

# Child Protection Policy of COLÁISTE DAIBHÉID

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 Coláiste Daibhéid 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 T. Ó Laighin (PríomhOide)

3. The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Pól Ó Síodhcháin (Leas-PríomhOide)

4. In its policies, practices and activities, Coláiste Daibhéid 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. Code of Conduct: A comprehensive Code of Conduct is in operation in the school to recognise and deal with inappropriate behavior. There is also a description of the role of the various school partners in ensuring positive behavior. This policy is regularly reviewed.

Anti Bullying Policy: This policy is in operation in the school. A central part of the policy is to discuss and prepare students to deal with incidents of bullying if they occur. In particular through the SPHE and CSPE classes emphasis is placed on awareness of and support for those who may be victims of bullying. This policy is being reviewed at present. Many of our teachers have attended inservice on 'Bullying'. The school operates an awareness week 'Seachtain na trí C'anna' in November.

Student Attendance Strategy: The school operates a strategy to encourage students to attend school and operates an effective system to monitor attendance. As a result the school has a healthy attendance rate. If necessary the school will implement a truncated curriculum for particular students.

Student monitoring: A system for monitoring student coming and going is in place. All students, irrespective of age, have to be signed out of school by an adult.

School and Sporting activities: The Teachers handbook has clear guidelines on the system for taking students out of school on activities. All students should have parental permission to go on school tours as well as a contact number in case of emergency.

Arrangements for Student Work Experience: C.f. This is available in the Parent Handbook for Transition Year.

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 8/12/11

Signed: \_\_\_Cllr J Corr\_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_T Ó Laighin\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson of Board of Management                      Principal

Policy was reviewed on \_\_\_Mean Fomhair 2014\_\_\_

Date of next review: \_\_\_September 2015\_\_\_\_\_