COLÁISTE IOGNÁID S.J.

Bóthar na Mara, Gaillimh, H91 N732

CSS1

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

For:	**Coláiste Iognáid**
At:	**Sea Road, Galway.**

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):

Mr. David O'Sullivan

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

Ms. Claire Lohan

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

Name of Relevant Person

Mr. David O'Sullivan

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

091-501550	admin@colaisteiognaid.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. Bernard Kirk

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 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.

This statement has been published on the school's website and will be made available on request by the school. It has been provided to all members of school personnel, the parents' association, 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.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1.	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of child being harmed by a visitor or external person • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported	• The school has a yard supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.
2.	Recreation breaks for pupils	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel or a visitor.	• Yard supervision policy ensures appropriate supervision of children. • Bí Cineálta Policy implemented • SPHE curriculum implemented in full • Junior Cycle Wellbeing Programme implemented • RSE programme implemented
3.	Classroom teaching	• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly • Risk of inappropriate relationship or communication	• The school has a Health and Safety policy • Teaching Council Code of Professional Conduct adhered to
4.	One-to-one teaching	Risk of a child being harmed by a member of school personnel	• The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting • The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to-one counselling • Visibility maintained (open doors where feasible)

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
5.	One-to-one Counselling in person or online	Risk of a child being harmed by a member of school personnel	• The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to-one counselling • Guidance Counsellor abides by IGC Code of Ethics and Practice
6.	Online or remote teaching or co-curricular activities	Risk of harm due to cyberbullying	• ICT Acceptable Use Policy • Content filtering system • Microsoft Teams and school email only • Teaching Council Code of Professional Conduct adhered to
7.	Outdoor teaching activities	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel or a visitor.	• Adequate supervision is in place. • Enhanced supervision where feasible/deemed necessary by the teacher. • The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings.
8.	Sporting Activities (including swimming and outdoor pursuits)	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an individual attending an event.	• The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum • The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches • Supervision provided during swimming and outdoor pursuits
9.	School outings	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	• The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings • Parental consent obtained • Garda-vetted supervisors
10.	School trips involving overnight stay	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a	• Gender-appropriate supervision

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		volunteer or an external individual.	• Clear supervision and accommodation arrangements • The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings
11.	Coláiste Iognáid Rowing Club Activities and Events	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a volunteer or an external individual.	• All policies apply to students when on Rowing club activities and events. Rowing Club volunteers should pay particular attention to this document particularly activities and policies relevant to points 8,9 and 10 above.
12.	School trips involving foreign travel	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	• The school has in place an International Trips Policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings • Parental consent obtained • Garda-vetted staff • Risk assessments completed
13.	Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in school	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	• Dedicated supervisor for common areas • Enhanced supervision where feasible
14.	Fundraising events involving pupils	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	• The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings • Parental Consent obtained • Garda vetted staff
15.	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	• Policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings • Garda-vetted personnel only • Supervision by school staff
16.	School transport arrangements	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		volunteer or an external individual.	DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
17.	Care of children with additional educational needs, including intimate care needs.	Risk of a child being harmed by a member of school personnel	• The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care • Additional Education Needs Policy
18.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils.	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	• The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils • Enhanced supervision where required • Bí Cineálta Policy
19.	Administration of Medicine	Risk of a child being harmed while receiving medical attention.	The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of Medicine.
20.	Administration of First Aid	Risk of a child being harmed while receiving medical attention.	The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid
21.	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Risk of a child being harmed by another child.	Coláiste Iognáid has implemented the Bi Cineálta procedures in full
22.	Training of school personnel in child protection matters	School personnel not being aware of their responsibilities in terms of Child Safeguarding Legislation	• Has provided each member of school 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 - staff induction • Encourages staff and BOM members to avail of relevant training • Maintains records of all staff and board member training
23.	Use of external personnel to supplement the curriculum	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a	The school has in place a policy and procedures for the supplement delivery of the

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		volunteer or an external individual.	curriculum
24.	Use of external personnel to support extra-curricular activities	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external coaches
25.	Recruitment of school personnel including- Teachers/SNA' s Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners Extra-curricular coaches Guest speakers Volunteers Visitors/contractors present in school during school activities.	School personnel not being aware of their responsibilities in terms of Child Safeguarding Legislation	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
26.	Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	The school has in place an Acceptable User Policy in respect of usage of ICT by pupils
27.	Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly.	The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils
28.	Students participating in work experience	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience.
29.	Students participating in social outreach	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils undertaking Social Outreach.
30.	Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	• The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
31.	Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	• The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils • The school has in place an Acceptable User Policy in respect of usage of ICT by pupils
32.	Use of school premises by other organisations	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to Garda vetting
33.	After School Study & Homework Clubs	Risk of a child being harmed by another child, a member of school personnel, a volunteer or an external individual.	• The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils. • Supervision arrangements are in place
34.	Oral and practical State Examinations	Risk of harm in one-to-one situations	• State Examination Commission procedures followed • Supervision arrangements in place
35.	Use of the Fr Bob McGoran & Seomra Ben classrooms including the sensory spaces	• Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situations • Risk of harm to children with AEN who have particular vulnerabilities • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly by school personnel	• Use of the area is supervised by school personnel • Procedures for one-to-one teaching and one-to-one counselling apply as relevant • Additional Educational Needs Policy applies
36.	Sixth Class Admissions Tests	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of child being harmed by another child	• Sixth class students are dropped and collected by their parents. • Adequate supervision provided during all activities

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of harm not being recognised or reported properly and promptly by school personnel	
37.	Curricular provision for SPHE & RSE	Risk of harm not being recognised by a member of staff.	• SPHE curriculum implemented • RSE programme implemented • Wellbeing Programme implemented.
38.	Lunch & Break times off-site	Students are at a risk of harm from other students or external personnel.	• The code of behaviour and all associated policies apply when students are off-site during the school day. • The school maintains working relationships with local businesses and positive relationships with the local community.

School policy documents are available here

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 9/2/26 *(most recent review date)*

Signed:*	**Date:** 9/2/26.

Chairperson of the Board of Management of Coláiste Iognáid

Signed:*	**Date:** 9/2/26

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management of Coláiste Iognáid

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on 9/2/27 *(expected review date)*

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

COLÁISTE IOGNÁID S.J.

Bóthar na Mara, Gaillimh, H91 N732

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

Child Safeguarding procedures can be found online at the Department of Education and Youth website www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools

A copy of Coláiste Iognáid's Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment are available on the school website here, a copy of which is also on display inside the school entrance.

The link to the Children First National Guidance 2017 can be found at Children_First_National_Guidance_2017.pdf

There is a hard copy available, on request, in the main school office.

T : 091 501 550 E : admin@colaisteiognaid.ie W : www.colaisteiognaid.ie RCN : 20007713