Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment 2026-2027

The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 require that the board of management must undertake a review of its Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment. The following template must be used for this purpose. The review must be completed every calendar year or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the Child Safeguarding Statement refers. Undertaking an annual review will ensure that a school also meets its statutory obligation under section 11(8) of the Children First Act 2015, to review its Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment every two years.

As part of the overall review process, boards of management should also assess relevant school policies, procedures, practices and activities and their adherence to the principles of best practice in child protection and welfare as set out in the school's Child Safeguarding Statement, the Children First Act 2015 and Children First National Guidance 2017, the Addendum to Children First (2019) and 2025, Children First National Guidance 2017, the Addendum to Children First (2019) and (2025), and the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025.

Designated Liaison Person

Name:	Darina Burke
Date Appointed:	10/09/2014

Relevant Person

(In schools this is the DLP)

Name:	Darina Burke
Contact details:	principal@stbrigid.ie 01-8376653

Date Appointed:	22/10/2026

Deputy Designated Liaison Person

Name:	Catherine Lafferty
Date Appointed:	01/09/2029

Contact details for Tusla

Contact Name

Address

Wellmount Health Centre
Finglas
Dublin 11

Contact Number

Contact details for An Garda Síochána

Contact Name

Ballymun Garda Stations

Address

Contact Number

Checklist for review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

1. When did the board first formally adopt a Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment in accordance with the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025? For most schools this will be March 2018, as outlined in Section 9.9 of the procedures.

Date first Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment adopted by the school:

March 2018

2(a) Where is the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment displayed in the school? For example, in a prominent place near the main entrance to the school.

The Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment are displayed in a display cabinet inside the entrance door to the school.

(b) Is there a student-friendly version, with a photograph of the Designated Liaison Person, displayed beside the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment?

✔Yes

(c) Other than displaying in a prominent place near the main entrance to the school, how have students been made aware of the student-friendly version?

✔Displayed at all student entrances

✔On school website

☐ Other: (please state)

3. Has the board used the most recent Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template and formally adopted, without modification, the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025?

   ✔ Yes

   What is the date of the previous review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment?

   Date: November 2025

4. Has the Board included a written assessment of risk as required under the Children First Act 2015? (This includes considering the specific issue of online safety as required by the Addendum to Children First (2019)?

   ✔ Yes

5. Is there a written protocol in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons in line with Appendix C of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025?

   ✔Yes

6. Has the Board reviewed and updated the written assessment of risk as part of this overall review (for example, to include shower facilities, changing rooms, swimming, online engagements to facilitate learning). Boards should refer to the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template for examples.

   ☐ Yes

   Date of this review: 22/10/2026

7. How has the Board ensured that the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is provided to the patron, the parents' association and all parents of children in the school? Give dates of emails/letters/texts/links provided.

   Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment furnished to the Patron - October 2026 via email.

Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment furnished to all parents in the school - October 2026, including sharing with the Parent's Assocation via Aladdin Connect (link and email attachment)

8. How has the Board sought the feedback of parents, students and school personnel (teaching and non-teaching) on the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment?

Has the school engaged with each of the above through, for example, a meeting or survey. The support documents CSS 5, CSS 6 and CSS 7 can be used to support this engagement. Details of how feedback was sought should be outlined below.

(a) Parents

An online survey was issued to parents in October 2026 via Google Forms - feedback rate was

(b) Students

A focus group consisting of Student Council representatives shared their views the 2025-2026 Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment and provided feedback and suggestions.

(c) School Personnel

Staff (teaching staff, SNA's and Ancillary staff) were invited to review the Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment. The In-school Management Team conducted a more detailed review and provided feedback.

9. Outline any aspects of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment and/or its implementation that require further improvement, including any complaints or suggestions for improvements, which the Board has identified:

1. Preventing unauthorised access to the school building by keeping doors closed at all times.
2. Use of incorrect doors to access the building.

10. Outline details of how areas for improvement have been adequately addressed including whether an action plan with appropriate timelines has been put in place:

1. Regular reminders to staff to keep the doors closed. Secretary/Principal to monitor main door.
2. New signage (September 2026) to highlight reception door.

11. Has the template for Notification regarding the board of management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment been used to inform the school community and relevant parties that they have fulfilled their statutory obligation to annually review the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment?

Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Training

12. Give details of when the DLP and DDLP most recently attended child protection training for DLP/DDLPs:

DLP: Darina Burke	Date: September 2025

DDLP: Catherine Lafferty	Date: September 2026

Give details of child protection training attended by any members of the Board and dates attended:

Margaret Lennon (Chairperson)

The Education Secretariat has advised further training for BoM members is due to take place in due course.

14. How has the Board ensured that all school personnel (including new school personnel, temporary staff and substitutes) have been made aware of their responsibilities under the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and the Children First Act 2015? For example, completing e-learning or other training, use of department's supports for school personnel when reviewing the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment, induction/mentoring system for new personnel, or other measures. How are records of the training completed maintained by the school?

- Induction Pack/ Padlet (new teachers)
- National Vetting Bureau Requirements
- All staff trained in new Child Protection Procedures (September 2026)
- Child Protection Procedures reminders as part of Croke Park Staff Planning day annually
- Garda vetting for PA members
- Pupils are supervised at all times
- Child Safeguarding Statement and referenced DES Child Protection Procedures 2025 made readily available to all school personnel (via google drive)
- All new school personnel engage in e-learning programmes provided by Túsla
- Existing personnel engage in e-learning programme provided by Túsla every 3 years.
- DLP/Deputy DLP completed training (September 2025/September 2026)
- Records of all training maintained by BoM

Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR)

15. Has the Board received a Principal's Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR) at every ordinary meeting of the Board held since the

last review of the Child Safeguarding Statement was undertaken which contains all the information required under each of the four headings set out in Section 12.3 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025?

✔ Yes ☐ No

16. Since the Board's last review of the Child Safeguarding Statement, if there have been cases presented for oversight as part of the CPOR, has the Board been provided with and reviewed all records relevant to the CPOR?

✔ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

17. Have these cases been anonymised and redacted as necessary?

✔ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

18. Since the Board's last review Child Safeguarding Statement, if there have been cases presented for oversight as part of the CPOR, do the minutes of the board meeting:

(a) specify the anonymised documents provided to the board as part of the CPOR

☐ Yes ✔No ☐ N/A

(b) use unique codes to record child protection matters?

✔Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

19. The board has undertaken the review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment and has issued/published notification confirming same.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Reporting

20. Where are all records relating to child protection filed and stored in a secure manner? For example, stored securely in the principal's office in such as manner as only the DLP and DDLP and the chairperson when acting as DLP will have access to these records.

Yes, all records are stored under lock and key in the Principal's office, with access only by the DLP/DDLP

21. How does the Board ensure that child protection procedures in relation to reporting to Tusla/An Garda Síochána are followed in full? The Board should indicate that the DLP follows the procedures outlined in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 for reporting of all child protection concerns.

The DLP follows the procedures outlined in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 for reporting of all child protection concerns, including the reporting of the Child Protection Oversight Report at Board meetings.

Curriculum

22. The Board should outline the steps it has taken to ensure that the SPHE, RSE, and Wellbeing curriculum is appropriately planned for and delivered to the children and young people in the school.

- SPHE over a two year cycle - which allows exposure to all strand units. This plan is laid out in the school SPHE Plan (reviewed May 2026). SPHE strand/strand units recorded in all mainstream teachers' Cuntais Míosiúil
- RSE programme is taught annually on a whole school basis during March. Notification is issued to all parents in advance of the teaching the programme.
- Stay Safe in its entirety taught every two years [January –February] with a recap of the main messages in the intervening year. Junior Infant programme taught annually in its entirety.

For primary schools, it should confirm that:

- Aspects of all three strands (SPHE, RSE, Wellbeing) are covered each year.

- The Stay Safe programme is taught in its entirety in one year – at least once during infants, 1st/2nd class, 3rd/4th class, and 5th/6th class. Schools will be informed if, in the future, the Department approves an alternative or replacement to the Stay Safe Programme.
- The school plan outlines provision for RSE across each of the different class levels/stages.
- The date of the most recent policy review or curricular implementation is noted.

For post-primary schools, it should confirm that:

- The Wellbeing Programme for Junior Cycle is being implemented.
- RSE and SPHE are being appropriately delivered.
- The date of the most recent policy review or curricular implementation is noted.

Vetting and Recruitment

The board should be satisfied that procedures to ensure that all statutory requirements in relation to vetting, statutory declarations and forms of undertaking are met. The board should refer to the school's recruitment procedures about how references of all school personnel are checked and how vetting outcomes are managed before appointment or work in the school is undertaken. Schools under the aegis of Education and Training Boards (ETB) should outline how they adhere to ETB recruitment processes.

If joint agreements are used for the visiting coaches or for school placement students, this should be included. If the school is part of teacher sharing arrangements (see section 10.2 of the procedures), the vetting oversight actions taken should be included.

23. The Board should indicate how it is satisfied that:

(a) the statutory requirements for Garda Vetting are met.

- The school operates a dedicated vetting email stbrigglasnevin.vet@gmail.com

- All personnel present in person with a photographic ID and proof of address before vetting process is initiated
- Vetting file maintains all personnel who are Garda vetted
- Subsititute teachers/SNA's must present Garda vetting confirmation before they commence emplolyment

Board satisfied that Garda Vetting requirements are met.

(a) the department's requirements in relation to the provision of a child protection related statutory declaration and associated form of undertaking are met.

- All personnel must present with a Statutory Declaration signed form before they commence employment

Board satisfied that Statutory Declaration requirements are met.

(b) thorough recruitment and selection procedures are applied by the school in relation to all school personnel (employees and volunteers).

- Recruitment and selection procedures of all staff are rigorous and in line with recommended DES circulars and guidelines.

Statement by the Board

The Board should make an overall statement as to its satisfaction that the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment and child protection procedures are being fully and adequately implemented by the school.

Signed*: *Chairperson of the board of management*
Date:

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

CSS 3

Notification Regarding the Board of Management's Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

This template must be used by the board of management to inform the school community and relevant parties that they have fulfilled their statutory obligation to annually review the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

To: The School Community, St. Brigid's N.S.

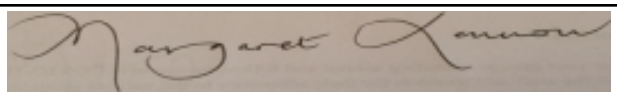
The board of management of:

St. Brigid's N.S.

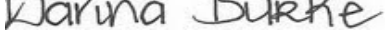
wishes to inform you that:

(a) The board of management's annual review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement was completed at the Board meeting of | 21/10/2026 |

(b) This review was conducted in accordance with the board of management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment published on www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools .

Signed: *		**Date**: 21/10/2026

Chairperson of the board of management

Signed: *		**Date**:21/10/1026

Principal/Secretary to the board of management