



Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

St Corban's BNS Roll No. 17254C

School Year 2022/2023

St Corban's BNS is a primary school providing primary education to boys 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 2017 and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of St Corban's BNS 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 John Drewett
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Claire Bonner.
- 4 The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The school will:

- recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
- fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;
- fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters;

- adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

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

5 The following procedures/measures are in place:

- In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child attending the school, the school adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the DE website.
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the school adheres to the statutory vetting requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016 and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and available on the DE website.
- In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to staff in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) the school-
 - Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - Encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training
 - The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training
- In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, all school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.


- In this school the Board has appointed the 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 schools child safeguarding statement.
- All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.
- In accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and the Addendum to Children First (2019), the Board has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school’s procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.
- The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school’s website, the DE website or will be made available on request by the school.

Note: The above is not intended as an exhaustive list. Individual Boards of Management shall also include in this section such other procedures/measures that are of relevance to the school in question.

- 6 This statement has been published on the school’s website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents’ Association (if any) and the patron. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and the Department if requested.
- 7 This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on Tuesday 21st September 2021 [date].

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on Tuesday 18th October 2022 [most recent review date].

Signed: 

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 18/10/2022

Signed: 

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 18/10/2022

**Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment of St Corban's BNS
(of any potential harm)**

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following potential risk of harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Potential harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff. DLP & DDLP to attend PDST face to face training All Staff viewed Túsla and /or PDST Child Protection Training module and have self-certified their training BoM to attend Child Protection Training with CPSMA BOM records all records of staff and board training
One to one teaching	Potential harm by school personnel	School has policy in place for one to one teaching Glass in doors. Glass windows between some LS Rooms. Table between teacher and pupil where practicable. Glass in windows
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Potential harm by school personnel	Policy on Intimate Care PPP agreed with parents of pupils requiring intimate care. Two adults supervising.
Toilet areas	Potential for inappropriate behaviour	Usage and Supervision policy. Each teacher responsible for the Supervision of his/her own class.
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Potential non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Pupil use of Communal Toilet areas outside classrooms	Potential for inappropriate behaviour when pupils among pupils	Boys go to the toilet individually or small groups. Supervision Policy Pupils taught about appropriate behaviour in toilets

Toileting- assisting boys who have accidents	Potential harm to pupils	Two adults should be involved. SNAs may be required to help. Parents will be informed of the event.
List of School Activities	The School has identified the following potential risk of harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Potential harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Arrival and dismissal procedures in place with supervision.
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Potential injury to pupils and staff by pupils Potential inappropriate behaviour / touching by pupil	Restraint Policy Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour Child Safeguarding Statement Child Protection Procedures
Sports Coaches	Potential harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place Garda vetting of all coaches. Teachers supervise along with coach. Always present.
Students participating in work experience	Potential harm by pupils	Work Experience Policy Child Safeguarding Statement. All students Garda vetted. Supervised by teachers.
Recreation breaks for pupils	Potential harm by pupils	Supervision Policy. Code of Behaviour Teachers supervise each yard. On wet days, teachers supervise the corridors and classrooms. SNAs supervise the pupils in their care. Prefects help in classrooms.
Classroom teaching	Potential harm to pupils or harm by pupils.	All teachers and SNAs Garda Vetted. Classroom doors have windows. Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour

One-to-one teaching in Special Education setting	Potential harm to pupils	All staff vetted. Table between teacher and pupil most of the time. Windows between rooms. Windows in doors. LS Rooms on a busy corridor. Special Education Policy.
Outdoor teaching activities	Potential harm to pupils or harm by pupils	Pupils in pairs. Teacher supervising. Supervision Policy. Code of Behaviour
Sporting Activities	Potential harm to pupils or harm by pupils.	Two teachers/adults involved in supervision. All teachers Garda Vetted.
Computer Club / Club Chorbáin	Potential harm to pupils or harm by pupils.	Two teachers/adults involved in supervision. All teachers Garda Vetted.
Choir	Potential harm to pupils or harm by pupils.	Two teachers involved in supervision. All teachers Garda Vetted.
List of School Activities	The School has identified the following potential risk of harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
School outings	Potential harm by non-school staff or children from other schools.	Teacher Supervision. Supervision Policy. Code of Behaviour. School Tour Policy
School trips involving overnight stay	N/A	N/A
School trips involving foreign travel	N/A	N/A
Use of toilet areas in schools	Potential inappropriate behaviour by pupils	Most toilets in classrooms. Communal toilets. Pupils' access to toilets supervised. Pupils use toilets in small groups. Supervision Policy

Use of toilet areas at break-times in schools	Potential inappropriate behaviour by pupils	Prefects escort pupils to toilets and stand outside of toilet area at Room 1
Use of changing areas in schools	Potential inappropriate behaviour by pupils	Pupils wear tracksuits to school for sports and PE. Limited changing usually in open areas or individually in toilets. Two teachers supervising.
Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in swimming pool	Potential inappropriate behaviour by pupils when changing for Swimming or using toilets. Potential access by other adults to pupils in Swimming Pool.	Supervised by teachers who walk in twos. Supervision Policy Swimming Policy. Code of Behaviour
Annual Sports Day	Potential harm by pupils	Teachers supervise their own class.
Fundraising events involving pupils	Potential harm by non-school staff or children from other schools.	All individuals in school Garda Vetted. Parents supervise their own children if after school.
Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Potential harm by non-school staff or children from other schools.	Teachers supervise their own class. Supervision Policy. Code of Behaviour
School transport arrangements	Potential harm by non-school staff or children from other schools.	Teachers supervise on buses on school trips. Private bus providers have agreement with Parents around supervision.
Altar servers	Potential harm by non-school staff or children from other schools.	Parental permission given to school. Parents responsible for pupil while he is out of school. Consent form and note from Parent.
List of School Activities	The School has identified the following potential risk of harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Care of any vulnerable adult students, including intimate care where needed	N/A	N/A

Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required	Potential for pupils to harm other pupils or school staff.	Restraint Policy PPP for pupils with inappropriate behaviour agreed with Parents. Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour. Child Safeguarding Statement. Health and Safety Policy.
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	Potential for pupils administering medication incorrectly.	Agreed procedures with parents as part of Health and Safety Policy. Pupils self-administer under agreed adult supervision. Teacher in First Aid treats pupils in Main Office with other adults present. Two teachers for injuries to sensitive areas.
Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe.	Potential for pupils not to be taught the Child Protection programmes	All teachers teach the programmes in line with school policies. SPHE Policy. RSE every year. Stay Safe every second year.
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Potential inappropriate behaviour by pupils. Potential harm to pupils or harm by pupils.	Anti-bullying Policy Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Child Safeguarding Statement
Training of school personnel in child protection matters	Potential for staff not to recognise signs and symptoms of harm or not to follow procedures. Concern that online training may not be sufficient for all teachers	All staff have undergone PDST and/or Tusla online training and have self-certified. DLP and Deputy DLP have undergone full day training. BoM have received CPSMA training. Staff will access any face-to-face training provided by DES.
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Potential harm to pupils	All Garda Vetted. All work under the supervision of the class teacher. Supervision Policy.
List of School Activities	The School has identified the following potential risk of harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment

<p>Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p>Potential bullying behaviour or taking advantage of vulnerable pupils</p>	<p>Code of Behaviour Child Safeguarding Statement Supervision policy Anti-bullying Policy School ethos of caring</p>
<p>Recruitment of school personnel including -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers • SNAs • 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 	<p>Potential that harm would not be recognised or properly and promptly reported following correct procedures</p>	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff</p> <p>Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST. Staff will access any face-to-face training provided by DES.</p> <p>Vetting Procedures for all staff before employment.</p> <p>Policy of Parents / Volunteers Class teachers always supervised. Parent volunteers Garda Vetted.</p> <p>Policy on Visiting Contractors: usually come after school hours. If during school hours, they are supervised by the Principal or Caretaker.</p>

Use of school premises by other organisation during school day	Potential harm to pupils by members of organisations (HSE Nurses, Photographer, visiting Psychologists or other professionals, etc)	Class-teacher supervises his/her class throughout the day All adults must be Garda Vetted. Supervision Policy
List of School Activities	The School has identified the following potential risk of harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Potential inappropriate behaviour online	ICT policy. ICT AUP Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Supervision policy Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices Policy - not allowed in school.
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Potential harm to pupils detained in one to one situation with individual staff member	Detention during school breaks only with two supervising teachers. Mobile Phones are not allowed in the school.
Students participating in work experience in the school	Potential harm to pupils	Garda vetted. Supervised by teachers Supervision Policy
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Potential harm to pupils	Garda Vetted. Supervised by Teachers Supervision Policy
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Potential inappropriate behaviour and potential bullying	Parents advised not to do it, and not to upload anything without other people's permission. Parents give permission for their son to be photographed in school activities. No full names with photos on the school website.
After school use of school premises by other organisations	N/A	N/A

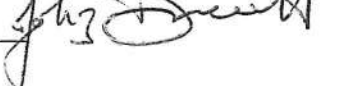
Use of toilets during breaks	Potential for pupil to pupil harm Inappropriate behaviour	Prefects escort pupils to toilets and stand outside of toilet area at Room 1.
Prefect system	Potential harm to other younger pupils	Prefects work in pairs in open classrooms. Teacher supervision of prefects during all breaks.
Kildare and Leighlin not accepting Joint Agreements on Garda Vetting with other agencies	Concern over time it might take to get Garda Vetting on all agencies with whom the school deals.	School to check with Diocesan Office to determine if this is still the practice
People other than parents collecting pupils especially in Infant and Junior Classes without prior agreement between teacher and Parents. (Relatives and members of a Creche/ Afterschool Care Group collecting without written agreement)	Potential harm to pupils. Potential risk of pupil being handed over to unvetted individuals.	Parents must give a list in writing of people whom they have designated to collect their child. All changes to these arrangements must be made to the school in writing. Teacher will phone parents to check , if the individual is unknown to them.
Older boys minding younger boys on Treasure Hunt around the school	Potential inappropriate behaviour by pupils Potential for inappropriate behaviour when pupils among pupils.	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Child Safeguarding Statement

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 was completed by the Staff and the Board of Management on 09/03/2018. It was reviewed on 18/10/2022. It will be reviewed as we go through this year and as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement each October.

Signed: 

Signed: 18/10/2022 


Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 18/10/2022


Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 18/10/2022

Key areas of concern

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following potential risk of harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Potential harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff. DLP & DDLP to attend PDST face to face training All Staff viewed Túsla and /or PDST Child Protection Training module and have self-certified their training BoM to attend Child Protection Training with CPSMA when available. BOM records all records of staff and board training
Pupil use of Communal Toilet areas outside classrooms	Potential for inappropriate behaviour when pupils among pupils	Boys go to the toilet individually or small groups. Pupil's access to toilets is supervised. Supervision Policy Pupils taught about appropriate behaviour in toilets
Toileting- assisting boys who have accidents	Potential harm to pupils	Two adults should be involved. SNAs may be required to help. Parents to be informed about the event.
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Potential harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Arrival and dismissal procedures have been reviewed and put in place as part of a School Improvement Plan.

Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Potential injury to pupils and staff by pupils Potential inappropriate behaviour / touching by pupil	Restraint Policy Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour Child Safeguarding Statement Child Protection Procedures
School outings	Potential harm by non-school staff or children from other schools.	Teacher Supervision. Supervision Policy. Code of Behaviour. School Tour Policy
Use of toilet areas at break-times in schools	Potential inappropriate behaviour by pupils	Prefects escort pupils to toilets and stand outside of toilet area at Room 1
People other than parents collecting pupils especially in Infant and Junior Classes without prior agreement between teacher and Parents. (Relatives and members of a Creche/ Afterschool Care Group collecting without written agreement)	Potential harm to pupils. Potential risk of pupil being handed over to unvetted individuals.	Parents must give a list in writing of people whom they have designated to collect their child. All changes to these arrangements must be made to the school in writing. Teacher will phone parents to check, if the individual is unknown to them.
One to one teaching	Potential harm by school personnel	School has policy in place for one to one teaching Glass in doors. Glass windows between some LS Rooms. Table between teacher and pupil where practicable Glass in windows

This risk assessment has been completed by the Staff and the Board of Management on 09/03/2018. It was reviewed on 18/10/2022.

Signed: Thy we dw

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 18/10/2022

Signed: [Signature]

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 18/10/2022.