

KILBRIDE NATIONAL SCHOOL

Ní neart go cur le chéile



Charity Regulator Number 20131265

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16 September 2026

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Notification Regarding the Board of Management's Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

Dear Parents,

The Board of Management of Kilbride National School wishes to inform you that, in accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and the Department of Education's Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025, the Board of Management reviewed the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment at its meeting on Wednesday, 9 September 2026.

The school's Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is:

Mrs Deirdre Murphy

Principal

The school's Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLp) is:

Mrs Lynette Mallee

Deputy Principal

The school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment are available to parents on the school website. A copy is also provided to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year.

Consultation with the School Community

As part of the annual review process, the school sought the views of members of the school community. A focus group was used to support the consultation process, and surveys were undertaken with children and parents.

Parents of children in 5th and 6th Class were invited to provide their views in relation to Child Safeguarding and the school's safeguarding procedures. The children were also given an opportunity to complete a child-friendly survey.

The Board of Management has considered the feedback received as part of the annual review process. Please note the following:

Awareness of the DLP and DDLP.

A small minority of parents stated that they did not know who the school's DLP and DDLP are. Parents and all members of our school community are notified when the annual review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment takes place. The Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is available on the school website. The details of the DLP and DDLP are also clearly displayed in the school reception area and in all classrooms. Parents are encouraged to read the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment when it is issued and to familiarise themselves with the safeguarding procedures contained within it, including the details of the DLP and DDLP. It is important that all members of the school community know who to contact should a child safeguarding concern arise.

Safety Procedures and the Safe Dispersal of Children

The school regularly communicates information regarding the safe arrival and dismissal of children. The weekly school newsletter contains clear and important information regarding the safe dispersal of children and safety procedures in the school car park. Parents are asked to read the weekly newsletter and to familiarise themselves with the safety procedures communicated by the school. Children are dismissed from school at staggered times to ensure the safe and orderly dispersal of children and to reduce congestion in the school car park. This staggered dismissal system has been in place in the school for a number of years. The cooperation of all parents is essential in ensuring that children can leave the school safely and that the school car park remains as safe as possible for children, families and staff.

School Trips and Off-Site Activities

One issue raised through the parent feedback related to communication regarding school trips and off-site activities. The school considers it important that parents are appropriately informed when their child is participating in a school trip or other off-site activity. Parents need to know where their children are going and the arrangements relating to the activity. This information is an important part of ensuring that parents are aware of their child's whereabouts and the arrangements in place for their safety. The school will therefore continue to provide parents with appropriate information regarding school trips and off-site activities.

Photography and Social Media

Parents are also reminded of the school's arrangements regarding the use of photographs on the school website and official school Facebook page. If a parent does not wish their child's photograph to appear on the school's official Facebook page or website, they should inform the school. The school will ensure that their child's photograph is not published on these platforms in accordance with the school's procedures and parental wishes.

Children's Review of Child Safeguarding

The children's views were also sought as part of the annual review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment. The children responded very positively to the survey. All children who participated in the survey knew who the school's DLP and DDLP were. This is a very positive finding and demonstrates a strong level of awareness among the children of the adults responsible for child safeguarding within the school. Furthermore, the vast majority of the children surveyed knew what was meant by a "trusted adult" and knew who they could speak to if they needed help or had a worry or concern.

The children also responded very positively to the questions relating to keeping children safe during school activities and having opportunities to speak to trusted adults.

Keeping Children Safe

When asked:

"Do you feel that the school takes appropriate steps to keep children safe during school activities?"

The children responded very positively, with a high majority selecting "Yes." This indicates that the children have a strong sense of confidence in the safety measures and procedures in place within the school.

When asked:

"Do you feel that the school provides children with opportunities to talk to trusted adults if they are worried or upset?"

Again, the children responded very positively, with a high majority selecting "Yes."

This is a very positive finding and demonstrates that children recognise that there are trusted adults within the school whom they can approach when they are worried, anxious or upset.

The school would ask parents to continue to reinforce this important message at home by reminding their children of the importance of speaking to their teacher or Mrs Murphy, Principal, if they are feeling anxious, worried or upset, or if something is concerning them. Children should never feel that they have to deal with a worry or concern on their own. There are adults in the school who are available to listen to them, support them and help them.

Ongoing Commitment to Child Safeguarding

The Board of Management and staff of Kilbride National School are committed to maintaining a safe, supportive and child-centred environment for all children.

As part of the ongoing review process, the school will continue to:

- Ensure that parents are aware that a copy of the Child Safeguarding Statement is on the school website.
- Notify parents when the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is reviewed.
- Keep the Child Safeguarding Statement available on the school website.
- Clearly display the names and details of the DLP and DDLP in the reception area and classrooms.
- Encourage parents to read the Child Safeguarding Statement and familiarise themselves with the school's safeguarding procedures.
- Continue to provide clear information through the weekly newsletter regarding the safe dispersal of children and car park safety.
- Continue to use staggered dismissal times to support the safe dispersal of children.
- Provide appropriate information to parents regarding school trips and off-site activities.
- Continue to follow the school's procedures regarding photography and the use of images on the school website and official Facebook page.
- Continue to promote the importance of trusted adults and ensure that children know who they can speak to if they have a concern.
- Continue to seek the views of children and parents as part of the annual review process.
- Continue to review and strengthen the school's safeguarding procedures where appropriate.

The Board of Management would like to thank the parents and children who participated in the review process. The feedback received is valued and will assist the school in continuing to promote the safety, wellbeing and protection of all children in Kilbride National School.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Deirdre Murphy

Principal

On behalf of the Board of Management