

# *Child Safeguarding Statement*



*Mary Queen of Angels N.S. 1,  
Gurteen Road,  
Ballyfermot,  
Dublin 10.*

Mary Queen of Angels 1 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 MQA 1 has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement 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 Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement

The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Maurice Sweeney  
The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Nessa O'Sullivan

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.

1 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 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; and
  - 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 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.
- 2 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.
  - 3 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 \_\_\_\_\_ and will be reviewed on \_\_\_\_\_.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson of Board of Management**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Principal**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of next review: June 2023**

**Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment  
(of any potential harm)**

<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</b>	<b>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</b>
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	High	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 to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST  BOM records all records of staff and board training
One to one teaching	Med	Harm by school personnel	School has policy in place for one to one teaching Open doors Table between teacher and pupil Glass in window
Care of children with special needs, including intimate care needs	High	Harm by school personnel	Policy on intimate care
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Med	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	High	Injury to pupils and staff	Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Med	Harm from other pupils, unknown adults on the playground Traffic in carpark and on road	Arrival and Dismissal Policy & Procedures Supervision Policy Traffic Management Policy & Procedures

			Health & Safety Policy
<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</b>	<b>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</b>
Recreation breaks for pupils	High	Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Risk of harm due to bullying Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Policy & Procedures in place Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour
Classroom teaching	Med	Harm by school personnel	All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's <i>Child Safeguarding Statement</i> <i>The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017</i> are made available to all school personnel School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017</i> and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i>
Outdoor teaching activities	Med	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons	All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's <i>Child Safeguarding Statement</i> <i>The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017</i> are made available to all school personnel School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017</i> and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i>

			The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</b>	<b>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</b>
Sporting Activities	High	Injury to pupils and staff.  Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons	All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's <i>Child Safeguarding Statement</i> The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017</i> are made available to all school personnel School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017</i> and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
Choir	Low	Harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place
Sports Coaches	Med	Harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place
Students participating in work experience	Low	Harm by student	Work experience Policy Child Safeguarding Statement.
<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</b>	<b>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</b>
Educational Trips/Matches		Injury to pupils and staff.	All school personnel are provided with a copy of the

		Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while participating in out of school activities e.g. school tours, swimming lessons	<p>school's Child Safeguarding Statement</p> <p>The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 are made available to all school personnel</p> <p>School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 and all registered teachers are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015</p> <p>The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting</p>
Use of toilet	High	<p>Inappropriate Behaviour</p> <p>Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities</p> <p>Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care</p>	<p>Usage and supervision policy</p> <p>The school has a Special Educational Needs Policy</p> <p>The school has an intimate care policy in respect of students who require such care</p>
Changing for sport activities	High	<p>Inappropriate Behaviour</p> <p>Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities</p> <p>Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care</p>	<p>Usage and supervision policy</p> <p>The school has a Special Educational Needs Policy</p> <p>The school has an intimate care policy in respect of students who require such care</p>
<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</b>	<b>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</b>
Annual Sports Day	High	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school</p> <p>Risk of harm due to inadequate</p>	<p>The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during assembly, dismissal and break times and in respect of</p>



		supervision of children in school	specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid Policy & Procedures in place
Annual Art/Science Exhibition	Med	Harm from other pupils, unknown adults in the school Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	ICT policy  Policy & Procedures in place
Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Med	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons	Educational Trips Policy
School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	Med	Harm to pupils Harm not recognised properly or promptly reported	Bus Safety Policy Policy for Bus Escort
<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</b>	<b>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</b>
Volunteers/Parents	Med	Harm to pupils	Vetting Procedures Policy for Parents/Volunteers
Outside Therapists	High	Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child or adult	Vetting Procedures Open doors Table between teacher and pupil

			Glass in window
Administration of First Aid/ Medicine	High	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel	Policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils Policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid.
Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Med	Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult Risk of harm caused by a 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	The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Med	Risk of harm due to bullying of child	The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's <i>Anti-Bullying Procedures for primary and Post-Primary Schools</i>
<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</b>	<b>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</b>
Use of external personnel to supplement	Med	Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/ using	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation

curriculum		computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	to recruitment and Garda vetting The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants</li> <li>• Members of the Traveller community</li> <li>• Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children</li> <li>• Pupils perceived to be LGBT</li> <li>• Pupils of minority religious faiths</li> <li>• Children in care</li> <li>• Children on CPNS</li> </ul>	Low	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
Breakfast Club	Med	Harm to Pupils through bullying	Breakfast Club Policy
<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</b>	<b>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</b>

Afterschool Clubs	High	Harm to Pupils	Afterschool Club Policy Code of Behaviour
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	High	Bullying Staff not following policies & procedures	ICT policy Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Med	Risk of harm caused by a 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 inadequate supervision.	Mobile Phone Policy Code of Behaviour
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Med	Harm to Pupils	Student Placement Policy Garda Vetting Procedures
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	High	Risk of harm due to circulation of material recorded at school events	The school has in place an ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT

**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 Board of Management in June 2022. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson, Board of Management

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal/Secretary Board of Management

Date \_\_\_\_\_