



Scoil Nano Nagle

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CHILD PROTECTION POLICY 2023-24

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, practices and activities. Accordingly, in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Education and Skills' Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, the Board of Management of **Scoil Nano Nagle** has agreed the Department's Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools as part of this overall child protection policy.

Aims of Policy

The aims of the Child Protection Policy are to:

- Develop awareness and responsibility in the area of child protection amongst the whole school community
- Put in place procedures for good practice to protect all children and staff
- Ensure that all staff members are aware of and familiar with the Children First and the Department of Education and Skills guidelines and procedures in relation to reporting concerns and/or disclosures of child abuse.
- Provide for ongoing training in this and related areas for all school staff.

PRINCIPLES OF BEST PRACTICE OF CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE

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 as part of this overall child protection policy.
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is **Sandra Byrne**.
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Colette Mac Mahon**.
4. In its policies, practices and activities, Scoil Nano Nagle 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 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.

5. POLICIES/PRACTICES RELEVANT TO CHILD PROTECTION

The Board has ensured that the necessary policies, protocols or practices as appropriate are in place in respect of the following:

- School Mission Statement
- Code of Behaviour and Anti Bullying Policy
- Substance Misuse Policy
- Garda Vetting and Recruitment Procedures for school staff/other persons
- Health and Safety Statement
- Critical Incident Policy
- Supervision of Pupils
- Toileting & Intimate Care (Policy)
- Care Team
- Attendance Policy
- Acceptable User Policy/E Safety
- Intercultural Policy

PREVENTION THROUGH CURRICULAR PROVISION

- Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE), Stay Safe, Grow in Love, Walk Tall
- Self esteem enhancement programmes/activities – circle time, Lucky to be Me Programme & other SCP activities, Healthy Lifestyle Week, SCP act, summer clubs.
- Parental involvement; parents are made aware of programmes taught in school at induction meetings and information seminars on related topics. Parents also get feedback throughout the course of programmes e.g. Stay Safe and RSE worksheet completed in collaboration with parents.
- Information meetings for parents using guest speakers from outside agencies.
- Whole school climate and ethos, child friendly, supportive environment, display children's work/creativity, assemblies, adults modelling good behaviour, celebrating achievements, acknowledging effort and success.
- Visiting drama groups presenting related topics – Team Theatre

6. COMMUNICATION OF POLICY

This policy has been made available to school personnel and to the Parents' Association. It is posted on the school website. A hard copy will be readily available to parents on request. A copy of this policy will be made available to the Department and the patron if requested.

7. REVIEW AND RATIFICATION

This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Management once in every school year.

This policy was reviewed by the Board of Management on 19th September 2023.

Signed: Martha Lynch
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: Sandra Byrne
Principal

Date: 19/09/2023

Date of next review: **24/25 School Year.**