St. Fergal's NS.,

Boghall Road,

Bray,

Co. Wicklow.

Child Safeguarding Statement 2018

St. Fergal's National School Boghall Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

Child Safeguarding Statement

St. Fergal's National School is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class. We also have 2 Early Start Classes.

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, 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 St. Fergal's has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement 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 Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement.
- The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Mr. Tom Sargent, Principal.
- The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Nuala Forster in the interim until a new Deputy Principal has been appointed.
- 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
- 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;
- continue its 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 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 in 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.
- In this school the Board has appointed the above named 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.
- All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.
- In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Board has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school's procedures for managing those risks is attached as an appendix to these procedures.
- The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school's website, the DES website or will be made available on request by the school.
- This Statement has been published on the school's website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents' Association and the patron. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to 'Tusla' and the Department if requested.
- 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 21st March 2018.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 4th April 2022.

Signed:

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 06/09/2023

4168

Signed:

Lon sargent Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date:

06/09/2023

Notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

To: Ms. Claire Stapleton, Chairperson, Parents' Association

The Board of Management of St. Fergal's 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 of 4th April 2022.
- Department's website www.education.ie This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the

Mr. Joe Behan

Date:

Signed:

Chairperson, Board of Management

Mr. Tom Sargent

Signed:

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

To: Ms. Alannah O'Neill, Chairperson, Parents' Association

The Board of Management of St. Fergal's National School wishes to inform you that:

- 28th February 2023. The Board of Management's annual review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement was completed at the Board Meeting of
- Department's website www.education.ie This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the

Mr. Joé Behár

Date:

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed:

Signed:

Mr. Tom Sargent

Date:

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

CHILD SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT

WRITTEN ASSESSMENT OF RISK OF ST FERGAL'S NATIONAL SCHOOL

In accordance with section 11of 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 Assessment of Risk of St. Fergal's National School. The assessment consists of (1) a list of school activities, (b) risks of harm identified in respect of these activities and (c) the procedures in place to address the identified risks of harm.

accordance with Part 1, Section 2 of the Children First Act, 2015, is as follows: general health and safety risk. The definition of harm as set out in Chapter 4 of the Child Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and in 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

"harm" means, in relation to a child –

sexual abuse of the child assault, ill-treatment or neglect of a child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to affect the child's health, development or welfare, or

whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combinations of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise.

"ill-treatment" means, in relation to a child, to abandon or cruelly treat the child,

or to cause or procure or allow the child to be abandoned or cruelly treated;

"welfare" means, in relation to a child, the moral, intellectual, physical, emotional and social welfare of the child. "neglect" means, in relation to a child, to deprive the child of adequate food, warmth, clothing, hygiene, supervision, safety or medical care;

St. Fergal's National School, Boghall Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

Child Safeguarding Statement 2018

List of School Activities Identi	Identified Risks of Harm	Procedures/Safeguards to address Risks of	Risk level (low,
		Harm	medium, high)
Remote teaching during Risk of h closures content.	Risk of harm to pupils using online content.	Acceptance Use Policy.	
		Distance Learning Policy.	High
Homes	Homes are unlikely to have a filtering system on their		
broadba	broadband line as is currently in	SECTION SECTIO	
place in	place in our school system.		
Pupils m materia	Pupils may access inappropriate material or websites.		
Risk of p	Risk of pop-ups or inappropriate content appearing.		
Increase	Increased risk of cyberbullying.		
Voice call to parents or Risk of h	Risk of harm to pupil.	Acceptable Use Policy-Online communication Guidelines.	Medium
	Risk of call being interrupted by unwelcome other.		
with pupils due to school Risk of h staff will	Risk of harm to pupils as school staff will not observe any potential	Where the DLP or DDLP becomes aware of a concern, it will be reported to Tusla.	High
Ciosures	פאותבוורם כו וובקוררו כו מצמסרי	School staff are in touch with families identified as vulnerable over the telephone or email.	
		1-	Alinerable over the telephone or email.

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		visual recording of children and	
		KISK OF OTHERS LAKING ALL AUGIO OF	
		Bisk of others taking an audio or	
	THE PROPERTY SECTION AND ADDRESS OF STREET AS A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF	unweicome other.	
		o thou	
		Risk of call being interrupted by an	
High	Distance Learning Policy.		with pupils
		Risk of harm to pupil.	Live face to face interactions
	procedures.		
	Staff were reminded of their duty of care and reporting	Participant of the participant	
		neglect to while they are at home.	
	learning to ensure that everything is ok in the household.	an incident/incidents of abuse or	
		not have anyone they can disclose	
		Risk of harm to pupil as they may	

			Bullyir	memb	paren		Childr	are in	incorr	Childr	s)	Daily dismissal of pupils at Childi 1.30pm (Infant classes) and not ki		
			Bullying by other children.	members on site.	parents/childminders/family		Children not being collected at all.	are in place.	incorrect parent in cases of family conflict or where barring orders	Children being collected by		Children being collected by adults not known to them.		
In the case where a legal barring order is in place (where known), and a parent against whom the barring order is in place attempts to collect the child, the other parent and on Garda Sinchaga will be contacted with the delication.	Anti-bullying policy	practicable the parent from taking the child from the school.	the child and attempts to do so, the parent who normally collects the child will be contacted without delay. In the meantime, the Principal will prevent, insofar as is	given to the school that a named person is not to collect	In the case of family conflict where an instruction has been	parent is expected to inform the school and give the name	In cases where the parent cannot collect a child, the	return into the school where teacher will phone parent.	Senior pupils who are not collected know the rule is to	teacher or remain under supervision in school	Infants to 2 nd class are handed over to the parents by the	Code of Conduct for Parents and Visitors.	A. Letter to parents about supervision B. Parental Behaviour	Code of Conduct for Parents & Visitors
											Medium			

Code of Behaviour SEN Policy Classroom doors fitted with glass panels SEN Policy Classroom doors fitted with glass panels Classroom doors fitted with glass panels SEN Policy Classroom doors fitted with glass panels Code of Behaviour SEN Policy Classroom doors fitted with glass panels Anti-Bullying Code of Behaviour Child Safeguarding Statement Implementation of Child Protection Procedures Two adults present at all times
Low Low

Use of toilet facilities around school during school hours	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs, e.g. children of the Travelling Community, migrants, children of minority religious faiths, children in care, LGBT children, pupils perceived to be LGBT, children on the Child Protection Notification System
Harm by school personnel or peers Inappropriate behaviour Risk of harm by an adult. Risk of harm by another pupil	Harm by school personnel Bullying by peers
Toilets are in classroom and therefore supervised by teacher during class time. Rule that only one child is allowed in a toilet at any time. Junior children who need toilet from yard are accompanied by Senior pupil who waits at external exit door but has view of pupil entering bathroom. Senior pupils who need toilet from yard use the appropriate door with staff member waiting at external door while other adult supervises yard.	SNA Policy SEN Policy Compliance with all legislation and DES circulars Regarding Garda Vetting Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
Medium	Medium

Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying School Tour Policy	Harm by school personnel, parent volunteers, by employees of tour	School Tours
Science Plan		from the school.
Minimum of two members of staff present in so far as possible		Curriculum in outdoors settings in the school grounds and/or in local settings away
Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying	Harm by school personnel	Teaching of the Science
Glass doors in hall doors		
Anti-Bullying PE Plan		Education Curriculum in the school hall/yard
Code of Behaviour	Harm by school personnel	Teaching of the Physical
	teaching of material	of SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe
School implements SPHE. RSE and Stav Safe in full	Non-teaching or inadequate	Curricular provision in respect
PE hall: pupils using the hall for PE should use the toilets beside hall. Teacher should direct lesson from doors of hall while pupils use toilet.		
After schools tutors/coaches in hall should stand at the door while coaching to ensure safety of child using toilets		

 School yoga class 		promotion/school completion sporting activities	• Sports	training	 In school athletics 	 In school GAA training 	training and games	blitzes including	soccer, and basketball	local football, hurling,	competitions, in	Cumann na mBunscol	 School teams in 	Sporting activities:			Festina Lente
							or approximately transfer to the control of the con			adult/child	relationship/communications	Inappropriate	external personnel	Harm by school personnel or	AND AND THE STREET OF STREET STREET	March to recover my county parent	Harm to pupils
	The second secon			The section of the se		Copy of the Copy o	Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying		external coaches	Teacher/SNA is present at in-school coaching sessions by	training sessions and matches	Minimum of two school personnel present at all external	both Internal and external	Child Safeguarding Statement provided to all personnel,	A child will never travel on their own with a member of staff.	members of staff.	Children will be brought to and from Festina Lente by two
					8									Medium			High

	Active Schools Week		Swimming at Shoreline Pool
Inappropriate recording (video or photography) of pupils Subsequent inappropriate use and/or circulation of material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	Harm by school personnel and/or parents or other spectators	Subsequent inappropriate use and/or circulation of material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	Harm by school personnel, parent volunteers or external personnel Inappropriate relationship/communications between child & another adult/child Inappropriate recording (video or photograph) of pupils at pool/changing areas
Parents/spectators separated from sports area Mobile Phone and Electronic Device policy Anti-Bullying Code of Behaviour	All school staff present	Swimming Policy Anti-bullying policy Code of Behaviour	Child Safeguarding Statement provided to all personnel, both internal and external Minimum of two school personnel present at all swimming lessons Teacher/SNA is present at poolside during swimming lessons by external coaches Mobile Phone and Electronic device policy
	High		High

Fundraising or social events organised by Parents' Association		Extracurricular activity with teacher volunteer e.g. choir, debating	Plays	Christmas Concert/Performances &
Harm by school personnel and/or parents/guardians	relationship/communications between child and teacher	Harm by team. Inappropriate	Inappropriate recording (video or photograph) of pupils Subsequent inappropriate use and/or circulation of material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	Harm by school personnel and/or parents or other spectators
Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all relevant parents Minimum of two parents present School staff present insofar as possible Code of Conduct for Parents and Visitors	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Policy	Child Safeguarding Statement provided to all personnel, both internal and external School staff present for rehearsals & concerts School Tour policy for external events/competitions	Mobile Phone & Electronic Device policy Anti-Bullying Policy	All School staff present
Medium		Medium		Medium

	Administration of First Aid	Participation in religious ceremonies
	Harm by school personnel Sexual abuse	Harm by parish personnel Inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another adult/child
First Aid administered in open area in view of others First Aid administered by two adults	Correct administration of First Aid First Aid training for school personnel	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all relevant parish Personnel Preparation for sacraments takes place in an open area such as the church Confessions take place in an open area Diocesan Safety Regulations
	Medium	Medium

	Sign in		
	Garda Vetting where appropriate Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all new personnel Code of Conduct for Parents & Visitors	Potential harm not recognised or promptly reported	and maintenance staff during school hours and/or during after schools activities
High	Compliance with all legislation and DES circulars regarding	Potential to harm	Recruitment of contractors
	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all new personnel	Potential harm not recognised or promptly reported	SNAs, caretaker, secretary, cleaners etc.
Medium	Compliance with all legislation and DES circulars regarding	Potential to harm	Recruitment of school
Medium	Vetting Procedures Policy for Parents/Volunteers	Harm to pupils	Volunteers/Parents
	Parent must supply school with correct instructions on administration, including correct dose, time and method		
	Parents must request administration of medication from BOM and sign indemnity form Parent must maintain supply of correct medication	Unavailability/inaccessibility of medication	Exposures indicated to rechard
High	Administration of Medication Policy	Incorrect administration of medication	Administration of medication

Prevention & dealing of bullying amongst pupils	Recruitment of sports coaches, external tutors, guest speakers, volunteers, parents support in school activities Recruitment of school personnel in child protection and welfare matters	
Bullying Harm by personnel Harm not recognised or promptly reported	Potential to harm Potential harm not recognised or promptly reported Potential to harm not recognised or reported promptly to the DLP or DDLP	
Implementation of Anti-Bullying Policy and Code of Behaviour Glass panel in Principal's office Door left open	Compliance with all legislation and DES circulars regarding Garda Vetting where appropriate Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all new personnel Code of Conduct for Parents & Visitors Visitors Badges Child safeguarding Statement supplied to all School personnel. DES Child Protection Procedures made available to all school personnel BOM records all records of staff and board training DLP & DDLP to attend PDST face to face training All Staff to view Tusla training module and any Other online training offered by PDST BOM members to attend available training from CPSMA Induction of new personnel Presentation of certificate of participation in Tusla online training	
Medium/High	High	

Extra-curricular activities by school personnel	support curriculum	Use of external personnel to	Use of video/photographer/other media to record school events	Use of IT among pupils
Harm by school personnel	Inappropriate relationship/communications between child & another adult/child	Harm by external personnel	Inappropriate use and/or circulation of material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	Cyber bullying Exposure to inappropriate material
Insofar as is practicable, two members of staff are present No one to one activities to take place Anti-Bullying Code of Behaviour Policy	Class teacher present at all times	Child Safeguarding Statement provided to all personnel	Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy Staff Protocols & Procedures Communication to parents at whole school events Anti-Bullying Code of Behaviour Policy	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Acceptable Use Policy NCTE Safety applications on school server Cyber bullying information talks
Low/Medium		Medium	High	High

Student teachers on School Placement	Application of sanctions under School's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, removal from class, confiscation of phones etc.	Management of challenging behaviour among pupils	Extra-curricular activities provided by tutors/coaches other than school personnel
	s, on	ging	ities oaches irsonnel
Harm by student teacher Inappropriate relationship/communications between child & another adult/child	Harm by school personnel Injury to staff and other pupils	Injury to pupils or staff	Harm by external personnel Inappropriate relationship/communications between child & another adult/child
Garda Vetting carried out by relevant college Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to student teacher Policy on Work experience & Student Placement Class teacher and/or school personnel remains in The classroom while student teacher is teaching.	Code of Behaviour Policy Glass panels in all classrooms & Principal's office Doors Children not be to left unsupervised outside classrooms	Code of Behaviour Policy Health and Safety Statement Anti-Bullying	Compliance with all legislation and DES circulars regarding Garda Vetting Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to all new personnel Glass panels in all classroom and hall doors Anti-Bullying Code of Behaviour Policy
Medium	High	High	Medium/High

Children going from one building to the other	Location of Parents' Courses	Parents' Room	Transition Year Students on Work Experience
Harm by visitor to school.	Harm by visitors to school Ease of access by strangers to main body of school	Harm by visitors to school Ease of access by strangers to main body of school	Harm by TY student Inappropriate relationship/communications between child & another adult/child
Class teacher goes with class whenever possible.	In as far as possible Parents' courses will be held in Parents' Room All participants in courses/classes have to sign in and wear a badge. Entrance to school by one door only	Code on access door to main body of school. All visitors to Parents' Room must sign in and wear a badge Visitors to Parents' Room must have a purpose (doing a course, Parents' Association meeting etc.)	Garda Vetting sought if student is 16 years of age & over Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Procedures made available to TY student Policy on Work experience & Student Placement Class teacher remains in the classroom with TY student
High	High	High	Medium

			Early Start			The scale of the part part to gather the to	
			Harm by visitors. Ease of access by visitors to main hody of school		adult/child	relationship/communication	Inadequate supervision of pupils. Inappropriate
Code of Behaviour	Sign out procedure in event of child having to leave early.	Doors to Early Start rooms always locked during school day.	Glass panels to be put in both Early Start doors.	Member of staff present at all times	Anti-Bullying Policy	Code of Behaviour Policy	Child never goes alone on visit/message.
			MEDIUM				A TOTAL TO THE PARTY OF THE PAR

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment (of any potential harm)

the school has put in place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent. 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, 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

its' Child Safeguarding Statement. This Risk Assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on 21st March 2018. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of

This Risk Assessment was reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its' Child Safeguarding Statement on 4th April 2022

Signed:

Joe Behan

Date:

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed:

Principal Tom Sargent

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This Risk Assessment was reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its' Child Safeguarding Statement on 28th February 2023

Signed: Signed: Tom Sargent Chairperson, Board of Management Joe Behan Date: Date:

Principal