

# Child Protection Policy of Boherbue Comprehensive 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 Boherbue Comprehensive 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 Mary O'Keefe.
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is D. J. McSweeney.
4. In its policies, practices and activities, Boherbue Comprehensive School 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 pupil with a special vulnerability.

5. All of the following school policies are particularly relevant to and are designed to ensure appropriate child protection:

Absenteeism Policy	Relationships & Sexuality Education Policy
Acceptable Internet Use Policy	School Tours Policy
Admission Policy	Social, Personal & Health Education Policy
Anti-Bullying Policy	Special Education Needs Policy
Code of Behaviour	Students' Council Policy
Critical Incident Policy	Substance Use Policy
Health & Safety Statement	Suspension & Expulsion Policy
Pastoral Care Policy	

The school adheres to all Dept. of Education and Skills requirements in relation to Garda Vetting.

In the case of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities (sports, trips, lectures, work experience, etc.) great care is taken to ensure that children are in a safe environment and protected at all times.

Students in the school are supervised at all times, both inside and outside of class contact time. In the event of one-to-one meetings between students and staff due care is taken to ensure safety.

The Board has ensured that the necessary policies, protocols and practices as appropriate are in place in respect of each of the above listed items.

6. This policy has been made available to school personnel and the Parents' Advisory Council 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.
7. 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 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2011.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of the Board of Management

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

Date of next review: November 2012.