

# Child Protection Policy for Fermoy Adair National School.

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 Fermoy Adair National School 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 the Principal, Andrea Mutabazi
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Gillian Nagle
4. In its policies, practices and activities, Fermoy Adair National School will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

Fermoy Adair National 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.

A 'child' means a person under the age of 18 years, excluding a person who is or has been married. Fermoy Adair National School will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adult pupil with a special vulnerability.

5. The Code of Behaviour and Anti-bullying Policy of Fermoy Adair National School support the schools recognition that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance.

Pupil Attendance is reported to the N.E.W.B. and any concerns regarding the attendance of children is reported to the N.E.W.B.

While we have a yard duty supervision rota in place all teachers are responsible for the children in their class at all times. Children are deemed to be under the care of the school from 8:50 a.m. until 1.30 p.m. for Junior and Senior Infants and until 2:30 p.m. for the rest of the school.

In regards to school outings, the teacher will arrange suitable transport and call the roll each time that the children get on the bus as they disembark. The school will have adequate supervision for school outings and will endeavour to have all those helping with supervision Garda Vetted and sign a Statutory Declaration. Likewise with substitute teachers.

In regards to toileting accidents, the teacher will send an older child in with the younger children to assist them in changing their clothes.

The school will endeavour to have all those on work placements Garda Vetted prior to the commencement of the placement

6. References - In all instances of suspicion or allegations of abuse or neglect, the following resource books will be referenced.
  - "Children First" - Department of Children and Youth Affairs 2011
  - "Child Protection and Welfare Practice Handbook" - H.S.E.
  - Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post- Primary Schools. (Revised 2023)
  - Fermoy Adair Child Protection Folder.
7. The Board has ensured that the necessary policies, protocols or practices as appropriate are in place in respect of each of the above listed items.
8. Stay Safe - Every second year the Stay Safe Programme will be fully implement for the appropriate number of weeks to complete the programme. It will be implemented under the Safety and Protection Strand of S.P.H.E. curriculum. Parents will be informed when the Stay Safe Programme and R.S.E. is being taught.
9. This policy has been made available to school personnel and the Parents' Association and is readily accessible to parents on request. The school will endeavour to have a copy of the Child Protection Policy in each classroom of the school. A copy of this policy will be made available to the Department and the patron if requested. The school will endeavour to raise Child Protection at each Staff Meeting and Board of Management meeting.
10. This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Management once in every school year.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairperson of Board of Management)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Principal)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of next review: \_\_\_\_\_