



Child Protection Policy

Child Protection Policy of St. Teresa's Special 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 St. Teresa's Special 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 Revised 2023 as part of this overall child protection policy.
2. The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is:
Anita O'Reilly, Principal, St. Teresa's Special School
3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is:
Geraldine Clarke, Vice Principal, St. Teresa's Special School
4. In its policies, practices and activities, St. Teresa's Special 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. 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. Below is a list of school policies, practices and activities that are particularly relevant to child protection:
 - Code of Behaviour
 - Anti-bullying Policy,


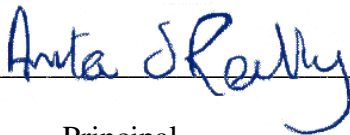


- Enrolment Policy
- Pupil Attendance Strategy – complies with EWB Guidelines
- Intimate Care Policy
- All behaviour Guidelines written for individual pupils are in line with and under the supervision and guidance of Positive Behaviour Support Therapist and Psychologists. Any restrictive practices will be referred to the Human Rights Committee, Ability West for ratification or consideration of appropriate alternative measures.

The Board has ensured that the necessary policies, protocols or 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' 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.
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 18th September 2024

Signed:  Signed: 
Chairperson of Board of Management Principal

Date of next review: September 2025