this case, the member of school personnel may consult with Tusla and/or submit a report to Tusla if they remain concerned. In such cases, a copy of the report must be provided to the DLP.

- Following the submission of a report to Tusla, the DLP will record whether or not the parents of the child concerned were informed of this. (**Appendix 4**).

- If a child protection concern about a member of school personnel has been raised by a parent, the DLP will address this in line with Section 5.6.2 of the Procedures. Following this, the DLP will provide written notification to the parent regarding how the matter has been addressed (**see Appendix 5**)

- 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 child safeguarding statement.

- The DLP will present a Child Protection Oversight Report to the Board of Management at each meeting, in accordance with relevant legislation. The Child Protection Oversight Report to the BOM is attached as **Appendix 6** For the duration of COVID-19 restrictions, this will be carried out in line with DE guidelines.

- The DLP will maintain a record of the documents provided to the Board of Management as part of the Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR). (**See Appendix 7**)

- 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 the Children First Act (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 attached to this statement, in the form of a Written Assessment of Risk.
- For after-school use of premises for extra-curricular activities, not run by school personnel, the providers must complete a confirmation of Child Safeguarding compliance document (see **Appendix 8**)
- A Child Safeguarding folder, containing this policy, the list of relevant Child Safeguarding contacts and a guide for staff (**Appendix 9**) is available in each classroom of the school.
- The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school's website, the DES 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. The annual checklist (Mandatory Template 2) is attached as **Appendix 10** and the notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement (Mandatory Template 3) is **Appendix 11**

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on 26/01/2022

Signed: 

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: 

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 26/01/2022

Date: 26/01/2022

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Castlebar Educate Together National School

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Castlebar Educate Together National School.

1. List 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
- Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools
- Annual Sports Day
- Fundraising events involving pupils
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- Care of children with special educational needs, 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
- 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

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

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

- 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 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 Health and safety policy
- The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES 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 tablet 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 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

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.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on 20/08/2021. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed  Date 26/01/2022

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed  Date 26/01/2022

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Appendix 1: Child Protection Concerns Recording Sheet

Castlebar Educate Together National School

Child Protection Concerns Recording Sheet

(To be completed by personnel with a concern and submitted to the DLP)

Child's No: _____

Date & Time:	Details of allegation and/or concern (incl. direct quotation)	Signature:

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Appendix 2: Record of how the allegation and/or concern came to be known to the DLP and record of DLP's phone call seeking advice of Tusla

Castlebar Educate Together National School

Child Protection – Record of how the allegation and/or concern came to be known to the DLP and record of DLP's phone call seeking advice of Tusla (Sections 5.1.1 and 5.3.3 of the Procedures)

Part A – Record of how the concern came to be known to the DLP

Date:		Name of child:	
DLP's record of how the concern came to be known to the DLP:			
Signed by DLP:		Date:	

Part B – Record of DLP’s phone call seeking the advice of Tusla (where relevant)

Date:		Time:	
Name of Social Worker, title and contact details:			
Details of information provided to the Tusla Social Worker in respect of the concern (including whether or not any identifying details were provided):			
Advice provided by Tusla in relation to whether or not to report the concern or whether or not to report the concern as a mandated report:			
Any other information or advice provided by Tusla:			
Signed by DLP:		Date:	
Signed by member of school personnel (where applicable)		Date:	

Appendix 3: Template Statement from DLP to a member of school personnel as to the reasons why a report has not been made to Tusla

Castlebar Educate Together National School

Child Protection – Statement from DLP to a member of school personnel as to the reasons why a report has not been made to Tusla (Section 5.3.8 of the Procedures)

Dear _____ (member of school personnel’s full name)

In relation to the concern which you brought to my attention on _____, please be advised that I have decided not to report the matter to Tusla for the following reason:

<i>Tick appropriate box</i>	
	I have sought advice from Tusla and have been advised by Tusla that the matter does not require reporting to Tusla
OR	
	Other reasons

Where the DLP has ticked ‘Other reasons’, those reasons must be set out below:

If you (member of school personnel) remain concerned about the situation, you are free to consult with Tusla and/or report to Tusla. If you decide to report the concern to Tusla you must provide a copy of that report to me as DLP.

Signed by DLP		Date	
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I acknowledge receiving this statement from the DLP:

Signed by member of school personnel		Date	
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Note – A copy of this statement must be retained by the DLP on the relevant child protection file.

Appendix 4: Record of DLP informing or not informing a parent/carer that a report concerning his or her child is being made

Castlebar Educate Together National School

Record of DLP informing or not informing a parent/carer that a report concerning his or her child is being made (Section 5.3.6 of the Procedures)

Part A: Applicable where the DLP has informed the parent/carer that a child protection concern report concerning his or her child is being made to Tusla

Name of child:		Name of parent/carer:	
Date and time parent/carer was informed:		Means of informing parent/carer (phone call, meeting etc.)	
On the date and by the means referred to above, I have informed the above named parent/carer that a child protection report concerning his/her child is being made to Tusla and I gave the following reasons for the decision to report:			
Signed by DLP:		Date:	

Part B: Applicable where the DLP has, in accordance with the Children First National Guidance 2017, decided not to inform the parent/carer that a child protection concern report concerning his or her child is being made to Tusla

Name of Child:			
As DLP and in accordance with the Children First National Guidance 2017, I have decided not to inform the parent/carer that a child protection concern report concerning his/her child is being made to Tusla for the following reason(s): <i>[please tick relevant box(es) below]</i>			
	(a) I consider that the child will be placed at further risk or		
	(b) I consider that the family's knowledge of the report could impair Tusla's ability to carry out a risk assessment or		
	(c) I am of the reasonable opinion that by doing so it may place the reporter at risk or harm from the family, or		
	(d) I have sought advice from Tusla as to whether the parent/carer should be informed and on foot on that advice I have decided not to inform the parent/carer.		
Signed by DLP:		Date:	

Appendix 5: Template written notification from DLP to a parent where a child protection concern about a member of school personnel has been raised by a parent

Castlebar Educate Together National School

Template written notification from DLP to a parent where a child protection concern about a member of school personnel has been raised by a parent (Section 5.6.2 of the Procedures)

Dear _____ (*name of Parent*)

I am writing to you in relation to an allegation of abuse that you made against a member of school personnel on _____ (*dd/mm/year*). I am the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) for child protection matters in the _____ (*insert school name*).

Section 5.6 of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 requires that where a parent of a pupil in the school makes an allegation of abuse (as described in chapter 2 of the procedures) against a member of school personnel, the DLP must issue a written notification to the parent setting out certain matters.

In that regard, any allegation of abuse against a school employee reported to Tusla falls to be dealt with under the relevant procedures set out in chapter 7 “Allegations of Suspicions of Child Abuse regarding School Employees” of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and, as applicable, under relevant employee disciplinary procedures and therefore shall not be dealt with under the school’s parental complaints procedures.

In accordance with the requirement of section 5.6, I am writing to inform you that –

(insert relevant text from options 1,2 or 3 below)

1. As DLP, I have reported the matter to Tusla **OR**
2. As DLP, I have sought the advice of Tusla on the matter and on foot of that advice I have not reported the matter to Tusla **OR**
3. As DLP, I have determined that the matter did not constitute reasonable grounds for concern as set out under the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and therefore I did not report the matter to Tusla. My reasons for that determination are as follows *(insert reasons below)*:

Finally, I must advise you that it is open to you to contact Tusla directly in relation to this matter, should you wish to do so.

Yours sincerely

Name of DLP

Castlebar Educate Together National School

Child Protection Oversight Report

Date of BOM meeting:

Date of last BOM meeting:

A. ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AGAINST MEMBERS OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Information that shall be provided as set out in section 9.5 of the procedures		Number
(a)	State the number of reports made to Tusla since the last board meeting in respect of an allegation of abuse against a member of school personnel.	
(b)	State the number of cases, since the last board meeting, where the DLP sought advice from Tusla in relation to an allegation of abuse against a member of school personnel and the matter was not reported by the DLP based on the advice of Tusla.	
(c)	State the number of cases, since the last board meeting, where an allegation of abuse has been made against a member of school personnel and the DLP has not sought any advice from Tusla in relation to the matter and has not reported the matter to Tusla	
(d)	State the number of cases, since the last board meeting, where an allegation of abuse has been made against a member of school personnel and the DLP did not report the matter to Tusla in circumstances where Tusla advised the DLP that it should be reported	
(e)	Where there were no such cases at (a), (b), (c), or (d) above, state this fact by recording "NIL" →	

Where the answer is 1 or more in sections (a) to (d) above the board of management must be provided with all of the documents specified in section 9.5.2 of the procedures in respect of each such case at the board meeting. Where any case at sections 9.5 (c) and (d) arise the DLP must immediately inform the chairperson of the board of management in accordance with section 9.5.6 of the procedures.

Note – the requirements of sections 9.5.3 to 9.5.5 must be followed where providing documents to the board under this heading

B. OTHER CHILD PROTECTION CONCERNS IN RESPECT OF PUPILS IN THE SCHOOL

Information that shall be provided as set out in section 9.6 of the procedures		Number
(a)	Any case where a member of school personnel has submitted a report to Tulsa in respect of a child in the school in circumstances where the DLP has decided that the matter did not warrant reporting	
(b)	Any case where the DLP has sought the advice of Tulsa in respect of a concern about a child in the school and Tulsa has advised that the matter should not be reported	
(c)	Any case where the DLP has sought the advice of Tulsa in respect of a concern about a child in the school and Tulsa advised that the matter should be reported but the DLP has not reported the matter in question.	
(d)	Where there were no such cases at (a), (b), or (c) above, state this fact by recording "NIL" →	

Where the answer is 1 or more in sections (a) to (c) above the board of management must be provided with all of the documents specified in sections 9.6.2 of the procedures in respect of each such case at the board meeting.
 Note – the requirements of sections 9.6.3 to 9.6.6 must be followed where providing documents to the board under this heading.

C. CHILD PROTECTION CONCERNS ARISING FROM ALLEGED BULLYING BEHAVIOUR AMONGST PUPILS

Information that shall be provided as set out in section 9.7 of the procedures		Number
(a)	State the number of cases where the DLP has reported a concern about a child arising from alleged bullying behaviour amongst pupils	
(b)	State the number of cases where the DLP has sought Tusla advice as to whether to report a concern about a child arising from alleged bullying behaviour amongst pupils	
(c)	Where there were no such cases at (a) or (b) above, state this fact by recording “NIL” →	

Where the answer is 1 or more in sections (a) to (b) above the board of management must be provided with all of the documents specified in section 9.7.2 of the procedures in respect of each such case at the board meeting.
 Note – the requirements of sections 9.7.3 must be followed where providing documents to the board under this heading

D. SUMMARY DATA

Information that shall be provided as set out in section 9.8 of the procedures		Number
(a)	State the total number of reports made to Tusla by the DLP	
	State the number of those reports which were submitted as mandated reports	
	State whether or not any of those reports (mandated or otherwise) concerned a member of school personnel	
(b)	State the total number of cases where the DLP sought advice from Tusla and as a result of this advice, no report was made by the DL	
	State whether or not any of those cases at (b) concerned a member of school personnel	
(c)	State the total number of cases where a member of school personnel provided the DLP with a copy of a report submitted by that person to Tusla in relation to a matter that the DLP had considered did not require reporting or did not require reporting as a mandated report	
	State whether or not any such cases at (c) concerned a member of school personnel	
(d)	Where there were no such cases at (a) (b) or (c) above state this fact by recording “NIL” →	

Important Note regarding above summary data:

It should be noted that the summary data under this heading relates to the overall number of cases/reports arising since the last board meeting and is therefore not a summary of the number of cases/reports recorded under the first 3 headings in the Principal’s Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR).

Signed:

(Principal)

Date:

Appendix 7: Template for recording documents provided to the Board of Management as part of the Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR)



Template for recording documents provided to the Board of Management as part of the Child Protection Oversight Report

Documents in respect of case: _____

Date of Board of Management meeting:

1. Copies of records and notes pertaining to how the allegation and/or concern came to be known to the DLP.	
2. Copies of any records and notes pertaining to the seeking of Tusla advice in relation to the allegation and/ or concern and to the advice given.	
3. Copies of any reports submitted to Tusla (by the DLP or any member of school personnel).	
4. Copies of any other records of communications with Tusla, An Garda Síochána or any other party in relation to the allegation and/or concern (including any acknowledgement of receipt of the report by Tusla).	
5. Copies of any statement provided to a member of school personnel under section 5.3.8 of the procedures.	
6. Copies of any notification issued under section 5.6 of the procedures. (This applies only to cases where a parent of a pupil in the school made an allegation of abuse against a member of school personnel.	

I certify that this template accurately records the documents provided to the Board of Management as part of the Principal's Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR) at the board meeting on XXXX.

Signed: _____ (School Principal) **Date:** _____

Signed: _____ (Chairperson, BOM) **Date:** _____

Appendix 8: Template to be completed for after-school use of premises for extra-curricular activities, not run by school personnel.

Child Protection Documentation

Castlebar Educate Together National School

Confirmation of Compliance with CETNS Child Safeguarding Statement

Date: _____

Dear Chairperson of Castlebar Educate Together N.S. Board of Management,

I _____, co-ordinator of the following after-school activity:

_____, agree to comply with the Child Safeguarding

Statement and Risk Assessment of Castlebar Educate Together National School.

I will work at all times in accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to the Children First Act (2019), and the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary School 2017.

Signed: _____

(on behalf of the after-school activity provider)

Signed: _____

(on behalf of the Board of Management)

Child Safeguarding Contact Details



CASTLEBAR EDUCATE TOGETHER
NATIONAL SCHOOL

CHILD SAFEGUARDING FOLDER

This Child Safeguarding Folder contains relevant contact details (below), Castlebar ETNS Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment, a “What should I do?” information sheet, Child Safeguarding recording templates, Tusla advice call recording templates and Appendix 3: Protocol authorising immediate action (Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017).

This folder should not be removed.

RELEVANT CONTACT DETAILS

Designated Liaison Person	Sarah Calvey (Principal)
Deputy Designated Liaison Person	Brenda Murphy
Tusla Duty Social Worker	094 9049137
Castlebar Garda Station	(094) 903 8200
Emergency	999 or 112



CASTLEBAR EDUCATE TOGETHER
NATIONAL SCHOOL

CHILD SAFEGUARDING – WHAT DO I DO?

Remember that all members of teaching staff are mandated persons

If you have a Child Safeguarding concern, or if a Child Safeguarding Disclosure is made to you, follow the below steps:

- Record facts/direct quotes on the yellow Child Safeguarding recording template, using the child's unique code. (Remember not to ask any leading questions, and not to use the child's name)
- Speak to the DLP (or the DDLP in the absence of the DLP) as soon as possible.
- The DLP will then liaise with Tusla. You will be informed whether or not a report was made to the Tusla, based on the advice provided by them. A joint report may be made with you, as a mandated person.
- If the DLP does not make a report to Tusla, and you believe that a report is warranted, you should then (as a mandated person) make this report yourself. This must be communicated with the DLP (for inclusion in the Child Protection Oversight Report to the BOM).

If the DLP or DDLP are uncontactable and you have immediate concerns, follow the below steps:

- *Record facts/direct quotes on the yellow Child Safeguarding recording template, using the child's unique code. (Remember not to ask any leading questions, and not to use the child's name)*
- *Contact the Duty Social Worker on **094 9049137** for an 'advice call'. They will advise if a report should be made or not. If you have immediate concerns for the child and cannot contact a duty social worker, you should contact Castlebar Garda Station on (094) 903 8200.*
- *Record details of the Tusla advice call on the relevant template.*
- *If Tusla advise making a report, do so on the Child Protection and Welfare Report Form (available on www.tusla.ie) and post it to the Duty Social Worker (they will advise of name and address). Keep a copy of this report form.*

Always communicate the above actions in italics with the DLP as soon as possible.

Appendix 10

Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement (Mandatory Template 2)

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'?	
2. Is the Board satisfied that the Child Safeguarding Statement is displayed in a prominent place near the main entrance to the school?	
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'?	
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)	
5. Has the Board reviewed and updated where necessary the written assessment of risk as part of this overall review?	
6. Has the Risk Assessment taken account of the risk of harm relevant to online teaching and learning remotely?	
7. Has the DLP attended available child protection training?	
8. Has the Deputy DLP attended available child protection training?	
9. Have any members of the Board attended child protection training?	
10. Are there both a DLP and a Deputy DLP currently appointed?	
11. Are the relevant contact details (Tusla and An Garda Síochána) to hand?	

12. Has the Board arrangements in place to communicate the school's Child Safeguarding Statement to new school personnel?	
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?	
14. Has the Board received a Principals Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR) at each Board meeting held since the last review was undertaken?	
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?	
16. Since the Board's last review, has the Board been provided with and reviewed all documents relevant to the CPOR?	
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?	
18. Have the minutes of each Board meeting appropriately recorded the CPOR report?	
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?	
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?	
21. Where applicable, were unique identifiers used to record child protection matters in the Board minutes?	
22. Is the Board satisfied that all records relating to child protection are appropriately filed and stored securely?	
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'?	
24. In relation to any cases identified at question 20 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?	
25. Has the Board ensured that the Parents' Association (if any), has been provided with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	
26. Has the Board ensured that the patron has been provided with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	
27. Has the Board ensured that the school's Child Safeguarding Statement is available to parents on request?	
28. Has the Board ensured that the Stay Safe programme is implemented in full in the school? (applies to primary schools)	
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)	
30. Has the Board ensured that the SPHE curriculum is implemented in full in the school?	
31. Is the Board satisfied that the statutory requirements for Garda Vetting have been met in respect of all school personnel (employees and volunteers)? *	
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?*	
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)?*	

34. Has the Board considered and addressed any complaints or suggestions for improvements regarding the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	
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'?	
36. Has the Board sought the feedback of pupils in relation to the school's child safeguarding arrangements?	
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?	
38. Has the Board identified any aspects of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and/or its implementation that require further improvement?	
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?	
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?	

*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

Chairperson, Board of Management Date:

Signed

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management Date:

Appendix 11

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



CASTLEBAR EDUCATE TOGETHER
NATIONAL SCHOOL

To:

The Board of Management of **Castlebar Educate Together National School** 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 on 26/01/2022
- 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

Date: 26/01/2022

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed

Date: 26/01/2022

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management