CSS1

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

For:	**Marist National School**	*(School Name)*
At:	**Clogher Rd, Crumlin, Dublin 12**	*(School Address)*

This school is a: (tick appropriate) ☒primary ☐post-primary ☐ special 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 the Designated Liaison Person (DLP):

Sr. Geraldine Campbell

Name of the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP/DDLP):

Ms Eileen Colleran

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

Name of Relevant Person

Sr Geraldine Campbell

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

01 4541228	***srgeraldine@maristprimaryschool.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:

Mr Donal Brennan

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.

> 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 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 (if any), 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

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from adults/unknown adults in the playground Risk of harm or injury to pupils and/or staff.	Teachers on doors/yard at arrival/dismissal time. Certain classes have specific line up areas. Sign in/out procedures for students arriving late or leaving early
2	Recreation breaks for pupils	Inappropriate behaviour Students causing harm to other students Flight Risk	Behaviour Policy Bí Cinéalta Policy SNA Support Supervision During Recreation Period Policy
3	Classroom teaching	Harm caused by school personnel Harm caused by other students	Classroom Rules Behaviour Policy Bí Cineálta Policy
4	Engaging in various teaching activities, meetings with Art Therapist, School Completion Staff, Social Workers, Professionals of HSE/Tusla/CAMHS	Harm caused by external professionals	Vetting procedures applied where applicable. The school has a sign in/sign out for all visitors to the school

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			Unvetted professionals work with students under supervision of staff.
5	One-to-one teaching/learning support	Harm by school personnel False accusations	One to one Teaching Policy SEN Policy Work being carried out by the Special Needs Assistance, Child Care Worker will be carried out on the direction and/or in consultation of the class teacher. Code of Conduct for Teachers (Teaching Council)
6	One-to-one counselling	N/A	N/A
7	Online teaching and learning remotely	Harm to pupils 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	Acceptable Use Policy Behaviour Policy
8	Outdoor teaching activities	Harm by school personnel Harm by pupils Stranger(s) on school grounds	Behaviour Policy Bí Cinéalta policy Children under teachers supervision

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
9	Sporting Activities/Active Week	Harm to pupils Inappropriate behaviour Harm by outside coaches	Behaviour Policy Bí Cinéalta policy Children under teachers supervision Proper vetting procedures in place
10	School outings	Harm to pupils Inappropriate behaviour 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. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children	Behaviour Policy Bí Cinéalta policy Children under school staff supervision which are Garda Vetted
11	School trips involving overnight stay	N/A	N/A
12	School trips involving foreign travel	N/A	N/A
13	Use of toilet/changing areas in schools	In appropriate behaviour Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils	Children typically taken in groups to the toilet by teacher. Otherwise, children are only allowed to go to the toilet with the permission of the teacher. Intimate Care Policy

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
14	Sports Day	Harm by known and unknown personnel Harm by pupils In appropriate behaviour	Children under staff supervision Behaviour Policy Bí Cinéalta Policy
15	Fundraising events involving pupils	N/A	N/A
16	Parents collecting children early	Risk to pupils	Parents must complete the time and date in the Pupil Sign out sheet at reception.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
17	Use of off-site facilities for school activities (includes swimming)	Harm to pupils due to possible inadequate supervision while attending out of school activities.	Swimming Policy Adequate Supervision Behaviour Policy Bí Cinéalta Policy
18	School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	Harm by pupils Harm by adults	Behaviour Policy Vetting Procedures Supervision by Bus Escort
19	Care of children with special educational needs including intimate care where needed	Harm to pupils	Special Educational Needs policy Supervision policy Intimate Care policy

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
20	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils including appropriate restraint, where required	Injury to pupils Injury to staff	Health and Safety Policy Behaviour Policy
22	Administration of Medicine/ Administration of First Aid	Injury to pupil(s)	Administration of Medicine Policy Staff First Aid training occurs every 2 years
23	Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Inadequate or non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe in full
24	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Non-teaching of Anti-Bullying strategies Non implementation of Bí Cinéalta Policy	Bí Cinéalta Policy Internet safety workshops with children and parents (including cyber bullying) School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
25	Training of School Personnel in child protection matters	Harm not recognised or reported promptly after training has been received. Inadequate or training missed by staff.	Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment made available to all staff. Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel. DLP and DDLP attended Oide face to face training in Child Protection Procedures for School 2025 ("New Proecdures") in school year 2025/2026.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			Staff and Board of Management attended training in New Procedures in the school year 2025/2026. BOM keeps record of staff and Board of Management training.
26	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm to pupils by unknown personnel	Teacher/SNA remains with class. Children are not left in the care of external person(s) on their own. The school has a sign in/sign out for all visitors to the school.
27	Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities.	Harm to pupils by unknown personnel	Teacher/SNA remains with class and external personnel. The school has a sign in/sign out for all visitors to the school.
28	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 Tusla's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS), Children with medical needs	Exclusion and discrimination Bullying Harm by school personnel Harm by pupils	Enrolment Policy Bí Cineálta Policy Behaviour Policy Policy on Intimate Care School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full Children not required to participate in religious instruction.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
29	Recruitment of school personnel including- -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	Harm not recognised or properly and promptly reported Procedures for appointment not being followed.	Garda Vetting, where appropriate. References are checked Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment and DES procedures made available to all staff Generally recruitment requires a formal interview.
30	Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school	Harm to pupil	Appropriate Supervision by Teachers/SNAs
31	Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media.	Inappropriate use of the internet and Apps Risk of harm to children who inappropriately access/use computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school Cyberbullying Risk to Teachers/SNAs/Childcare Workers.	Acceptable Use Policy Behaviour Policy Bí Cineálta Policy Mobile phones are banned in school Pupils are under staff supervision while using devices.
32	Application of sanctions under the school's Behaviour Policy including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc	Harm by school personnel Fair procedures not being followed	Mobile phones banned Parental Complaints Procedures Behaviour Policy

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
33	Students participating in work experience in the school.	Unknown adults/young people in the school and harm by same	Proper practice and procedure ie class teacher is in attendance at all times. Vetting procedures applied, where appropriate. Students made aware of Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment. Work Experience Policy The school has a sign in/sign out for all visitors to the school.
34	Students teachers/SNAs undertaking training placement in the school	Unknown adults in the school and harm by same	Proper practice and procedure i.e. class teacher is in attendance/oversees at all times. Vetting procedures applied. Students are made aware of Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.
35	Use of video/photography/other media to record school events and display of photographs in school/church/media/social media/school website	Harm to pupil/teachers Invasion of privacy Parents videoing children and uploading the same.	Acceptable Use Policy Reminder at events about not sharing children's images on social media. Children's faces are not uploaded to the website or social media platforms
36	Afterschool use of school premises by other organisations	Harm to pupils if involved	Copies of relevant documentation supplied to school e.g. their insurance, contact detail for leaders.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
37	Afterschool and lunch time activities	Harm to pupils by school personnel Harm to pupils by pupils	Adequate supervision. Garda Vetting for coaches/staff/tutors
38	Breakfast club	Harm to pupils by school personnel Harm to pupils by pupils	Adequate Supervision Staff Garda vetted
39	Management of provision of hot lunches	Harm to pupils	Vetting for Operative Lunches placed in heat retaining boxes Lunches handed to pupil. Provision made for Allergies Healthy Lunch policy
40	After School Homework Club	Harm to pupils	Proper vetting procedures Adequate supervision Other senior staff on premises
41	Muli-Cultural School	Risk of Harm due to Racism	Stay Safe implemented Bí Cinéalta Policy Behaviour Policy
42	DEIS Literacy and Numeracy Camps and Summer Programmes	Harm to pupils	Proper vetting and procedures Adequate Supervision
43	Swimming lessons	Harm to pupils by external persons/pupils	Swimming Policy Adequate Supervision Behaviour Policy

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44	Construction works	Risk that children will enter the construction area leading to injury. Risk of injury from construction vehicles and deliveries. Risk of interfering with Fire Safety and Emergency Evacuation Risks. Risk from reduced or altered play areas leading to overcrowding and inadequate supervision	Secured fencing around the construction site. Construction area kept physically separate from pupils' areas at all times. Separate access routes for construction vehicles and adequate supervision at access points. Clearly marked pedestrian walkways Changes to evacuation routes communicated to all school staff and pupils. Fire exits and escape routes kept clear at all times. Revised yard/playground supervision plans put in place and communicated to all staff
45	Emergency Situations	Harm to pupils Harm to Staff	Critical Incident Policy in place

Additional pages may be added as required

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 21st October 2026 (*most recent review date)*

Signed:*	Donal Brennan	**Date:** 22/10/'26

Chairperson of the board of management

Signed:*	Sr Geraldine Campbell	**Date:** 22/10/2026

Principal/Secretary to the board of management

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again in **June 2027** *(expected review date)*

** Document to be printed and signed with original signatures*

Appendix - Location of copies of the Child Protection Procedures and Children First Guidance

This may be in the form of specifying the online location for the procedures (Department of Education and Youth website www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools and/or the school website), providing a link to the Children First National Guidance 2017 Children_First_National_Guidance_2017.pdf, and stating the number and location of hard copies of these procedures available in the school.

A copy of the Children First National Guidance and Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 is available to all staff in the Staff Room.