



Presentation Senior School

"A community of learners inspired by the vision and values of Nano Nagle"

Child Protection Policy

The Board of Management of Presentation Senior School 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 Presentation Senior 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 Michael Tunney (Principal)
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DDLP) is Catherine Denieffe (Deputy Principal)
4. In its policies, practices and activities, Presentation Senior School will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The school will:

- a. Recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
 - b. Fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters
 - c. 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;
 - d. Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and
 - e. Fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.
5. The school will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adult pupil with a special vulnerability.
 6. The following policies, protocols and practices, which relate to child protection, are available in the School Plan:



- a. Code of Behaviour
 - b. Anti-Bullying Policy
 - c. Intimate Care Policy
 - d. Swimming Policy
 - e. Internet/Email Acceptable Use Policy
7. This policy has been made available to school personnel and the Parents' Association (if any) and is readily accessible to parents on request. A copy of this policy will be made available to the Department and the patron if requested.
 8. This policy will be reviewed at the first Board of Management meeting in each school year.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on 8th April 2014.

Signed: _____
Fr. Padraig McMahon
Chairperson of the Board of Management

Signed: _____
Michael Tunney
Principal



Appendix 1

Practice:

The following areas have been considered by the staff and board of management of this school as areas of specific concern in relation to child protection. ‘Stay Safe, best practice in Child Protection: Guidance for schools’ was consulted in drawing up this practice. Following discussion and consultation the staff and board of management have agreed that the following practices be adopted.

Monitoring/Recording Child Protection Concerns

The templates in appendix 2 will be used by staff for monitoring child protection concerns.

Physical contact

Physical contact between school personnel and the child should always be in response to the needs of the child and not the needs of the adult. While physical contact may be used to comfort, reassure or assist a child the following should be factors in determining its appropriateness:

- It is acceptable to the child
- It is open and not secretive
- The age and developmental stage of the child

School personnel should avoid doing anything of a personal nature for children that they can do for themselves.

Visitors / Guest Speakers

Visitors/guest speakers should never be left alone with pupils. The school has a responsibility to check out the credentials of the visitor/guest speaker and to ensure that the material in use by guests is appropriate.

Intimate Care

Please see the school’s Intimate Care Policy.

Toileting Accidents

Clean underwear and suitable clothing will be kept in the school so that if a pupil has an ‘accident’ of this nature they will in the first instance be offered fresh clothing into which they can change.

If the pupil, for whatever reason, cannot clean or change themselves and the parents/guardians cannot be contacted the child will be assisted by a member of staff familiar to her/him. A record of all such incidents will be kept and principal and parents will be notified.

One-to-One teaching

It is the policy in this school that one-to-one teaching is often in the best interest of the child. Every effort will be made to ensure that this teaching takes place in an open environment.



Parents of children who are to be involved in one-to-one teaching will be informed and their agreement sought.

Work being carried out by special needs assistants will be carried out under the direction of the class teacher. A copy of the time table is given to the principal and on display in the classroom.

Changing for Games/ PE/ Swimming/School performances

Pupils will be expected to dress and undress themselves for games/PE/ swimming. Where assistance is needed this will be done in the communal areas and with the consent of parents. Under no circumstances will members of staff/ volunteers be expected to or allowed to dress/undress a child in a cubicle/private area. In such situations where privacy is required the parent/guardian of the child will be asked to assist the child in a private area so that the privacy of all children is appropriately protected. At all times there will be adequate and appropriate supervision of pupils when changing for games/PE/Swimming.

Supervision of children

Children are adequately supervised during the school day and on all school related activities. When first aid is administered in the school this is done in the child's classroom and in the presence of other children. Children will not travel alone in staff members' cars. Furthermore, children are not allowed to be collected during the school day by somebody unknown to the staff without advance written permission being received by the school.

Recruitment and selection of staff

The recruitment and selection of staff will be carefully considered. All applications will supply personal details, a resume of work experience and references to the school and garda vetting will always be sought. All volunteers working in the school will do so under the guidance of the teachers.

Internet Safety

Children are adequately supervised when accessing the internet in school. Children are not permitted to use mobile phones in school without the supervision of a teacher, but have consent to bring them for school related activities outside of school. The schools acceptable use policy outlines the decisions the school has taken in relation to mobile devices.



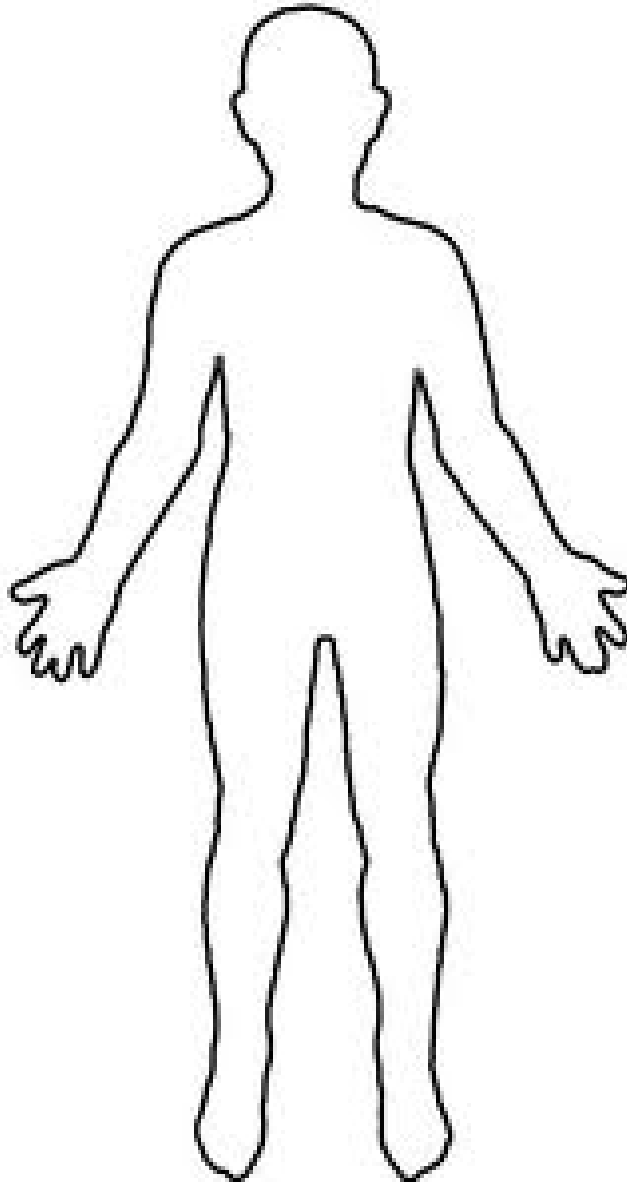
Appendix 2 – Observation Templates

Presentation Senior School Children Protection Record Sheet		
Student Reg. No.		
Date	Observation	Signed



Student Reg No.	Date
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Indicate signs of injury, if necessary, on outline below:



Signed:

Date:

