

Child Protection Policy



St. Joseph's, Fairview

Child Protection Policy – Coláiste Iósaif an Fhionnradharc

The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all school policies, practices and activities. Accordingly, in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Education and Skill's Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, the Board of Management of St. Joseph's Secondary School, Fairview, Dublin 3 has agreed the following Child Protection Policy:

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 Mr Seán Stack (Principal)
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLDP) is Ms Alexandra Duane (Deputy Principal)
4. In its policies, practices and activities, Coláiste Iósaif 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 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 accusation of abuse or neglect
- Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children
- 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.

- Relevant policies (including but not limited to): Code of Behaviour, Bullying policy, Acceptable use and social media guidelines, Wellbeing policy, Substance abuse policy, ICT policy, Whole School Guidance Plan, Critical incident plan. The Board has ensured that the necessary policies, protocols or practices as appropriate are in place in respect of the above listed items.
- This policy has been made available to school personnel and the Parents' Council and is readily accessible to parents on request. A copy of this policy will be made available to the Department and the patron if requested.
- This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Management once in every school year.

Signed

James Rogan – Chairperson

Seán Stack – Principal

Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Appendix: Protocol authorising immediate action

The following protocol authorises immediate action under section 7.2 of the 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post - Primary Schools (revised 2023)'.

Post - Primary schools and primary schools under the patronage of an ETB

(A)

In the context of these procedures, where circumstances warrant it, as an essential precautionary measure in order to protect the children in the school, the school principal is authorised by the school management authority to direct an employee to immediately absent himself or herself from the school without loss of pay until the matter has been considered by the employer. It is very important to note that the action under the protocol is intended to be precautionary and not disciplinary. The action under this protocol is an interim measure pending the employer's further consideration of the matter.

The employee will be invited to a meeting with the principal, the purpose of which is to inform the employee of the allegation and the action being taken.

The employee may be accompanied by an appropriate person of his or her choice and will be so advised.

In any event, the employee will also be advised of the matter, in writing.

The principal shall make a record of the meeting which shall be retained on the relevant case file.