

Mary, Mother of Hope JNS Child Safeguarding Statement 2024/2025



Mary, Mother of Hope JNS a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Second 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 *Mary, Mother of Hope JNS* 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 *Alma Moran*
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is *Jean Cullen*
- 4 The Relevant Person is *Alma Moran*
(*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.*)
- 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 (however 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 \(Children and Vulnerable Persons\) 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.

- 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 **September 17th 2024**.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on **September 17th 2024**

Signed: Audrey Morden

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 17/09/2024

Signed: Helma Mora

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 17/09/2024

Safeguarding



Mary, Mother of Hope JNS Child Safeguarding Statement



The Board of Management and Staff of Mary Mother of Hope JNS are fully committed to the implementation of our Child Protection Procedures in line with national guidelines.

A copy of our Child Safeguarding Statement is available on our website or on request from the office.

Designated Liaison person is Alma Moran

01 6405655

Deputy Designated Liaison Person is Jean Cullen

01 6405655

School Patron, Archbishop Dermot Farrell, Dublin Diocese

01 8373732

Gárda Síochána, Blanchardstown

01 6667000

HSE Child Welfare and Protection Services

01 8708000



<p>The school has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</p>	<p>The school has identified the following Risk of Harm</p>	<p>List of School Activities</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff DLP & DLP to attend PDST face to face training when available DLP & DLP complete PDST online module for DLP & DLP All Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by DE, PDST BOM retains records of staff and board training 	<p>Harm not recognised or reported promptly</p>	<p>Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters</p>	<p>1.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rigorous staff selection process and procedures in place Garda Vetting, Teaching Council Recognition required All staff show evidence of completion of Child Protection online modules Safeguarding Statement shared with staff Classroom doors unlocked at all times - all staff welcome in all classrooms Glass in window kept clear at all times 	<p>Harm by school personnel</p>	<p>Class Teaching/Small group Teaching</p>	<p>2.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DE guidelines in relation to recruitment of staff and service provision followed. Safeguarding Statement shared with all relevant personnel following annual review Rigorous selection of appropriate platforms No direct teaching Staff guidelines in place and training offered All staff show evidence of completion of Child Protection online modules Safeguarding Statement shared with staff and reviewed annually Classroom doors unlocked at all times - all staff welcome in all classrooms Glass in window kept clear at all times Guidelines in relation to use of sensory room and other quiet spaces agreed, published and circulated 	<p>Harm by school personnel</p>	<p>One to one teaching/support</p>	<p>3.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DE guidelines in relation to recruitment of staff and service provision followed. Safeguarding Statement shared with all relevant personnel following annual review Rigorous selection of appropriate platforms No direct teaching Staff guidelines in place and training offered All staff show evidence of completion of Child Protection online modules Safeguarding Statement shared with staff and reviewed annually 	<p>Harm by personnel reported promptly</p>	<p>School transport Arrangements including use of Bus Escorts</p>	<p>4.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DE guidelines in relation to recruitment of staff and service provision followed. Safeguarding Statement shared with all relevant personnel following annual review Rigorous selection of appropriate platforms No direct teaching Staff guidelines in place and training offered All staff show evidence of completion of Child Protection online modules Safeguarding Statement shared with staff and reviewed annually 	<p>Harm by personnel reported promptly</p>	<p>Online teaching and learning remotely</p>	<p>5.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DE guidelines in relation to recruitment of staff and service provision followed. Safeguarding Statement shared with all relevant personnel following annual review Rigorous selection of appropriate platforms No direct teaching Staff guidelines in place and training offered All staff show evidence of completion of Child Protection online modules Safeguarding Statement shared with staff and reviewed annually 	<p>Harm by school personnel</p>	<p>Care of Children with special needs,</p>	<p>6.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DE guidelines in relation to recruitment of staff and service provision followed. Safeguarding Statement shared with all relevant personnel following annual review Rigorous selection of appropriate platforms No direct teaching Staff guidelines in place and training offered All staff show evidence of completion of Child Protection online modules Safeguarding Statement shared with staff and reviewed annually 	<p>Harm by school personnel</p>	<p>Intimate care needs</p>	<p>7.</p>

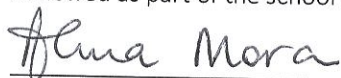
			ongoing concern
8.	Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full Comprehensive SPHE/Wellbeing policy in place
9.	Access to building	Harm from intruders and others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External doors closed except during arrival and dismissal All visitors required to pass through office All visitors required to sign book on entry and exit from building OHS policy in place
10	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground Collection by persons unknown to school staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents aware of responsibility for children until 8.40 and after 1.30/2.30 Written/Verbal instruction required from parents if there is a change in arrangements Procedures and routines taught and adhered to both morning and afternoon by all staff All children gather and dismissed from front of school Children arriving late enter through main door and go straight to classrooms or are met by staff and brought to class Children who are not collected at 1.30/2.30 are supervised by school staff until parents/carers arrive Guidelines explained to substitute teachers
11	Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Harm by school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive Handling Plan in place Code Of Positive Behaviour in place Team approach to managing behaviour
12	Sports Coaches	Harm by personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class Teacher present at all times Child Safeguarding Statement shared and displayed
13	Students participating in work experience	Harm by student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For all students except those on Teaching Practice, teacher is present at all times Work experience Policy in place Child Safeguarding Statement shared and displayed Shared agreement between schools & colleges re Garda Vetting
14	Recreation breaks for pupils	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yard procedures and policy in place Yard supervision rota in place and circulated monthly Rules, routines and activities taught Yard Buddies trained and supervised
15	Outdoor teaching activities	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enclosed campus Activities fully supervised Teachers suitably trained and qualified
16	Sporting Activities	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities fully supervised Teachers suitably trained and qualified
17	After-schools activities	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All activities receive BOM approval Restricted to staff of school 1+ members of staff present
18	School outings	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Harm by other adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tours & outings policy in place 10:1 child:adult ratio adhered to School staff always present Bus companies fully insured and meeting safety standards re safety belts etc
19	Use of toilet areas in school	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Harm by other adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toilets at back of classroom for use during contact time Limited access to toilets during recreation times One child at a time policy Adult/Yard Buddy always remain outside the toilet

20	Annual Sports Day	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Harm by other adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear plan and timetabling • Supervision provided
21	Fundraising events involving pupils	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Harm by other adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only during school time with teachers present
22	Administration of Medicine	Harm by school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy in place • Care plan in place for each child who needs medication in school • Training provided where feasible
23	Administration of First Aid	Harm by school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines in place • Teacher liaise with senior staff and parents as required
24	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Harm by other adults Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy in place • Code of Positive Behaviour in place • Thorough and comprehensive SPHE programme in place for children in all classes
25	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum, sports and other activities	Harm by personnel Harm by other pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher present at all times • Garda Vetting required
26	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Harm by other adults Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethos, Vision, Mission Statement agreed, published and publicised • Code of Positive Behaviour in place • Comprehensive SPHE programme taught • Anti Bullying Policy in place • Intercultural policy in place
27	Recruitment of school personnel including - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers • SNA's • Caretaker/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 	Harm by school personnel Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rigorous staff selection process and procedures in place • Garda Vetting for all staff & volunteers • Teaching Council Recognition required for teaching staff • All staff show evidence of completion of Child Protection online modules • Safeguarding Statement shared with staff and reviewed annually • Policy of Parents / Volunteers • Policy on Visiting Contractors
28	Use of offsite facilities for school activities	Harm by personnel Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reputable locations used on a limited basis • Locations and facilities reviewed • Policy on Tours and Outings including 1:10

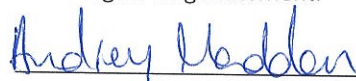
			Adult:Child Ratio
29	Use of school premises by other organisation during school day	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Harm by other adults Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited access given to HSE/School Photographer etc
30	Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Bullying Viewing inappropriate content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AUP policy Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour "School use only" equipment for staff. No consent for use of personal devices by pupils or staff in school for school related recording, internet searches etc
31	Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Harm by other adults Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All within Code of Behaviour guidelines Emphasis on positive approaches in policy Safety and dignity of child paramount
32	Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Harm by other adults Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines in place & shared with parents AUP policy Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour "School use only" equipment for staff. No consent for use of personal devices by pupils or staff in school for school related recording, internet searches etc
33	Student teachers undertaking placement in the school	Harm by personnel Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student Child protection guidelines shared Garda Vetting as required
34	Out of school use of school premises by other organisations	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Harm by other adults Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All applications reviewed by BOM Summer Camp/Art Club run by school staff Independent insurances cover required

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 was updated by the Board of Management in September 2024. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.



Signed Alma Moran
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management



Signed Audrey Madden
Chairperson, Board of Management

Date: September 17th 2024