

## Child Safeguarding Statement

Barnacogue NS is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

In accordance with the requirements of the [Children First Act 2015](#), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](#), [the Addendum to Children First \(2019\)](#), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools \(revised 2023\)](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of Barnacogue NS has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised (2023))* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Lorraine Bullard
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Therese Melody  
Yvonne Doyle is acting DDLP until January 2026
- 4 The Relevant Person is Lorraine Bullard  
(The relevant person is one who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. In a school setting the relevant person shall be the designated liaison person.)
- 5 The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:  
The school will:
  - recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
  - fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;
  - fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters;
  - adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
  - develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and
  - fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

The school will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adult pupil with a special vulnerability.

6 The following procedures/measures are in place:

- In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child attending the school, the school adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the [gov.ie](http://gov.ie) website.
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the school adheres to the statutory vetting requirements of the [National Vetting Bureau \(Children and Vulnerable Persons\) Acts 2012 to 2016](http://gov.ie) and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and available on the [gov.ie](http://gov.ie) website.
- In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to staff in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) the school-
  - Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
  - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
  - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
  - Encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training
  - The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training
- In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, all school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)*, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
- All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.
- In accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and the Addendum to Children First (2019), the Board has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school's procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.

- The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school’s website, the [gov.ie](http://gov.ie) 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.

- 7 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.
- 8 This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on 01/09/2023

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 21/10/2025

Signed ***Patricia Gawley***

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 21/10/2025

Signed: 

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 21/10/2025

## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

### Written Assessment of Risk of [name of school]

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirement of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and PostPrimary Schools (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of [name of school].

1. List of school activities	2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Risk of harm not recognised or reported promptly.	<p>E learning programme completed</p> <p>Child Safeguarding Statement &amp; DES procedures made available to all staff</p> <p>DLP&amp; DDLP attended PDST face to face training based on 2017 Children First national guidance for the protection &amp; welfare of children</p> <p>All Staff have viewed Túsla training module &amp; will access any other online training offered by Oide</p> <p>Staff review procedures at beginning of every school year</p> <p>BOM complete annual checklist at the first meeting of each school year</p> <p>BOM records all records of staff and board training</p>
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel	<p>Addition to Learning Support Policy with regard one to one teaching</p> <p>Open doors</p> <p>Table between teacher and pupil</p>
Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour	Usage and supervision policy

		One child at a time in toilet
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Arrival and dismissal supervised by Teachers
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Injury to pupils and staff	Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	Garda Vetting required by all coaches Teacher supervision with coaches Availability of first aid kit and accident report form where necessary
Students participating in work experience	Harm by student	Garda vetting required by all work experience students Work experience Policy Child Safeguarding Statement. Teacher supervision at all times
Recreation breaks for pupils	Harm from older pupils	Supervision Policy Anti Bullying policy Code of behaviour policy Availability of first aid kit and accident report form where necessary
Classroom teaching	Harm by school personnel	Child Safeguarding Statement All teachers are Garda vetted All substitute teachers must provide statutory declaration & Garda vetting. Code of Behaviour Anti- Bullying policy
Outdoor teaching activities	Older students School Personnel Unknown adults on school ground	Teacher supervision at all times Supervision Policy Anti Bullying policy Code of behaviour policy

		<p>Child Safeguarding Statement  Safety Statement  Teachers speak about safety/rules before outdoor activities  Availability of first aid kit and accident report form where necessary</p>
Sporting Activities	<p>Older students  Outside coaches  Children from other schools(if away from own school)</p>	<p>Supervision Policy  Child Safeguarding Statement  School Outings Policy  Teachers speak about safety/rules before sporting activities  Children do not go to the toilet individually at events  Availability of first aid kit and accident report form where necessary</p>
School outings	<p>Unknown Adults</p>	<p>Supervision Policy  Child Safeguarding Statement  School Outings Policy  Anti Bullying policy  Code of behaviour policy  Bus drivers are Garda vetted  Teacher ensures venue has proper supervision procedures in place  Teacher speaks about safety rules before outing  No child allowed to bring mobile phone  Teacher has contact details for all pupils  Pupils do not go to the toilet individually  All parents have signed letter of consent for outings at enrolment  Teachers of children requiring medication ensure this is available on the day  Special dietary requirements are taken into consideration  Availability of first aid kit and accident report form where necessary</p>

Annual Sports Day	Older Children School Personnel	Supervision Policy Child Safeguarding Statement Safety Statement Anti Bullying policy Code of behaviour policy Availability of first aid kit and accident report form where necessary
Fundraising events involving pupils	Unknown Strangers Other Adults	Supervision Policy Child Safeguarding Statement Safety Statement
Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Unknown Strangers Older Pupils School Personnel	Supervision Policy Child Safeguarding Statement School Outings Policy Swimming Policy
Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	School Personnel	Child Safeguarding Statement Code of Behaviour Training for teachers if the need arises
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	School Personnel	Child Safeguarding Statement Administration of Medicine Policy First Aid kit is well supplied Parents have been asked to notify teachers if allergies on enrolment form (eg plasters) Completion of accident report if necessary
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Other Pupils	Supervision Policy Child Safeguarding Statement Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy RSE & SPHE programme Reports to BOM at each meeting

Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	External Personnel	Teacher supervision at all times Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy RSE & SPHE programme Child Safeguarding Statement
Recruitment of school personnel including - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teachers</li> <li>● SNA's</li> <li>● Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners</li> <li>● Sports coaches</li> <li>● External Tutors/Guest Speakers</li> <li>● Volunteers/Parents in school activities</li> <li>● Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours</li> </ul>	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff  Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST  Vetting Procedures
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Bullying	Internet policy (including AUP) Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour NCTE filtering Teacher supervision of ICT Secure Google Drive in senior room No mobile phones Stay Safe/ Webwise
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Harm from person undertaking training Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Teacher supervision Child Safeguarding & DES procedures made available to all students Work Experience Policy
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Correct use and sharing of content	Child Safeguarding Statement Consent form signed by parents on enrolment for use/sharing of content Secure google drive for storage

**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 (revised 2023)*

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 Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment was adopted by the Board of Management on 01/09/2023

This Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment was reviewed by the Board of Management on 21/10/2025

Signed ***Patricia Gawley***

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 21/10/2025

Signed: *L. Bullard*

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 21/10/2025