

Child Protection Policy Statement at BCS September 2023

We at Blackwater Community School are committed to a practice which protects children from harm. All staff in this organisation accept and recognise our responsibilities to develop awareness of the practices which cause children harm. We will endeavour to safeguard children by

- Our adoption of the ACCS, ASTI & TUI code of practice (March 2005) for processing complaints made by parents/guardians or students (who have reached the age of 18 years. (Appendix 1)
- Our adoption of the Child Protection Guidelines for Post Primary Schools as laid down by the Dept. of Education & Science. (Appendix 2) (2004) & Children First (1999) & Child Protection Procedures for Post Primary Schools as per DES Guidelines (2017)
- Ensuring that staff recruitment meets DES Guidelines and incorporates Garda vetting procedures.
- Appointing the Principal, Denis Ring as the Designated Liaison person as approved by the Board of Management.
- Appointing the Deputy Principal, Maria O'Brien, as the Deputy Designated Liaison person as approved by the Board of Management.
- Liaising with the authorities as appropriate
 - ❖ The Parents/guardians of the child.
 - ❖ The Health Support Executive.
 - ❖ The relevant Duty Social Worker and/or Garda Siochana
 - ❖ The Board of Management
- Recording information accurately and appropriately.
- Recording on standard form for reporting child protection and/or welfare concerns (Appendix as in Child Protection Procedures)
- Keeping up to date re- Child Protection Guidelines changes, updates e.g. Annually Inservice with ACCS Reps.

Signed: **Declan Doocey** (Chairperson of Board of Management)_____

Signed: **Denis Ring** (Principal) _____

Date: September 2023