



Coláiste Chilliaín
Child Safeguarding Statement
and Risk Assessment 2026

CSS 1: Ráiteas um Chosaint Leanaí agus Measúnú Riosca

For	Coláiste Chilliaín
At	Clondalkin, Dublin 22

This school is a post-primary school

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)* and 2025, *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* and *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed.* (Tusla, 2024), the board of management has adopted the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment set out in this document. The board of management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the department's *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Name of Designated Liason Person (DLP):

Martha Ní Chathasaigh

Name of Deputy Designation Liason Person (DDL):

Rita Ní Dhomhnalláin

In the absence of the DLP, the Deputy DLP shall assume responsibilities of the DLP

Name of Relevant Person:

Martha Ní Chathasaigh

In schools this person is the DLP

Relevant person can be contacted on:

01 - 4574888

Eolas@colaistechilliaín.ie

Under the Children First Act 2015 Relevant Person means a person who is appointed by a provider of a relevant service to be the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement. This person is nominated by the board of management to manage and provide oversight of child protection concerns/allegations of child abuse.

Name of Chairperson of the Board of Management, or in an ETB school the Chief Executive or their delegate:

Mark McDonald (Director of Schools DDLETB)

In the event that both DLP and DDLP are absent and unavailable, and where there is no staff member formally acting in their role, the chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the chief executive or their delegate, assumes the role of DLP.

The board of management recognises that child protection and safeguarding permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In all of these, 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 happening to children and protect members of school personnel from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of child abuse.
- Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.
- Fully respect confidentiality requirements as set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* in dealing with child protection matters.
- Adhere to the above principles in relation to any vulnerable adult.

Procedures and Measures in Place

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance 2017*, and *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed.* (Tusla, 2024), and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- **Procedure for the Management of Allegations of Abuse or Misconduct against School Personnel Relating to a Child Availing of Our Service**
 - Where any member of school personnel is the subject of any investigation in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in relation to a child attending the school, the school is required to adhere to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie Website.

- **Procedure for the Safe Recruitment and Selection of School Personnel to Work With Children**

- The school is required to adhere to the requirements of the Vetting Act. The selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, requires the school to adhere 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 Youth and available on the gov.ie website and as outlined in Chapter 10 of the procedures.
- A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons, as follows:
 - ⇒ The following protocol authorises immediate action under section 7.3.6 of the 'Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025'. The procedures as set out in Chapter 7 and Appendix 3 of the Procedures should be followed in relation to the activation of this protocol.
 - ⇒ Where circumstances warrant it, as an essential precautionary measure in order to protect the children in the school, the principal, having consulted with the Director of Schools / DDLETB (The employer), is authorised to direct an employee to immediately absent himself or herself from the school without loss of pay until the matter has been considered by the employer.
 - ⇒ It is very important to note that the action under this protocol is intended to be precautionary and not disciplinary. The action under this protocol is an interim measure pending the employer's further consideration of the matter.
 - ⇒ The employee will be invited to a meeting with the principal, who is authorized by the school authority to inform the employee of the allegation and the action being taken. The employee may be accompanied by an appropriate person of their choice and will be so advised. In any event, the employee will also be advised of the matter, in writing. The principal shall also make a record of the meeting which shall be retained on the relevant case file.

- **Procedure for Provision of and Access to Child Safeguarding Training and Information, Including the Identification of the Occurrence of Harm**

- The school provides information and training to members of school personnel in relation to the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) as follows:
 - ⇒ The school has provided each member of school personnel, including any new members of school personnel, (employees and volunteers, board of management members, student teachers and those on work experience) with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.
 - ⇒ The school ensures that members of school personnel have availed of relevant training and completed child protection training.

- ⇒ The school encourages board of management members to avail of any relevant training and complete child protection training.
- ⇒ The board of management ensures that records of all staff and board member child protection training are maintained.
- **Procedure for the Reporting of Child Protection or Welfare Concerns to Tusla**
 - All members of school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, in relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla. Mandated reporting applies to all registered teachers and any other mandated person who may be employed by the school, for example a chaplain or nurse. A full list of those people who are mandated persons is set out in Appendix 1 procedures.
- **Procedure for Maintaining a List of the Persons (if any) in the Relevant Service who are Mandated Persons**
 - There is a procedure in place to maintain a list of mandated persons. Schools may on occasion employ additional staff who are mandated by virtue of their profession. This list will include all registered teachers and identify additional employees that are not registered teachers.
- **Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person (In schools this person is the DLP)**
 - There is a procedure in place for appointing a relevant person.

The various procedures referred to in this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, the board of management 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.

Note: The procedures and measures in place outlined above, are not intended as exhaustive list. Individual boards of management shall also include in this section such other procedures and measures that are of relevance to the school.

This statement has been published on the school's website or will be made available on request by the school. It has been provided to all members of school personnel, the parents' association, the patron and parents. A copy of this statement and risk assessment will be made available to Tusla and the department if requested.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Common Procedures in place to mitigate risk:

1. The school has provided a copy of the school's Child Protection Statement and Risk Assessment to all staff.
2. Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are available to all staff.
3. School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to comply with the Children First Act 2015 as well as to support the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its appendices, including the Children First Addendum 2019 and 2025
4. A protocol is in place authorising immediate action in cases where an employee is required to be absent from school immediately for child protection reasons.
5. The school complies with the Garda Vetting Legislation.
6. The school complies with the relevant Department of Education and Youth circulars.

	School Activities	Risks Identified in each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to mitigate risk
1.	<p>Arrival and Dismissal of Students</p> <p>Breaks / yard time</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Risk of harm caused by another child • Risk of harm not recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not properly and promptly reported by school personnel • Risk of bullying • Risk of physical harm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are available to all school staff. • The school has provided a copy of the school's Child Protection Statement and Risk Assessment to all staff. • Sign In/out process at the office • The school has a Code of Conduct and Anti-Bullying Policy – Bí Cineálta (CL 55/2024) • Reporting Procedures • Supervision Procedures in place - Break/lunchtime rota (in the yard, in the restaurant, outside the toilet etc.)
2.	<p>Classroom Teaching</p> <p>One-to-one teaching/support</p> <p>One-to-one counselling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm not being recognized by school personnel • Risk of harm not properly and promptly reported by school staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Code of Behaviour • Code of Conduct for school personnel (from the Teaching Council for teachers)

	<p>Supervised Study/ Detention</p> <p>After-school events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate peer interactions • Risk of harm to a child by school staff • Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situations • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communication between a child and another child or adult. • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are trained in Child Protection Procedures • The school complies with Garda Vetting Legislation • A protocol is in place authorising immediate action in cases where an employee is required to be absent from school immediately for child protection reasons. • Procedures for one-to-one teaching/counselling • An open space/room with a glass panel in the door is used for teaching • Reporting Procedures • Supervisory Procedures • The school encourages staff to avail themselves of relevant training • The school complies with the relevant Department of Education and Youth circulars in relation to recruitment.
3.	<p>Online teaching</p> <p>Use of ICT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 caused by a member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device, or other manner • Cyberbullying Risk of harm caused by children accessing/using computers, social media, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPHE curriculum in place, online safety as part • The school has an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) • Procedures for the use of technology • The school has a policy in place regarding the use of smartphones and tablets in the school by pupils in accordance with circular 38/2018 and the national guidelines. * • Code of Conduct • The school encourages staff to avail of relevant training. • Anti-Bullying Policy & Bí Cineálta (CL 55/2024)

		phones and other devices inappropriately while at school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring & Supervision Procedures • Reporting Procedures • Guidance to parents/pupils
4.	Outdoor Teaching Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Risk of physical harm • Inappropriate contact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisory procedures • Risk assessments for tours • Health and Safety Practice • Code of Conduct
5.	Sports Activities & Sports Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Inappropriate communication • Unvetted adults • Risk of harm to a child in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school • Physical harm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Procedures Outside Dressing Rooms • Staff remaining with external people when necessary • The school complies with Garda Vetting legislation. • Code of Conduct • First aid available
6.	School Tours, Overnight Tours & Overseas Tours Use of off-site facilities Fundraising events in which students participate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Risk of harm to a child by a school staff, staff member of another organisation or other person when the child is taking part in activities outside of school • Risk of physical harm • Increased vulnerability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has a school tour policy. • The school complies with Garda Vetting legislation. • Risk assessments for tours • Supervisory arrangements • Rules set for the tour • Code of Conduct • Parental permission • Critical Incident Management Plan*
7.	Use of Toilets/Dressing Rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullying • Inappropriate contact • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exterior supervision procedures for toilets and changing rooms • Anti-Bullying Policy - Bí Cineálta (CL 55/2024) • Code of Conduct
8.	School transport (Bus etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm from driver/travel escort • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Risk of harm not being recognised by school staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school complies with Garda Vetting legislation • Code of Conduct • Reporting Procedures • Supervision Procedures (where it is a school trip)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm not properly and promptly reported by school staff • Risk of harm where school staff are not properly trained • Risk of harm to child by school staff 	
9.	<p>Care of students with SEN</p> <p>Caring for vulnerable students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased vulnerability • Inappropriate contact • Risk that harm will not be promptly reported/recognised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RBO policy to be developed* • Child Protection Reporting Procedures • Child Safeguarding Training • Pastoral Care Available • Anti-Bullying Policy - Bí Cineálta (CL 55/2024) • SPHE & Wellbeing Curriculum • The school complies with Garda Vetting legislation. • The school encourages staff to avail of relevant training
10.	Challenging behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical harm • Undue restraint • Risk of harm not being properly reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school uses the 'Understanding Behaviours of Concern' guide. • Code of Conduct • Recording/Reporting • Reporting Procedures • Behaviour Plan in place where appropriate
11.	<p>Administration of First aid</p> <p>Administration of medicine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate contact • Incorrect treatment • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Unsafe handling • Incorrect Dosage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid Procedures • Staff training (January 2026) - The school encourages staff to avail of relevant training • Incident reporting • Health and Safety Policy • Critical Incident Management Policy • Medical Needs and Medication Instructions recorded – permission/instructions received from parents

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students self-administer medication where appropriate otherwise staff trained to administer
12.	<p>Managing the supply of food and drink</p> <p>Canteen provision</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm to a child by a school staff, staff member of another organisation, external contractor or other person • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisory Procedures • Code of Conduct • Child Safeguarding Procedures • Food Intolerances and Allergies Communicated - School Ban Where Appropriate
13.	Curriculum provision of SPHE/RSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of pupils receiving inaccurate or insensitive content • Risk of inadequate teacher preparation/training • Risk of discomfort or distress among pupils. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Training – CPD The school encourages staff to avail of relevant training • SPHE/RSE schemes guided by national specifications • Wellbeing programme • Child Safeguarding Procedures • Pastoral care available • Reporting Procedures
14.	<p>Prevention of bullying</p> <p>Caring for pupils from minority backgrounds</p> <p>Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender children. Pupils who are considered to have LGBT</p> <p>Caring for pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm from bullying • Cyberbullying • Harm caused by bullying/discrimination on any basis/racism • Increased vulnerability • Risk of harm caused by another child at school • Risk of harm not being recognized • Risk of harm not properly and promptly reported by school staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Bullying Policy & Procedures - Bí Cineálta (CL 55/2024) • Code of Conduct • Reporting procedures • SPHE Curriculum/ Wellbeing Programme, online safety as part • Inclusive practice • The school runs anti-racism awareness initiatives. • Critical Incident Management Plan*
15.	Training of school personnel (Child Protection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm not being recognised • Risk of harm not being reported promptly • Inconsistent practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping Records of School Personnel Training • Revising Policy, procedures and duties as part of meetings at the

19.	Trainee teachers undertaking school placement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm • Lack of awareness of procedures • Risk of harm not being recognised • Risk of harm not being reported promptly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction as part of placement • Child Safeguarding Statement provided • A collaborative teacher working with them • Adherence to Child Protection Procedures
20.	Use of video/ photography/ other media to record school events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of abuse/sharing • Risk of harm online • Violation of GDPR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear media/photo procedures • GDPR procedures • AUP Agreement
21.	Use of school premises by other organisations outside school hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm to children on site • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Risk of child safeguarding procedures not being properly complied with by other organisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any organisation working with children and using school land confirms in writing that it has: Vetting process in place, reporting procedures, DIA in place, Insurance, Health & Safety Practice, Child protection and Safety Procedures, Training for staff, Data protection • Supervision/ Monitoring by school management/ school staff where appropriate • Reporting procedures
22.	Use of school premises by other organisations during school hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of access to pupils • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Risk of unsupervised access to pupils by external users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear procedures, • Supervisory Procedures • Record of visitors • Supervision/ Monitoring by school management/ school staff • Reporting procedures
23.	Children in Care Children on the Túsła's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm caused by bullying • Vulnerability • Risk of harm not being recognised • Risk of harm not being reported promptly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Bullying Policy & Procedures - Bí Cineálta (CL 55/2024) • Inclusive practice • Reporting Procedures • SPHE/Wellbeing Curriculum

24.	Staff communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boundaries • Improper communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Conduct at the school for staff (from the Teaching Council) • Staff adhere to Child Protection Procedures • Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)
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*Policy to be developed/updated – procedures in place

Risk in the context of this Child Safeguarding Statement and 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 the Children First Act 2015: “harm” means, in relation to a child— (a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health, development or welfare, or (b) sexual abuse of the child, whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise.

In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 9 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, the following is the written Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

In undertaking this Child Safeguarding Statement and 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 Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was reviewed by the board of management on 18th June 2026

Signed:*  Date: 18th / 6 / 26
Chairperson of the board of management

Signed:*  Date: 18/06/26
Principal/Secretary to the board of management

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again June 2027

* Document to be printed and signed with original signature



Child Safeguarding in our school

WHAT IS IT?



- Child Safeguarding is what we do in our school to keep children and young people safe from harm.
- We think about how to keep everyone safe and write down how we will do that. This is called our **Child Safeguarding Statement**.
- When we do this we will ask you what you think about safeguarding in our school. It is important that you feel safe at school and in your life outside of school too.
- If someone says or does something to hurt you or makes you feel uncomfortable, you can tell an adult that you trust.
- Every school has a person in charge of child safeguarding. This person is called the Designated Liaison Person or DLP.

YOU CAN GET HELP FROM:

Any trusted adult. For example: your Year Head, a teacher, SNA, deputy principal or the principal

WHAT WE WILL DO:

- Listen and understand
- Guide or look for help



The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) for our school is the Principal -
Martha Ní Chathasaigh



The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) is the Deputy Principal -
Rita Ní Dhomhnalláin