

**Child  
Safeguarding  
Statement  
and Risk  
Assessment**

Scoil Angela, Ursuline Primary School is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth 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 2017 and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Scoil Angela, Ursuline Primary School 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 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Bridann Molony.
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Helen O'Dwyer Ryan.
- 4 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.

- 5 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 2017 and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the DE 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 DE 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 2017, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
- In this school the Board has appointed the above named DLP as the "relevant person" (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the schools child safeguarding statement.
- 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 DE 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.

- 6 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.
- 7 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 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021.

Signed: Catherine Reynolds  
 Chairperson of Board of Management  
 Date: 22/6/2021

Signed: Burhan S. Khan  
 Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management  
 Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021



## Appendix 1: Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

### Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Angela, Thurles.

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirement of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Scoil Angela.

<b>Risk identified</b>	<b>Potential risk of harm</b>	<b>Procedure in place to manage risk identified</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>
Opening/Closing Times	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults.  Risk of harm from other pupils.  Flight Risk	Supervision by teacher from 8.50a.m.	High
Recreational Breaks in school playground	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults.  Bullying behaviour  Flight risks	Supervision by teachers and SNAs  Anti-Bullying Policy	High
Recreational Breaks in Tennis Court Area	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults.  Access to pupils by strangers or other adults driving cars and trucks.	Supervision by two teachers when accessing the court areas.	High
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel	Window in door or Open doors  Special Educational Needs Policy	Medium

<b>Risk identified</b>	<b>Potential risk of harm</b>	<b>Procedure in place to manage risk identified</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>
Visitors/Visiting Tutors	Tutors behaving inappropriately.  Tutors lacking awareness of child safety issues.	Visiting tutors from reputable organisations with appropriate vetting.  Sign In/Sign Out and collect 'school visitor' lanyard at Reception.	Medium
Visiting Sports Coaches/Dance Teacher	Tutors behaving inappropriately.  Tutors lacking awareness of child safety issues.	Visiting tutors from reputable organisations with appropriate vetting.  Collect 'school visitor' lanyard at Reception.  Supervision by Class Teacher also.	Medium
Managing challenging behaviour amongst pupils	Harm to pupils and staff	Behaviour Policy  Code of Discipline  SPHE curriculum	Medium
Care of children with special needs, including intimate care needs.	Harm by school personnel	SNA Policy  Intimate Care Policy... Parents informed of Policy upon enrolment and will sign the consent form for SNA/Teacher clearance	Medium
Toilet Areas	Inappropriate behaviour	Usage and supervision policy.  Staggered breaks for smaller groups	High



<b>Risk identified</b>	<b>Potential risk of harm</b>	<b>Procedure in place to manage risk identified</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>
School Tours/Outings	<p>Access to pupils by strangers.</p> <p>Inappropriate activity by pupils.</p> <p>Dangers posed by unfamiliar environment.</p>	<p>Adequate supervision</p> <p>Adequate planning and preparation by staff.</p> <p>School Tour Policy</p>	Medium
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events.	Access to images of pupils by strangers.	<p>Parental Consent Forms.</p> <p>Supervision of media published and printed.</p>	Medium
Use of school premises by other organisations during school day – Little Angels Preschool	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults.	Adequate supervision provided during collecting times for preschool.	Medium
Students participating in teaching Practice/work experience	Harm by student	Teaching Practice Policy	Medium
Access/Egress	<p>Access to pupils by strangers or other adults.</p> <p>Flight risk for some pupils</p>	<p>Magnetic locks on doors.</p> <p>Code changed regularly.</p> <p>Magnetic lock on street gate with buzzer system.</p>	High

<b>Risk identified</b>	<b>Potential risk of harm</b>	<b>Procedure in place to manage risk identified</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>
Swimming Lessons	<p>Potential for unsupervised times in changing areas.</p> <p>Access to pupils by strangers or other adults.</p>	<p>Adequate supervision provided.</p> <p>Stay Safe Programme</p> <p>Trained lifeguards in pool</p>	Medium
Social Media	<p>Potential for bullying.</p> <p>Potential for grooming of pupils</p> <p>Circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting and digital device.</p>	<p>Mobile Phone Policy</p> <p>Anti-Bullying Policy</p> <p>Stay Safe Programme</p> <p>Information sessions for pupils parents and staff.</p>	High
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities, such as ethnic minority, traveller, LGBT children, or those perceived to be, minority religious faiths, children in care, children with medical needs	Risk of harm due to bullying of child, due to racism, to children who have particular vulnerabilities.	<p>Anti-bullying policy</p> <p>Provide each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement</p>	High
On line teaching and learning remotely	Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of	Remote Learning Policy available on school website	High



	time in breakout rooms.		
<b>Risk identified</b>	<b>Potential risk of harm</b>	<b>Procedure in place to manage risk identified</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>
Fundraising events involving pupils eg. (cake sale)	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults.	Supervision by teachers and SNAs	Medium
Administration of Medicine	Harm by school personnel	Health and Safety Policy  Parent Consent  Two Adults Present	Medium
Administration of First Aid	Harm by school personnel	Health and Safety Policy	Medium
Non-participation by pupils in religious ceremonies.	Bullying	Code of behaviour  Anti-Bullying Policy	Medium
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour	Harm by school personnel.  Bullying	Code of behaviour	Medium
Contractors present in school during school hours	Harm by workers	Only if an absolute necessity during school hours.  Supervision by a member of staff	Low



**Mandatory Template 3: Notification regarding the Board of Management's review of the Child Safeguarding Statement**

To: Scail Angela School Community

The Board of Management of Scail Angela wishes to inform you that:

- The Board of Management's annual review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement was completed at the Board meeting of 22/6/2021 [date].
- This review was conducted in accordance with the "Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement" published on the Department's website [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie)

Signed Catherine Reynolds Date 22/6/2021

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed Donal May Date 22/6/2021

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management