



St. Columba's College

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

It is the policy of St Columba's to provide the highest possible standard of academic and pastoral care for all our pupils.

The College will at all times safeguard and promote their welfare by protecting them from neglect as well as physical, sexual and emotional harm, and by exposing them at every available opportunity to positive experiences.

The College believes that the protection of children is paramount and it seeks to cooperate fully with statutory authorities at all times. It wishes to minimise the possibility of harm to children and to protect its staff from accusations being made against them. Confidentiality is respected but there can be no guarantee of this where a child may be at risk.

This is the responsibility of all College personnel, and to ensure this is facilitated a Designated Liaison Person and a Deputy Designated Liaison Person are appointed and given training in their duties (these names are notified to the whole school community on the Warden's noticeboard and in the College Calendar/Green Book which is distributed annually to all pupils and parents).

The whole staff of the College, including support staff, is also given training in its responsibilities in this field and how to deal with any instances of disclosure they may encounter.

The College subscribes to and follows 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 Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of St. Columba's College has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement, which the Warden and Chairman of the board sign off on annually. The Warden reports issues of Child Protection and bullying to the Board of Management at each of its meetings.

Designated Liaison Person: Mr Daron Higgins
Deputy Designated Liaison Person: Ms Alison Maybury

Updated 09/05/2018