



## **Child Protection Policy of Powerscourt National School**

The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in 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 Powerscourt National 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 the school Principal Ruth Deane.
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is the school Deputy Principal Stephen Middleton.
- 4 In its policies, practices and activities Powerscourt National School will adhere to the following best 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;
  - Fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters

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The school will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adult pupil with a special vulnerability.

- 5 The following school policies are also of particular relevance to child protection.
  - Code of Behaviour
  - Anti-Bullying Policy
  - Hire and Use of School Premises for After School Clubs Policy
  - Attendance Policy
  - Supervision Policy
  - Substance Use Policy
  - Provision of Pupils with Special Educational Needs
  - Swimming Supervision (as below)

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 Parent teacher Team 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 and ratified by the Board of Management in November 2016

Date of next review: November 2017



## Procedures for Swimming

- All classes go to the school hall at approximately 1.30 pm.
- Children line up with their partners at the door.
- One on the bus the teachers will ensure all children have their seat belt fastened.
- The children will count the children on the bus and ensure that the number of children on the bus matches the number of children on the swimming roll that week.
- A parent will remain on the bus to supervise the children while two teachers travel to the swimming pool by car.
- Once at the swimming pool the children line up at the front door and everyone goes into the building together.
- The children wait at reception until 2.00 pm before going into the changing rooms.
- There should be a supervising teacher **and** at least one other adult in each changing room.
- Once the children are ready they shower and line up at the door.
- Children leave the changing room together once everyone is ready.



### Note

- Children who do not do swimming stay in school until 2.15 pm and do extra P.E. with the learning support teacher.
- Only 6<sup>th</sup> class students and 5<sup>th</sup> class students with written permission from their parent/guardian may use the changing cubicles, all other students must use the communal changing rooms unless accompanied by their parent/guardian.
- Any children who feel unwell while at the swimming pool will be asked to sit on the red chairs in the observation area.