



St. Columba's College

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# Child Protection Policy

Updated December 2023. Next review date, October 2024.

Person Responsible for updating policy: The Warden

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## Children Protection Statement

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 procedures in the Child Safeguarding Statement, the Children First Act 2015 and the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and has agreed the updated Template for Child Protection Policies, which the Warden and the Chairman of the Board of Management 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 Mark Boobeyer

Deputy Designated Liaison Person: Mr Julian Girdham