



Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment

Good Counsel College

New Ross

An Augustinian School

APRIL 16th 2018

PART 1: Child Safeguarding Statement

Good Counsel College, New Ross is a school providing post-primary education to boys from 1st Year to Leaving Certificate Year.

In accordance with the requirements of the Children 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 preparation of Student Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Good Counsel College, New Ross has agreed the Student 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 Student Safeguarding Statement.
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Mr Mark O'Brien (Principal).
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Mr Aidan O'Brien and/or Mr PJ Walsh (Deputy Principals).
4. The Board of Management recognises that student protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of College life and must be reflected in all of the College's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, the College will adhere to the following principles of best practice in student protection and welfare:

The College will:

- i. recognise that the protection and welfare of students is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;

wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the DES and available on the DES website.

- iii. 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 College-
 - a. has provided each member of staff with a copy of the College's Student Safeguarding Statement
 - b. ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the College's Student Safeguarding Statement
 - c. encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - d. encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training.
 - e. the Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training

- iv. In relation to reporting of student protection concerns to Tusla, all College 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.

- v. In this College 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 student safeguarding statement.

PART 2: Student Safeguarding Written Risk Assessment

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 Student Safeguarding Written Risk Assessment of Good Counsel College, New Ross.

1. List of school activities

- ✓ Daily arrival and dismissal of students
- ✓ Recreation breaks for students
- ✓ Classroom teaching
- ✓ One-to-one teaching
- ✓ One-to-one counselling
- ✓ Outdoor teaching activities
- ✓ Sporting activities
- ✓ College outings
- ✓ College trips involving overnight stay
- ✓ College trips involving foreign travel
- ✓ Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools
- ✓ Annual Sports Day and BBQ
- ✓ Fundraising events involving students
- ✓ Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- ✓ College transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
- ✓ Care of students with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed,
- ✓ Care of any vulnerable adult students, including intimate care where needed
- ✓ Management of challenging behaviour amongst students, including appropriate use of restraint where required

- ✓ Students participating in work experience in the college
- ✓ Students from the college participating in work experience elsewhere
- ✓ Student teachers undertaking training placement in college
- ✓ Use of video/photography/other media to record college events
- ✓ After school use of college premises by other organisations
- ✓ Use of college premises by other organisations during school day
- ✓ Provision of canteen facilities to students
- ✓ Supervised Study and Homework Club.
- ✓ Student Car Parking

2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities

- ✓ Risk of harm not being recognised by college personnel
- ✓ Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by college personnel
- ✓ Risk of student being harmed in the college by a member of college personnel
- ✓ Risk of student being harmed in the college by another student
- ✓ Risk of student being harmed in the college by volunteer or visitor to the college
- ✓ Risk of student being harmed by a member of college personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in out of college activities e.g. college trip, swimming lessons
- ✓ Risk of harm due to bullying of student
- ✓ Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students in college
- ✓ Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students while attending out of school activities

- ✓ The college has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools
- ✓ The college has a supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of students during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.
- ✓ The college has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings
- ✓ The college has a caretaker and contract cleaners
- ✓ The college has a Health and Safety Manager
- ✓ The college adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant Department of Education and Skills (DES) circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
- ✓ The college has a codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff)
- ✓ The college complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff
- ✓ The college has a Special Educational Needs policy
- ✓ The college has a Whole School Guidance Policy
- ✓ The college has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care
- ✓ The college has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils
- ✓ The school
 - * has provided each member of college staff, including PME students, with a copy of the school's Student Safeguarding Statement
 - * Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the college's Student Safeguarding Statement
 - * Encourages staff to avail of relevant training

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on **April 16th 2018**. It shall be reviewed as part of the college's annual review of its Student Safeguarding Statement.



Fr Paddy O'Reilly OSA
Chairperson BOM



Mr Mark O'Brien
Principal, Secretary BOM

A copy of the TUSLA Children First can be found at www.TUSLA.ie

All observations regarding the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment for the College should be addressed in writing to:

Mr Mark O'Brien

Principal, Secretary to the Board of Management

Good Counsel College

New Ross

Co Wexford

Email: mark.obrien@goodcounselcollege.ie