**Scoil Molaise, Old Leighlin: Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment**

**Scoil Molaise: Child Safeguarding Statement**

Scoil Molaise, Old Leighlin is a primary school with two special classes for children with ASD providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

In accordance with the requirements of the [Children First Act 2015](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2015/act/36/enacted/en/pdf), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](https://assets.gov.ie/25844/b90aafa55804462f84d05f87f0ca2bf6.pdf), [the Addendum to Children First (2019)](https://assets.gov.ie/25819/c9744b64dfd6447985eeffa5c0d71bbb.pdf), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)](https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/12bee3-child-protection-procedures-in-schools/) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/4214-TUSLA_Guidance_on_Developing_a_CSS_LR.PDF), the Board of Management of Scoil Molaise, Old Leighlin 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 \_\_\_\_Mandy Ryan (Principal) \_\_\_\_\_
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is \_\_\_\_Alison Murphy (Deputy Principal) \_\_
4. The Relevant Person is \_\_\_\_Mandy Ryan (DLP and Principal)\_\_\_\_

*(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. In a school setting the relevant person shall be the designated liaison person.)*

1. 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 (revised 2023)* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the 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)](https://revisedacts.lawreform.ie/eli/2012/act/47/revised/en/pdf) 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 gov.ie 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.
* 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 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.

1. 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.
2. 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.

The Child Safeguarding Statement was originally adopted by the Board of Management on 12th March 2018. It was reviewed, updated and adopted by the Board of Management on 14th December 2021.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was updated again and adopted by the Board of Management on 4th October 2023.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 13/03/2023[most recent review date] and it will be reviewed again in March 2024.





Signed: Signed:

Chairperson of Board of Management Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_04/10/2023\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_04/10/2023\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­­­\_

**Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment**

**Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Molaise, Old Leighlin**

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 Scoil Molaise, Old Leighlin.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **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 the risks of harm identified in this assessment**. |
| (A)Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils. | 1. Risk of child falling and physically hurting themselves.
2. Risk of harm due to bullying of child.
3. Risk of harm of staff member accidentally reversing over child.
4. Risk of harm of an unauthorised person collecting a child from school.
5. Risk of harm due to parent/visitor to the school on school grounds.
 | 1&2&5. Two members of staff will perform morning time supervision from 9.10am to 9.20am. Children will not be permitted onto school grounds earlier than 9.10am.3. Children will not be permitted to use the staff carpark to enter or exit the school grounds. Only the main gate will be used.4. Parents are encouraged to let the class teacher know if another adult is collecting their child who would not normally do so. |
| (B) Recreation breaks for pupils.  | 1. Risk of child falling and hurting themselves.2. Risk of harm due to bullying.3. Risk of harm due to child with special needs being overwhelmed.4. Risk of harm due to child with special needs being fatigued.5. Risk of harm due to parent/visitor to the school on school grounds.6. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult. 7. Risk of harm due to inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school.8. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children on yard.9. Risk of harm due to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities.10. Risk of harm due to a child being hit with a ball.11. Risk of harm due to a child falling/ or being pushed on the playground.  | 1&2&5&6: Two members of teaching staff will supervise the yard out front and at the back when the pitch is closed at all break times. Two members of staff will supervise the back yard and up the pitch when the front yard is closed at all break times. SNA staff can assist with supervision although their main focus are children with SEN. The school has a Supervision policy. The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy.The school has a Code of Behaviour Policy.8. If for any reason a member of the teaching staff cannot supervise on the yard they will arrange to swop with another member of staff.3&4&9: SNA staff will follow the timetable and provide supervision and movement/withdrawal/fatigue breaks for children with SEN.7.No child is allowed to enter the school building or classrooms while out on yard without the permission of a teacher on the yard and only then for a genuine reason.No child will be permitted to use an electronic device during break times without the supervision of an adult.The school has an Acceptable Use Policy.10. No child is allowed to play with a hurl or sliotar unless they are well up the pitch in the designated area away from other children, wearing a helmet and are supervised.Children are only allowed to play football in a designated safe area. Other children are not allowed to run freely through areas where children are playing football.Basketball is only played on the basketball court.11. A playground rota is in use in School. Playground rules are regularly discussed with children by their class teachers. |
| (C) Classroom Teaching | 1. Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour.2. Risk of harm due to bullying of a child.3. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult. | 1. The school has an updated regularly reviewed Code of Behaviour.2. The school has an updated regularly reviewed Anti-Bullying Policy.3. The school has an updated, regularly reviewed Child Safeguarding Statement and risk assessment.The school has an updated regularly reviewed Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy.Each staff member is aware of DE guidelines on appropriate behaviour for teaching staff.The school has a Complaints Procedure in place.The school has in place clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities.The school has in place clear procedures for the use of external persons to supplement the delivery of the curriculum.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.The school has in place clear procedures in respect of student teacher placements.The school has in place procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school.Each staff member is aware of their Child Protection Responsibilities.  |
| (D) One to one Teaching(E)One to one counselling. | 1. Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils inappropriately via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.2. Risk of harm due to a child falsely accusing a member of staff of inappropriate behaviour.3. Risk of harm due to bullying of child. | 1&2. Children being withdrawn for Learning Support & Resource Teaching time will be in groups of at least two. Where this is not possible the classroom door will be left open.The school has an updated regularly reviewed Child Safeguarding Statement.The school has in place procedures for one-to-one counselling.The school has an updated regularly reviewed Acceptable Use Policy.The school has an updated regularly reviewed Code of Behaviour.All staff are vetted by the National Vetting Bureau before commencing work.3.The school has an updated regularly reviewed Anti Bullying Policy. |
| (F) Outdoor Teaching Activities. | 1. Risk of harm due to a child who is a flight risk not being adequately supervised.2. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.3. Risk of harm due to inclement weather making the playground slippery.4. Risk of harm due to climbing on outdoor objects. | 1&2: When engaging in outdoor teaching activities the class teacher will ensure they have at least one other adult accompanying them with supervision.SNA staff will accompany children with SEN.3. The Playground will be adequately salted before children or staff are allowed to use it.4. No children will be permitted to climb on any outdoor objects except the playground. Playground rules apply. |
| (G)Sporting Activities(H)Use of external personnel to support sport and other extra-curricular activities.(I)Use of offsite facilities for school activities. | 1. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.2. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.3. Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child is participating in out of school activities.4. Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer, parent or visitor to the school.5. Risk of child not being recognised by school personnel.6. Risk of harm due to Bullying of child.7. Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities. | 1&2&3&4. While participating in sporting activities or other extra-curricular activities outside of school the class teacher and at least one other member of staff will be present at all times to supervise children.The school has a child safeguarding statement in place.All external personnel working with children have completed all vetting requirements.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.7.SNA staff will accompany SEN children.5.Children will wear a common uniform which identifies them belonging to our school.6.Scoil Molaise has an Anti-Bullying Policy in place.  |
| (J)School Outings | 1. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.2. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.3. Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child is participating in out of school activities.4. Risk of child not being recognised by school personnel.5. Risk of harm due to Bullying of child.6. Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities. | 1&2&3&6. While participating in sporting activities or other extra-curricular activities outside of school the class teacher and at least one other member of staff will be present at all times to supervise children.The school has a child safeguarding statement in place.All external personnel working with children have completed all vetting requirements.The school has a school tour/outings policy in place.The school has a supervision policy in place.7.SNA staff will accompany SEN children.6.Children will wear a common uniform which identifies them belonging to our school.5.Scoil Molaise has an Anti-Bullying Policy in place.  |
| (K)Use of toilet/changing areas in schools. | 1. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.2. Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel.3. Risk of child being harmed by another child.4. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.5. Risk of harm due to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities.6. Risk of harm due to child being bullied. | 1&2&3&4&5: No more than two children max at a time will be permitted to use the toilet/changing areas.2&3&4&5: The school has a child safeguarding statement.2&3&4&5: If a child is taking too long a period in the toilet/changing area the class teacher or SNA will check in on them.6: The school has an anti-bullying policy. |
| (L)Intimate Care of Pupils with SEN. | 1. Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel.2. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.3. Risk of harm due to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities.4. Risk of accusations against staff. | 1&2&3&4: The school has an intimate care policy.The school has a child safeguarding statement.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting. |
| (M)Annual Sports Day | 1. Risk of child being harmed by another child.2. Risk of child being harmed in a game.3. Risk of child becoming dehydrated.4. Risk of child getting sunburned.5. Risk of child getting injured hitting off another child on the bouncy castle. | 1&2:The school has a Health & Safety Policy.The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement.3&4:An email is sent to parents alerting them to put plenty of sunscreen on their child/children and to give them plenty to drink. 1&2&3&4&5:Children are supervised at all times.1&2&3&4&5:SNAs provide extra supervision for children with SEN.5: No more than two children are allowed on the bouncy castle at any one time.2: Children are only allowed to play camogie/hurling in the designated area while wearing helmets. |
| (N)Fundraising events involving pupils. | 1. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.2. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.3. Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child is participating in out of school activities.4. Risk of child not being recognised by school personnel.5. Risk of harm due to Bullying of child.6. Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities7. Risk of child being knocked down on the road. | 1&2&3&7: While participating in fundraising events the class teacher and at least one other member of staff will be present at all times to supervise children.The school has a child safeguarding statement in place.Parent Association members have completed all vetting requirements.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.The school has a supervision policy in place.6.SNA staff will accompany SEN children.4.Children will wear a common uniform which identifies them belonging to our school.5.Scoil Molaise has an Anti-Bullying Policy in place. |
| (O)Care of children with SEN | 1. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.2. Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel.3. Risk of child being harmed in school by another child.4. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.5. Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child is participating in out of school activities.6. Risk of harm due to Bullying of child.7. Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities8. Risk of child who is a flight risk of being knocked down on the road.9. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision on a digital device. | 1&2&3&4&5&6&7&8&9: The school has a Special Needs Policy.The school has a Special Needs Assistant Policy.The school has an intimate care policy.The school has a supervision policy.The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy.The school has an Acceptable Usage Policy.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.There are locks placed on classroom doors in the special classes. There are temporary fences placed around the entry and exit points of the playground. |
| (P)School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts. | 1. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.2. Risk of harm due to distraction of the driver.3. Risk of harm due to child removing seatbelt.4. Risk of a child being harmed by another child.5. Risk of harm due to child being a flight risk.6. Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities.7 Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person.  | The school has a Bus Escort Policy.The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement.The school has a Health & Safety Statement.There is a bus escort present on all three buses transporting children to the special classes.The school has a Code of Behaviour.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting. |
| (Q)Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required. | 1. Risk of harm due to child injuring themselves.2. Risk of a child being harmed by another child.3. Risk of an adult being harmed by another child.4. Risk of child leaving the school grounds and being injured on the road. | 1&2&3&4: The school has a Challenging Behaviour Policy.The school has a Code of Behaviour.The school has an Anti-Bullying policy. |
| (R)Administration of medicine | 1.Risk of harm due to easy access to medicine.2. Risk of harm due to administration of unauthorised medicine.3. Risk of harm due to incorrect administration of medicine. | 1&2&3: The school has an Administration of Medicine’s Policy including the procedures for the administration of medicine to pupils.The school has a Health & Safety Statement. |
| (S) Administration of First Aid. | 1. Risk of harm to child by another member of school personnel.2. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult. | 1&2: The school has in place a policy and procedures for the Administration of First Aid.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.The Board of Management provides funding in so far as it can for relevant staff training. |
| (T)Curricular provision in respect of S.P.H.E, R.S.E, Stay Safe. | 1. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult. | 1: The school has a child safeguarding statement.The school has an anti-bullying policy.The school has an R.S.E. Policy.The school has a S.P.H.E. Policy.The school implements in full the Stay safe Programme.The school implements in full the S.P.H.E. curriculum as laid down by the DE. |
| (U)Prevention and dealing of bullying amongst pupils. | 1. Risk of harm due to bullying of child by another child. | 1: The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the Department’s Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools.All school personnel have a copy of this and are required to adhere to it.The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017(Revised 2023) are made available to all school personnel and all personnel are required to adhere to these procedures. |
| (V)Training of school personnel in child protection matters | 1. Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel. | 1.The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement, all school personnel including new personnel have a copy of it and are required to adhere to it.School personnel have completed the E-Learning child protection programme.The Board of Management provides funding in so far as it can for relevant staff training and encourages staff to avail of relevant training. The school maintains records of all staff and board member training.School Personnel have completed other child protection training. |
| (W)Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as \*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. | 1. Risk of harm due to bullying of child.2. Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child.3. Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel.4. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.5. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities. | 1&2&3&4&5: The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the Department’s Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools.All school personnel have a copy of this and are required to adhere to it.The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017(Revised 2023) are made available to all school personnel and all personnel are required to adhere to these procedures.The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement.The school has a Code of Behaviour.The school has a Supervision Policy.The school has an R.S.E. Policy.The school has a S.P.H.E. Policy.The school implements in full the Stay safe Programme.The school implements in full the S.P.H.E. curriculum as laid down by the DE.The Board of Management provides funding in so far as it can for relevant staff training and encourages staff to avail of relevant training.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting. |
| (X)Recruitment of school personnel including-\*Teachers/SNAs\*Caretakers/Secretary/Cleaners\*Sports Coaches\*External Tutors/Guest Speakers\*Volunteers/Parents in school activities.\*Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours.\*Visitors/contractors present during after school activities. | 1. Risk of child being harmed in school by member of school personnel.2. Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult. | 1&2:The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.The Principal always checks out references before school personnel are recruited. |
| (Y)Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school. | 1. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities.2. Risk of harm due to ceremonies being recorded and circulated. | 1&2: The school has a Supervision Policy.The school has a Child Safeguarding Statement.The school has a Health & Safety Policy.The school has in place an Acceptable Usage Policy in respect of usage of electronic devices by children and staff.The school has in place a mobile phone and electronic device policy.The school has clear procedures in place to deal with the use of video/photography/other media to record school events. |
| (Z)Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school. | 1.Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones or other electronic devices while at school. 2.Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.3. Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.4. Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.5. Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities. | 1&2&3&4&5: The school has in place an Acceptable Usage Policy in respect of usage of electronic devices by children and staff.The school has in place a mobile phone and electronic device policy.The school has in place a Special Needs Policy. |
| Application of sanctions under the School’s Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc. | 1.Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school.2. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult.3. Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour. | 1. The school has a Supervision Policy in place.2. The school has an Acceptable Usage Policy.The school has a Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices Policy in school.3. The school has in place a Code of Behaviour. |
| Students/other adults participating in work experience in the school. | 1.Risk of harm due to a child being harmed in school by an adult.2. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another adult. | 1&2: Students/other adults participating in work experience in the school are given their own copy of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement, Anti-Bullying Policy and Code of Behaviour.They also participate in an induction meeting with the class teacher and Principal alerting them to important practises and procedures in place in school.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.The school has in place procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school. |
| Student Teachers undertaking training placement in the school. |  1.Risk of harm due to a child being harmed in school by an adult.2. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another adult. | The school has in place procedures in respect of student teacher placements.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.The school has in place a Child Safeguarding Statement. |
| Use of video/photography/other media to record school events. | 1.Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer, parent or visitor.2.Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between child and another child or adult.3.Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel or another adult communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner.4.Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel or another adult accessing/ circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner. | 1&2&3&4: The school has a Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy.The school has clear procedures in place to deal with the use of video/photography/other media to record school events.The school has in place a Safeguarding Statement.The school has in place a Supervision PolicyThe school has in place an Acceptable Usage Policy. |
| After school use of school premises by other organisations. | No risk of harm due to no other organisation using the school premises after school use. | There are at present no other organisations using the school premises after school use. |
| Homework Club. | 1. Risk of a child being harmed by an adult.
2. Risk of child being harmed by another child.
3. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision.
4. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/ communications between child and another child or adult.
5. Risk of harm due to bullying.
 | 1&2&3&4&5: The school has in place a Homework Club Policy.The school has a Safeguarding Statement.The school has a Supervision Policy.The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation from the National Bureau and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy. |

|  |
| --- |
| **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.

In line with ‘The Addendum to *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children’* published in January 2019 Scoil Molaise, Old Leighlin has considered the specific issue of online safety when carrying out their risk assessment and preparing their Child Safeguarding Statement.

Also in line with ‘The Guidance on Continuity of Schooling for primary and post-primary schools (April 2020)’ Scoil Molaise, Old Leighlin has considered the importance of teachers maintaining the safe and ethical use of the internet during distance learning and assisting parents and guardians to be aware of their role also. Scoil Molaise’s Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) informs and guides remote or distance learning activity.

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)*.

This risk assessment was originally completed by the Board of Management on 12/03/2018. It has been updated at the Board of Management Meeting on 14/12/2021. It has also been updated at the Board of Management meeting on 4th October 2023 in line with the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)*. It shall be reviewed annually as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.



Signed: Date:\_\_\_\_04/10/2023\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, Board of Management



Signed: Date:\_\_\_\_\_04/10/2023\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management