

## St. Brigid's Girls' National School

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8th October 2024

# Mandatory Template 1: Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template

### Child Safeguarding Statement

St. Brigid's GNS is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class

Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of St. Brigid's GNS has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document to Children First (2019), the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023) and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child 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

- 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

Aideen O'Shea(Principal)

- The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Danielle Wells (Acting Deputy Principal)
- The Relevant Person is

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Aideen O'Shea(Principal)

on request. This person can also be the DLP) (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

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 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

#### 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:
- 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 govie website. 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
- recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and available 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
- (as 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 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

- Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023), including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusia, all school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the Child Protection the Children First Act 2015.
- All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015
- procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement. 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
- 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
- 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
- $\infty$ 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

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on the 8th October 2024.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on the 8th October 2024

Signed:

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 8/10/

## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

# Written Assessment of Risk of St. Brigid's GNS, Palmerstown, Dublin 20

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 PostPrimary Schools (revised 2023), the following is the Written Risk Assessment of St. Brigid's GNS, Palmerstown, Dublin 20.

One to one	1. List of scl Training of school Protection matters
One to one teaching & Learning support.	1. List of school activities  Training of school personnel in Child  Protection matters.
Har Risl part	Har t
Harm by school personnel Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities	2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –  Harm not recognised or reported promptly
Open doors when teaching one to one Table between teacher and pupil Glass panel in support room/ classroom door.  The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting  The school complies with the agreed disciplinary	3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -  Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff.  DLP& DDLP to attend PDST face to face training (when available)  All Staff to view Túsla e-learning mandatory reporting training module & any other online training offered by PDST
me to one upil / classroom door.  requirements of and relevant D cruitment and Ga e agreed disciplinar	lowing procedures i sks of harm sment -  It & DES procedure T face to face training rning mandatory any other online

Children always carry out messages/jobs in twos		
Children always carry out messages/inhe in twos		
around children carrying out messages/jobs –	travelling in twos to the office etc.	trav
I ne school implements an agreed procedure	Kisk of child meeting an unknown adult when	Children going on Jobs/messages Kisi
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	der Lord Active & Contribute Contribute Con	***************************************
Closs over with other classes for younger classes.	_	neg
the state of the other decrees for tenture to the tenture of the t	Peer to peer interaction — older children interacting	Pee
Designated times for classes to attend to limit	to the toilet during class time.	to t
undated wearly	KISK OF IJECTIES AT THE WORLD AND THE HEAVENING	
Use of school toilets procedure in place and	of mading on unimous adult when travelling	Toilet procedure in school
and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, etc.		
children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks		
procedure to ensure appropriate supervision of		
The school implements a yearly yard supervision		
	particular vulnerabilities	including intimate care needs   part
Policy on intimate care in place.	k of harm to children with SEN who have	Care of Children with special needs, Risk

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Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe and Weaving Well-Being	Non-teaching of same	& details of which are recorded in monthly
		reports.  Short term absence of class teacher – partner teacher to teach sensitive topics should they arise at the time of the teacher's absence.
List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in
	of Harm	place to address risk identified in this assessment
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground.	Gates open at 8.40am for pupils. All children should be supervised by their parent/guardian,
		outside the school grounds until the gate is opened at 8.40am by the ISM and children are permitted
		to enter the yard. Supervision of pupils is carried
		out by ISM and SNAs from 8.40am until 8.50am.
		8.50am and supervise their children as they enter
		into the school building.
		Parents/Guardians are not permitted on the school
		yard at this time.
		On days of inclement weather, the children enter
		into the school at 8.40am where they are met by
		their class teacher in their classroom. Teachers
		supervise their class from 8.40am in their
		greet the pupils at the yard gate at 8.40am and
		direct them into the school building.
		The school implement a yearly yard supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children
		during assembly, dismissal, break times and days with inclement weather.
		Children leaving during the school day - Aladdin
		with an appropriate adult as per their personal

Use of external personnel to support sports and othe Risk of child being harmed in the school by a conduct extra-curricular activities e.g. Sports Coaches  e.g. Sports Coaches  External personnel to support sports and othe Risk of child being harmed in the school by a conduct conduct to view to view to the read and relevant to the read and relevant to the school by a conduct conduct to view to the read and relevant to the school by a conduct conduct to view to the read and relevant to the school by a conduct conduct to view to the read and relevant to the school by a conduct conduct conduct to view to the school by a conduct condu	Managing of challenging behaviour  Injury to pupils and staff  Health  amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Daily d Junior pupils profile	Aladdi Parents leave s collect	Parents collects of 18 through address	child's if they school
External agencies for sports and the arts code of conduct in place.  All volunteers/ visiting professionals encouraged to view Tusla Child Protection The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to volunteers/visiting professionals in school.	Health & Safety Policy in place Code of Behaviour in place	Daily dismissal supervised by Teachers  Junior and senior infant teachers ensure younger pupils are collected by an adult listed on pupil profile on Aladdin. Advance notice is to be given of collection by another adult not listed on profile.	Aladdin message sent each September to remind Parents that permission is needed for their child to leave school at 2.30pm without an adult present to collect them.	Parents are reminded that children can only be collected early from school by people over the age of 18 and that the school has been informed of through Aladdin or by email to the school email address stbrigidsgns@gmail.com	child's early leaving time through the Aladdin App if they need to collect their daughter early from school throughout the course of the school day.

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Classroom teaching			Recreation breaks for pupils	Students participating in work experience	
Harm by school personnel  Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities		Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities	Injury to pupils and staff	Harm by student	
The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting  The school abides by the Teaching Council codes	All teachers escort their class to their designated yard at break times ensuring that their class walk in a safe manner, supervised at all times. The class teacher does not leave their class on the yard until the "Yard Teacher" is present on yard. At the end of each break on yard, the class teacher collects his/her class from the yard and supervises their class as they walk back to their classroom.	Sickness/Injury at School policy in place and adhered to.  The school implement a yearly yard supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets etc.  SEN policy in place.	Health & Safety Policy in place Code of Behaviour in place	Work experience Policy in place. Child Safeguarding Statement in place.	Garda vetting of external personnel used to supplement the curriculum. Members of school personnel always present for the duration of the activity – class teacher should remain with their class for the duration of the relevant activity.

Code of Behaviour in place.	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another	Risk of child school perso	School outings
The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment	identified the following Risk	The School has of Harm	List of School Activities
Use of school toilets procedure in place. Sickness/Injury at School policy in place and adhered to. Health & Safety Policy in place.	Use of schu Sickness/Ir adhered to.		
External agencies for sports and the arts code of conduct in place		Injury to pupils	Sporting Activities
Stay safe programme for all pupils	Stay s		
Use of school toilets procedure in place.	Use o		
Incident report forms fully completed by staff member present, discussed and co-signed with the Principal, should an incident occur.	Incide memb		
Permission forms signed on enrolment in the school for pupils' participation in outdoor teaching activities.	Permissic school for activities		
Sickness/Injury at School policy in place and adhered to. Health & Safety Policy in place.		Injury to pupils	Outdoor teaching activities
The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff.	Stan. The suproce		
vetting procedures for all permanent and voluntary	vettin		

				complex etc.	Walking pupils to school events/ locations e.g. St. Philomena's Church, Glenaulin Park, Waterstown Park, Palmerstown Library/Hub, Supervalu			
	car Ris par	Ris	cor	to ) Phi				org par trit
	carrying out inappropriate/poor behaviour. Risk of harm to children with SEN who may have particular vulnerabilities.	Risk of child being harmed by another child	complex etc.	to various locations for school excursion e.g. St. Philomena's Church, Glenaulin Park, Waterstown Park, Palmerstown Library/Hub. Supervalu	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child walking			organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons
Additional arrangements to be made for children with SEN or care needs as appropriate, in consultation with school Principal, before the excursion commences.	All staff members to be familiar with procedures for walking groups of children to specific venues with staff members. Procedures for walking groups of children to specific venues are adhered to by all staff members — as per School Tours/excursions policy.	School Tours/excursions policy in place. Use of school toilets procedure in place.	Health and Safety policy in place	vetting. Code of Behaviour in place.	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda	Incident report forms fully completed by staff member present, discussed and co-signed with the Principal, should an incident occur.	Health and Safety policy in place. School Tours/excursions policy in place. Use of school toilets procedure in place.	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.
be made for children spropriate, in scipal, before the	tliar with procedures en to specific venues res for walking venues are adhered per School	icy in place. re in place.	place.		ool adheres to the requirements of the retting legislation and relevant DES in relation to recruitment and Garda	ompleted by staff nd co-signed with the occur.	place. licy in place. ıre in place.	requirements of the and relevant DES cruitment and Garda

Code of Behaviour in place  Policy on intimate care in place.
Route to be travelled should be planned out by supervising teachers in advance of the excursion commencing – appropriate stopping points to ensure the group/class stay together and stay safe.
Procedures for walking groups of children to various locations/venues agreed by all staff members and adhered to by all staff members
Pupils encouraged to be aware of their surroundings as they walk and when crossing the road.
Pupils always walk in pairs
When crossing roads, supervising adults to ensure the safe crossing of the children. Middle supervising adult to remain on the road to ensure the children walk briskly across the road. Middle supervising adult to remain on the road until met by the adult supervising the end of the line and confirms that no more children are to cross. The middle supervising adult should then resume their position at the middle of the line. Safety of the children and the adults should be a priority at all times.
Adult positioned at front, middle and end of line of children.
SNA (where applicable) to walk with assigned pupil/pupils.

	participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons	Use of school toilets procedure in place.
	T. J. C. STREET, S. STREET, S. C. STREET, S. STREET, S. STREET, S. STREET, S. STREET,	Policy on School Tours and Outings in place
		Policy on swimming in place.
Annual Sports Day / School Open Days  /Member of the public/school community viewing	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school	External agencies for sports and the arts code of conduct in place.
sports day.		Sickness/Injury at School policy in place and adhered to.
		Code of Behaviour in place.
		Teachers are mindful of the adults that are around. Child only speaks to an adult on asking teachers permission.
		Supervision timetable created for open day events.
Fundraising events involving pupils	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school.	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to volunteers in school.
	Risk of harm due to inadequate behaviour	School visitors policy in place.
	between peers.	Code of Behaviour in place.
List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
	trip, swimming lessons	The school abides by the Teaching Council codes of conduct for school personnel as well as strict

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School visitor's policy in place.		
Teacher stays in the room at all times with her/his class to ensure that the member of personnel from any visiting organisation or volunteer is supervised at all times.		
The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and Garda vetting is strictly monitored in the school.	Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities.	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
Information regarding Anti-Bullying investigations commenced, concluded or ongoing reported to the BOM by the Principal at each BOM meeting.		
The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools	Risk of harm due to bullying of child	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
Parents/Guardians of children in need of medication during school hours complete a school indemnification form before medication is administered to a child.		
Sickness/Injury at School policy in place and adhered to.	Allergic reactions to medication	Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid
The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff.		
Incident report forms fully completed by staff member present, discussed and co-signed with the Principal, should an incident occur.		
Code of Behaviour is followed.		
vetting procedures for all permanent and voluntary staff.		

		r/Secretary/Cleaners	Recruitment of school personnel including - rej				Children experiencing abuse	<ul> <li>Children experiencing poverty</li> <li>Children experiencing mental health issues</li> </ul>	Children experiencing homelessness	Homeless children	<ul> <li>Children in care</li> <li>Children on CPNS</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Pupils of minority religious faiths</li> </ul>	Pupils perceived to be LGBTQ+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender	Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants     Members of the Traveller community	such as	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs	List of School Activities of
		Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, coaching situation	Harm not recognised, properly or promptly reported													reportion	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm
Vetting	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda		Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff	Code of Behaviour in place.	Stay Safe fully implemented.	Anti-Bullying Policy in place.	BOM records details of all staff and board training	of relevant training	Eurourages hoard of management members to avail	Encourages staff to avail of relevant training	the school's Child Safeguarding Statement	Finding Schools revised 2023.	Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post	Has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the Department of Education and Skills	copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement	Has provided each member of school staff with a	The school –	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment

Use of school properties outside school day	Visitors/contractors school hours Visitors/contractors activities
l premises by oday	ctors present i
Use of school premises by other organisation outside school day	Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours Visitors/contractors present during after school activities
Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities	Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school.
All personnel vetted and Garda checked through Archbishops House.	The school abides by the Teaching Council codes of conduct for school personnel as well as strict vetting procedures for all permanent and voluntary staff.  The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for all staff members.  School visitor's policy in place.  External agencies for sports and the arts code of conduct in place.  Staff members are reminded that if a parent/guardian visits the school while staff member is on First Aid/Yard duty & the office is closed(break times), the staff member should ask the Parent/Guardian to wait outside of the school grounds until the office reopens. Staff members on First Aid duty or Yard duty cannot leave their duty to collect a child that is being collected early without prior information being sent in through Aladdin by the parents. Should a teacher receive information that a child in their class is due to be collected early, during breaktimes, the child should be sent to First Aid with their coat and bag for the break to allow for collection when the offices are closed. Teachers are asked to check Aladdin for notices of early leavers before bringing their class out on yard at breaktimes.
la checked through	Teaching Council codes ersonnel as well as strict permanent and voluntary the agreed disciplinary embers.  place.  place.  reminded that if a reminded that if a the school while staff Yard duty & the office is staff member should ask ait outside of the school eopens. Staff members on ty cannot leave their duty is being collected early n being sent in through Should a teacher receive n their class is due to be eaktimes, the child should their coat and bag for the tion when the offices are ed to check Aladdin for effore bringing their class.

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media.	Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school	ICT policy in place AUP in place Policy for the Acceptable Use in the Home of School Owned Assistive Technology Devices in place
	Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	Anti-Bullying Policy in place Code of Behaviour in place Adequate supervision of children at all times. Use of appropriate resources by teacher to raise
	Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	awareness amongst pupils. Stay safe fully implemented.
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour	Bullying	The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools
		Information regarding Anti-Bullying investigations commenced, concluded or ongoing reported to the BOM by the Principal at each BOM meeting.
Students participating in work experience in the	Risk of child being harmed in the school by	School Anti-Bullying Policy reviewed annually.  Work experience policy in place.
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child	Work experience policy in place. Child Safe Guarding Policy in place.
	participating in either in school or out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons	

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Instruction to take place in classroom with class teacher present at all times. Classes only to be held if there is more than one child present	personnel associated with religious instruction	Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the
Individual Behaviour Support Plans/Liaison with teacher and SNA.  School adheres to the requirements of Garda Vetting Legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda Vetting		
School Transport Policy for children attending The Orchard class, in place. Child Protection/Safeguarding training.		
Code of Behaviour in place. School Tours/excursions policy in place.	Risk to students/staff and occupants of the bus/taxi.	
The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan	Risk of harm due pupils not following the school code of behaviour.	School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
Supervision of pupils at all times by members of school personnel.	Risk of children being harmed by others using the facility	Use of off-site facilities for school activities
Garda vetting of all school personnel.  Procedures for online learning set out in the school's Acceptable Use Policy.	Risk of child being harmed online by member of school personnel, by another child, by a household member of another child or by anyone who accesses the online learning platform	Online teaching and learning remotely
staff. Issued annually by the Chairperson of the BOM.  Visitors to our school are asked to refrain from photographing/videoing children in our school.	Risk of child's image/personal information being accessible in the public domain.	
The school has in place an ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by pupils and staff  The school has mobile phone procedures in place in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils and	Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school	Use of video/photography/other media to record school events

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) 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

place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent. 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 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

Statement. relevant services to children should consider the specific issue of online safety when carrying out their risk assessment and preparing their Child Safeguarding The Addendum to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children published in January 2019 clarifies that organisations providing

ethical use of the internet during distance learning and assisting parents and guardians to be aware of their role also. Schools should ensure that their Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) informs and guides remote or distance learning activity. The Guidance on Continuity of Schooling for primary and post-primary schools (April 2020) advises of the importance of teachers maintaining the safe and