

# **Child Safeguarding Statement**

## **St. Laurence's BNS Kilmacud.**

St. Laurence's BNS Kilmacud is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class. In accordance with the requirement of the Children's First Act 2015, Children First National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary schools 2017 and Tusla Guidance on the Preparations of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of St. Laurence's BNS Kilmacud 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 School 2017 as part of this overall child safeguarding statement.
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Damian Moran, Principal of St. Laurence's BNS. Mr. Moran was appointed at Board meeting of 27/09/2021.
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) is Carragh Ní Éineacháin. Ms. Ní Éineacháin was appointed at Board meeting of 27/09/2021.
4. The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities the school will adhere to and follow 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's 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 to 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 to encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.
- Fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

The school will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any pupil with a special vulnerability.

5. 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 2017 and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the DES website.

- In relation to the provision of information and where necessary instruction and training to staff in respect of identification of the occurrence of harm (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 copy of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement.
    - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training.
    - Encourages BOM members to avail of relevant training.
    - The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training.
  - In relation to reporting 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 2017 including, in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children’s First Act 2015.
  - In this school the Board has appointed Damian Moran DLP as the relevant person (Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement.
  - In accordance with the Children’s First Act 2015 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 attached as an appendix to these procedures.
  - The various procedures referred to in this statement can be accessed via the DES website or will be made available on request.
6. This statement will be published on the school website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, The Parents’ Association, and the Patron. It is readily available to parents on request.
7. The Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management of St. Laurence’s BNS on \_\_\_\_\_.

**For a signed copy, please contact the school.**