



Child Safeguarding Statement

Canalway ETNS 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 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 **Canalway ETNS** 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: Dermot Stanley
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is: Fiona Connelly
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. 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
5. The following procedures/measures are in place:

- 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
- 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
- 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 school's 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
- The Board of Management notes the following policies, curricular plans, practices and procedures as being relevant to child protection:

POLICIES	CURRICULAR	PRACTICES and PROCEDURES
Code of Behaviour	English	Arrival and dismissal of students.
Critical Incident	Maths	Guest Speaker and Visitors
Anti-bullying Policy	Gaeilge	Recruitment of Staff
SNA Policy	History	Mobile Phones
SEN Policy	Geography	Recruitment and Selection of Staff
Communication	Science	Supervision Rotas
Healthy Eating	Art Drama	Toileting
Dress Code	Music	Garda Vetting
Supervision	SPHE	
Swimming	Ethics	
Chronic Illness Policy		
Acceptable Usage (IT)		
Garda Vetting		
Substance Abuse		
Mobile Phone		

There are additional relevant draft policies such as first-aid / accident policies which are pending ratification by the Board of Management. This statement will be updated to include these policies when ratified.

6. 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.

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 March 8th, 2018.

Signed: Catherine Cosgrave Catherine Cosgrave - Chairperson of BoM

Date: 08.03.2018

Signed: Dermot Stanley Dermot Stanley Principal/Secretary to the BoM

Date: 08.03.2018

1. List of school activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
 - Classroom teaching and learning
- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe
- Drama / Presentations in School Classrooms / Hall
- Yard time during breaks
- One-to-one teaching & playtherapy
- Outdoor teaching activities: Garden time
- Pupils going on messages etc.
- Student Teachers
- Work Experience Students: Transition
- Work Experience SNAs
- Parents helping in school
- Toilet Care / Changing
- Care of children with special educational needs
- ICT use of technology: phones / cameras / videos / computers / tablets other media etc. to record school events & in-class
- Sports Day / P.E. in school / Sport after school
- Swimming
- Choir
- School outings & Transport
- Afterschool activities with teachers of school
- Extracurricular activities run by Parents Association facilitated by external providers
- Fundraising events involving pupils
- Afterschool use of premises by other organisations
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils
- Administration of emergency medicine
- Supporting chronic illness
- Administration of First Aid

- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
- Training of school personnel in child protection matters
- Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
- 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 Child Protection Notification System
- 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

2. The school has identified the following risks 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 bullying of child
- Risk of harm due to compromised supervision of children in school by staff
- Risk of harm due to compromised 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
- Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving care
- Risk of harm due to ineffective realisation of school policies
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching & play-therapy
- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in 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
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of technology: cameras, phones, videos or other media etc.
- Risk of harm due to child delivering messages around school alone
- Risk of harm due to children entering shared areas unaccompanied by adults – Front area of building & hall.
- Risk of harm caused by anyone other than school staff handing over children to parents/childminders
- Risk of harm due to public interaction through yard frontage onto the street
- Risk of harm due to public access to school during school day if doors pushed open / not properly closed
- Risk of harm due to unauthorized adults entering the school premises and not leaving following dismissal by staff member
- Risk of harm due to violation of boundary walls
- Risk of harm due to poor condition of the building
- Risk of harm due to lack of toilets

- Risk of harm due to shared lease arrangement and dual usage of school site and building.
- Risk of harm due to the uneven surface of the yard
- Risk of harm due to anti-social behavior
- Risk of harm due to children using toilets which are not en-suite

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*
- Children must be accompanied by adult in shared area of the school.
- Children not allowed use the toilets at the front of the building.
- Children using disability access toilet at the front of the building to be accompanied by a staff member.
- Visitors Policy
- Children only dismissed to parents, guardians and pre-agreed designated adults
- The school requires Garda Vetting Clearance, Photo ID and Application Form to Patron and Board of Management for all After School Tutors.
- The school has in place an Anti Bullying Policy to be followed by all staff and school community, which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's *Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools*
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- The school has in place a Code of Positive Behaviour Policy to be followed by all staff and school community.
- The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme

- The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum
 - The school implements the Friends for Life Programme
1. The school has a supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children.
- The school has in place a Policy and clear Procedures in respect of School Outings
 - 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
 - School has a Garda Vetting Policy
 - The school complies with the agreed Disciplinary Procedures for Teaching Staff
 - The school has a Special Educational Needs policy
 - The school has in place a Chronic Illness Policy
 - 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 in Welcome Pack
 - Ensures staff to avail of relevant Child Protection training: Children First
 - Ensures Board of Management members to avail of relevant Child Protection training: Children First
 - Maintains records of all staff and Board member Child Protection training
 - The school has in place a Policy and Procedures for the Administration of First Aid
 - The school has in place an Acceptable Usage Policy
 - The school has in place a Mobile Phone Policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils, staff, parents and volunteers
 - The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
 - Applications ongoing to DES for improved building facilities
 - First Aid station

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 staff and management of Canalway Educate Together N.S. in March 2018 It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: Catherine Cosgrave Catherine Cosgrave - Chairperson of BoM

Date: 8.03.2018

Signed: Dermot Stanley Dermot Stanley Principal/Secretary to the BoM

Date: 08/03/2018