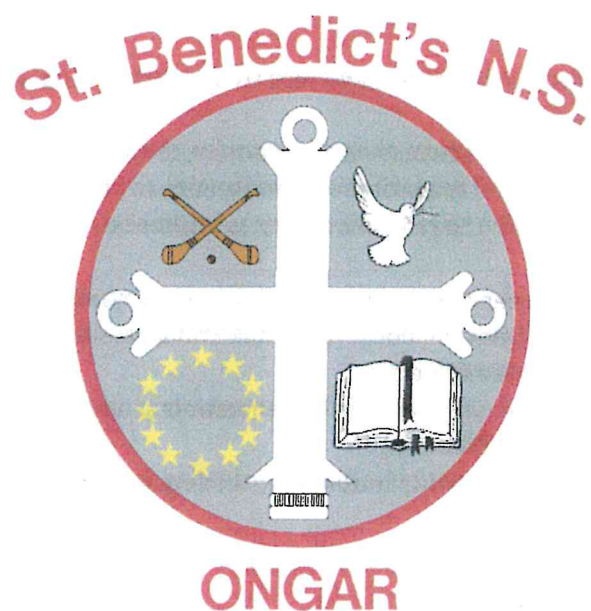



St. Benedict's National School

Child Protection Policy



- 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 (Padraic Flesk) 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 www.stbenedictsongar.ie, the DE website or will be made available on request by the school.
- 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 reviewed by the Board of Management on 6th December 2021.

Signed: 

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 9-12-21

Signed: Padraic Flesk

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 9/12/21

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm in respect of its activities	The School has the following Procedures in place to address identified risks
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the yard	Arrival and dismissal supervised by Teachers. Parents informed of school starting and finishing times
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Injury to pupils and staff	Physical Intervention Policy Health & Safety Policy Code of Behaviour Policy
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	Supervision Policy & Procedures in place The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
Students participating in work experience	Harm by student	Supervision Policy Child Safeguarding Statement
Recreation breaks for pupils	Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	Supervision Policy
Online teaching and learning remotely	Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link	Distance Learning Policy Acceptable Use Policy to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents
Classroom teaching	Harm by school personal Harm by another child	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Adequate supervision provided The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting Code of conduct for teachers

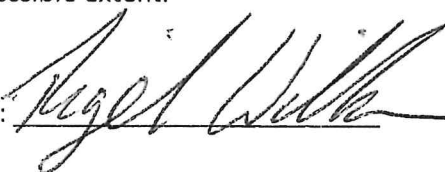
List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm in respect of its activities	The School has the following Procedures in place to address identified risks
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Risk of harm to pupils from unknown adults	Code of Behaviour Adequate supervision provided
<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>Risk of harm to bullying of child</p> <p>Risk of harm to inadequate supervision of children in school</p> <p>Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities</p>	<p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Adequate supervision provided</p> <p>Full Implementation of all SPHE programs and curriculum</p> <p>SEN Policy</p> <p>Encourages staff to avail of training</p>
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Bullying	<p>ICT policy</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p> <p>Acceptable Use Policy</p> <p>The school has in place a policy governing the use of tablet devices in the school by pupils as per circular 38/2018</p>

	Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	
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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.

Signed:



Signed:



Chairperson of Board of Management

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date:

9-12-21

Date:

9/12/21

15. Since the Board's last review, did each CPOR contain all of the information required under each of the 4 headings set out in sections 9.5 to 9.8 inclusive of the procedures?	Yes
16. Since the Board's last review, has the Board been provided with and reviewed all documents relevant to the CPOR?	Yes
17. Since the Board's last review, have the minutes of each Board meeting appropriately recorded the records provided to the Board as part of CPOR report?	Yes
18. Have the minutes of each Board meeting appropriately recorded the CPOR report?	Yes
19. Is the Board satisfied that the child protection procedures in relation to the making of reports to Tusla/An Garda Síochána were appropriately followed in each case reviewed?	Yes
20. Is the Board satisfied that, since the last review, all appropriate actions are being or have been taken in respect of any member of school personnel against whom an allegation of abuse or neglect has been made?	N/S
21. Where applicable, were unique identifiers used to record child protection matters in the Board minutes?	Yes
22. Is the Board satisfied that all records relating to child protection are appropriately filed and stored securely?	Yes
23. Has the Board been notified by any parent in relation to that parent not receiving the standard notification required under section 5.6 of the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017'?	No
24. In relation to any cases identified at question 21 above, has the Board ensured that any notifications required under section 5.6 of the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017' were subsequently issued by the DLP?	
25. Has the Board ensured that the Parents' Association (if any), has been provided with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	Yes
26. Has the Board ensured that the patron has been provided with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	Yes
27. Has the Board ensured that the school's Child Safeguarding Statement is available to parents on request?	Yes
28. Has the Board ensured that the Stay Safe programme is implemented in full in the school?	Yes
29. Has the Board ensured that the Wellbeing Programme for Junior Cycle students is implemented in full in the school? (applies to post- primary schools)	N/A
30. Has the Board ensured that the SPHE curriculum is implemented in full in the school?	Yes
31. Is the Board satisfied that the statutory requirements for Garda Vetting have been met in respect of all school personnel (employees and volunteers)?	Yes
32. Is the Board satisfied that the Department's requirements in relation to the provision of a child protection related statutory declaration and associated form of undertaking have been met in respect of persons appointed to teaching and non-teaching positions?	Yes
33. Is the Board satisfied that, from a child protection perspective, thorough recruitment and selection procedures are applied by the school in relation to all school personnel (employees and volunteers)?	Yes
34. Has the Board considered and addressed any complaints or suggestions for improvements regarding the school's Child Safeguarding Statement?	N/A
35. Has the Board sought the feedback of parents in relation to the school's compliance with the requirements of the child safeguarding requirements of the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017'?	Yes
36. Has the Board sought the feedback of pupils in relation to the school's child safeguarding arrangements?	Yes



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

To: _____

The Board of Management of St. Benedict's N.S. 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 _____ [date].
- This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the Department's 'website www.education.ie

Signed

Ngela Dill Date 9/12/21

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed

Padraic Flisk Date 9/12/21

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Part B – Record of DLP’s phone call seeking the advice of Tusla (where relevant)

Date:		Time:	
Name of Social Worker, title and contact details:			
Details of information provided to the Tusla Social Worker in respect of the concern (including whether or not any identifying details were provided):			
Advice provided by Tusla in relation to whether or not to report the concern or whether or not to report the concern as a mandated report:			
Any other information or advice provided by Tusla:			
Signed by DLP:		Date:	
Signed by member of school personnel (where applicable)		Date:	