



Child Safeguarding Statement

Faithlegg N.S. 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 Addendum to Children First \(2019\)](#), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools \(revised 2023\)](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of Faithlegg National School 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 (revised 2023) as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is [Mr. Kieran O'Sullivan](#)
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is [Ms. Loretta Fennell](#)
- 4 The Relevant Person is [Kieran O'Sullivan](#).
(The relevant person is one who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. This person can also be the DLP)
5. 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.

6. 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 (revised 2023) and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the DE (gov.ie) 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 (revised 2023), 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 abovenamed 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 (gov.ie) 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.

7. 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.

8. 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 17/10/2023.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 14/10/2025.

Signed: Jacqui Doherty-Connolly

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 14/10/2025

Signed: Kieran O'Sullivan

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 14/10/2025

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Faithlegg N.S.

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Faithlegg N.S.

1. List of school activities

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| 1. Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters
Risk level High |
| 2. One to one teaching
Risk level Medium |
| 3. Care of children with special needs, including intimate care needs
Administration of medicines
Risk level High |
| 4. Toilet areas
Risk level High |
| 5. Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe
Risk level Medium |
| - LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT, Members of the Traveller Community, Pupils of minority religious faiths
Risk level Low |
| 6. Recruitment of new staff
Risk level Medium |
| 7. Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where needed
Risk level High |
| 8. Sports Coaches
Risk level Medium |
| 9. Students participating in work experience
Risk level Low |
| 10. Volunteers/Parents
Risk level Medium |
| 11. Use of information & communication technology by pupils in schools |

Risk level Medium

12. Ancillary Staff

Risk level Medium

13. Unscheduled visitors

Risk level High

14. After school training and activities

Risk level Medium

15. Swimming lessons

Risk level High

16. School tours/Class events/trips/matches

Risk level High

17. Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils

Risk level High

18. Classroom teaching

Risk level Low

19. Special Needs Assistants

Risk level High

20. Lunchtime breaks on yard

Risk level High

21. Quiet Room

Risk level High

22. Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies external to the school

Risk level High

23. Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum

Risk level Medium

24. Student teachers undertaking training placement in school

Risk level Medium

25. After school use of school premises by other organisations

Risk level High

26. Flight risk

Risk level High

27. Annual Sports Day

Risk level High

28. Use of video/photography/other media to record school events

Risk level High

2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -

- 1) Harm not recognised or reported promptly by school personnel
- 2) Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching
- 3) Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities
 - Risk of harm to a child while a child is receiving intimate care
- 4) Inappropriate behaviour
- 5) Non-teaching of same
 - Bullying
- 6) Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported
- 7) Injury to pupils & staff
- 8) Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- 9) Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school

- 10) Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- 11) Bullying
 - Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
 - Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
- 12) Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
- 13) Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- 14) Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
 - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities
 - 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
- 15) Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities
 - 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
- 16) Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities
 - 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
- 17) Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
 - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school
 - Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- 18) Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
- 19) Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
 - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel
 - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel
 - Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities
- 20) Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
 - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children
 - Bullying
- 21) Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching
 - Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
- 22) Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children
 - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities
- 23) Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- 24) Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel
 - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel
 - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children
 - Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
- 25) Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children
 - Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
 - Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- 26) Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of child
- 27) Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children
 - Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
 - Bullying
- 28) Risk of child being recorded against parent's wishes

- Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel
- Risk of child being harmed by a visitor to the school

3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment:

- Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff
- DLP and DDLP to attend PDST face to face training. All staff to view Tusla and PDST training module
 - BOM records all records of staff and board training
- 2) Open doors
- Table between teacher and pupil
 - Glass in window
- 3) Vetting procedures
- Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Policies and procedures in place
 - Policy on administration of medicines to pupils
- 4) Usage and supervision policy
- 5) School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
- Anti-Bullying Policy, Code of Behaviour
- 6) Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff
- Staff to view Tusla training module online & any other online training offered by PDST
- 7) Health & Safety Policy
- Code of Behaviour
 - Procedures in place
- 8) Vetting procedures
- Teacher present at all times during coaching and coaches never left one to one with a child
- 9) Child Safeguarding Statement
- Vetting procedures
 - Pupils never left one to one with student on work experience-teacher present at all times
- 10) Vetting procedures
- Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Teacher present at all times
- 11) ICT policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
 - Code of Behaviour
- 12) Vetting procedures
- Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Open doors
 - Glass in doors
 - Pupils never left one to one
- 13) Front door locked at all times during school day
- Side gate to staff car parked closed during school day
 - Children not to be collected by an adult unknown to them or the teacher without checking with parents/guardians first.
- 14) Vetting procedures
- Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Teacher present at all times, pupils never left alone with instructor/coach

- Side gate to staff car park closed
- Front door of school locked
- 15) Vetting procedures
 - Teacher and staff supervision at all times
 - Make sure changing rooms are specifically booked for school use only
 - Supervise children on bus to and from lessons
 - Code of behaviour
 - Swimming policy
- 16) Vetting procedures
 - Teacher and staff supervision at all times
 - Supervise children on bus to and from venue
 - Pupils never left alone or on one to one basis with instructors
 - Code of behaviour
- 17) Supervision provided by Principal and teaching staff prior to beginning of lessons and at end of day
 - Open doors
 - Glass in doors
 - Teachers, where possible, never left one to one with pupil
- 18) Vetting procedure
 - Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Glass in doors
 - Teacher never left one to one with pupil in isolated area where possible
- 19) Vetting procedures
 - Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Procedures in place
 - Restraint policy
 - SNA and child never left alone in an isolated area
 - Glass in door
 - Open door
- 20) The school has yard/playground supervision procedures to ensure appropriate supervision of children during breaks
 - Anti-bullying policy
 - Code of behaviour
- 21) Vetting procedure
 - Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Glass in doors
 - Daily log book
 - Consent forms signed by parents
- 22) Child safeguarding Statement
 - Teacher, Principal/Vice Principal to attend
- 23) Vetting procedures
 - Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Teacher to be present at all times
 - Glass in doors
 - No child left one-to-one with external personnel
- 24) Vetting procedures
 - Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Teacher present at all times
 - No child left one-to-one with student teacher
- 25) Vetting procedures
 - Child safeguarding Statement

- 26) Front door locked at all times during school day
- Front door supervised in morning prior to beginning of school day
 - Side gate to staff car parked closed during school day
- 27) Vetting procedures
- Teacher present at all times
 - No child left isolated one-to-one with teacher or volunteer
 - Code of Behaviour
 - Anti-bullying policy
- 28) Procedure in place with regard to recording of shows.
- Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Staff supervision

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 (revised 2023)*

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 on 14th October 2025.

It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: Jacqui Doherty-Connolly

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 14/10/2025

Signed: Kieran O'Sullivan

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 14/10/2025