



Coláiste Chú Chulainn  
Cúram. Forbairt. Feabhas.

# Child Protection Policy

# Coláiste Chú Chulainn, Dundalk, Co. Louth

## Child Protection Policy

### 1. Scope

This policies applies to all school personnel including volunteers, teaching and non-teaching personnel who interact with students in carrying out their day to day duties.

### 2. Rationale

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.

### 3. Objectives

The aims of this policy is to:

- To ensure that measures to enhance the safety and security of school personnel and students are reflected in the characteristic spirit of the school as a paramount consideration.
- To promote and maintain the highest standards of interaction in setting down clear guidelines on appropriate standards of behaviour between school personnel and students.
- To ensure that the Code reflects key principles of partnership with students and their families and a shared responsibility in reaching these objectives.
- To develop and sustain a school ethos of accountability and openness between all partners to the process.

### 4. Key information

This policy is to be read alongside the Department of Education and Skills' "Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools" and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs' "Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children".

In accordance with the guidelines set out in the documents above, the Board of Management of Coláiste Chú Chulainn 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 Bn. D. Uí Liatháin
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is An tUas. S. Ó hÉanaigh.
4. In its policies, practices and activities, Coláiste Chú Chulainn 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 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 student with a special vulnerability.

### **5. Links to other school policies and curriculum**

Our school policies need to be consistent with one another, within the framework of the overall School Plan. Relevant school policies already in place or being developed or reviewed, shall be examined with reference to the data protection policy and any implications which it has for them shall be addressed.

The following policies may be among those considered:

- Code of Behaviour
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Use of CCTV Policy
- Educational Outings & school Tours Policy
- Critical Incident Policy
- ICT Acceptable Use Policy

### **6. Monitoring the implementation of the policy**

This policy has been made available to school personnel, the parent's association and members of the school community.

The implementation of the policy shall be monitored by the principal and updates reported to the board of management when necessary.

### **7. Reviewing and evaluating the policy**

The policy is reviewed and adopted by the Board of Management once in every year.

On-going review and evaluation should take cognisance of changing information or guidelines (e.g. from the Department of Education and Skills or the Department of Children and Youth Affairs), legislation and feedback from parents/guardians, students, school staff and others.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on

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By and on behalf of Board of Management

Date

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\_\_\_\_\_

Principal

Date

Date of next review: **June 2016**

## Appendix 1 - Documents/Web Resources

- DES Child Protection Procedures ([www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie))  
Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Secondary Schools
- DCYA Children First ([www.dcy.a.ie](http://www.dcy.a.ie))  
Children First – National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2011
- HSE Reports and Publications ([www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie))  
Child Protection and Welfare Handbook
- DES Circular 63/2010 Recruitment Procedures Garda Vetting
- DES Circular 65/2011 Child Protection Procedures  
([https://www.education.ie/en/Circulars-and-Forms/Active-Circulars/cl0065\\_2011.pdf](https://www.education.ie/en/Circulars-and-Forms/Active-Circulars/cl0065_2011.pdf))



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## Policy ratification

Policy:	Child Protection
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This policy has been communicated to our school community of School Management, Staff, Students, Parents and Guardians, both directly and/or through appointed representatives.

The policy has been ratified by the Board of Management of Coláiste Chú Chulainn, properly convened, at its meeting of

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Day/Date

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson

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