

## Dundalk Grammar School

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Headmaster: Jonathan Graham

BA, PGCE, MEd, DIPEdM

Deputy Principal: Enda Murphy

BComm Sp, PDMP, PDE, MSc Ed



SAPERE AUDE

DUNDALK GRAMMAR SCHOOL

### Child Safeguarding Statement

Dundalk Grammar Junior School is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

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 to Children First (2019), the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of [insert school name] has agreed the Child 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 Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Ms Elaine Lait (Primary School Principal)
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Mr Jonathan Graham (Headmaster)
- 4 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, 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 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.

5. We have carried out an assessment of any potential harm to a child while availing of our service. Below is a list of the risks identified and the list of procedures for managing the risks.

	Risks Identified	Procedures in place to manage identified risks
1	Risk of harm to a child by a staff member or volunteer	Garda Vetting Policy, Children First, Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers
2	Risk of harm to a child by a visitor to the service	Sign in, sign out policy, all visitors identified
3	Risk of harm to a child through bullying	Anti Bullying Policy
4	Risk to a child on outings by a staff member, volunteer, stranger or peer	Child Safeguarding Statement, Health & Safety Policy, Supervision Policy
5	Risk of harm to a child through the use of unauthorised photography	The school has in place an Acceptable Use Policy relating to ICT, Photography and Mobile Phones
6	Risk of harm to a child through social media or internet use	Acceptable Use Policy relating to ICT and Mobile Phones
7	Risk of harm to a child through lack of supervision	Duty Rosters



6. Our Child [safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Childre's First Act 2015. In addition to the procedures listed on our risk assessment, the following procedures supports our intention to safeguard children while they are available of our service.

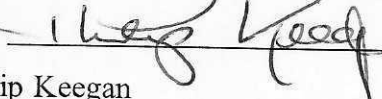
(Bullet Points)


1. Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against staff
  2. Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children.
  3. Procedure for training
  4. Procedure for reporting child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla.
  5. Procedure for maintaining a list of mandated persons.
  6. Procedure for appointing a relevant person.
7. 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.
8. 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 refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed by the Board of Management in March 2025

**Relevant person:** Elaine Lait (DLP) [e.lait98@dgs.ie](mailto:e.lait98@dgs.ie), 0429334459 Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Signed:   
Mr Philip Keegan  
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed:   
Mr Jonathan Graham  
Headmaster/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 11/03/2024

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