



Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Scoil Mhuire Fatima – North Monastery Primary School is Primary School providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to sixth class with special classes catering to pupils with autism.

In accordance with the requirements of the [Children First Act 2015](#), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](#), [the Addendum to Children First \(2019\) and 2025](#), [Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025](#) and [Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. \(Tusla, 2024\)](#), the board of management has adopted the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment set out in this document.

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The board of management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the department's Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Name of the Designated Liaison Person (DLP):

Damien Daly

Name of the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP/DDLP):

Colin Daly

In the absence of the DLP, the Deputy DLP shall assume responsibilities of the DLP

Name of Relevant Person

Damien Daly

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

021-4303481

principal@northmonprimary.net

Under the Children First Act 2015 Relevant Person means a person who is appointed by a provider of a relevant service to be the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement. This person is nominated by the board of management to manage and provide oversight of child protection concerns/allegations of child abuse.

Name of Chairperson of the board of management:

Pat Mullins



North Monastery Primary

Scoil Mhuire Fatima
An Mhainistir Thuaidh
Uimhir Rolla: 20140E

North Monastery Primary School,
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Cork.
Tel/Fax: 021 – 4305020
secretary@northmonprimary.net

In the event that both DLP and DDLP are absent and unavailable, and where there is no staff member formally acting in their role, the chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the chief executive or their delegate, assumes the role of DLP.

The board of management recognises that child protection and safeguarding permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In all of these, the 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 comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children.
- 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 happening to children and protect members of school personnel from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of child abuse.
- Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.
- Fully respect confidentiality requirements as set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 in dealing with child protection matters.
- Adhere to the above principles in relation to any vulnerable adult.

Procedures and Measures in Place

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance 2017*, and *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024)*, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- **Procedure for the Management of Allegations of Abuse or Misconduct against School Personnel Relating to a Child Availing of Our Service**
 - Where any member of school personnel is the subject of any investigation in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in relation to a child attending the school, the school is required to adhere to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of *the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.





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- **Procedure for the Safe Recruitment and Selection of School Personnel to Work With Children**
 - The school is required to adhere to the requirements of the Vetting Act. The selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, requires the school to adhere to the statutory vetting requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016, and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and Youth and available on the gov.ie website and as outlined in Chapter 10 of the procedures.
 - A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons.
- **Procedure for Provision of and Access to Child Safeguarding Training and Information, Including the Identification of the Occurrence of Harm**
 - The school provides information and training to members of school personnel in relation to the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) as follows:
 - The school has provided each member of school personnel, including any new members of school personnel, (employees and volunteers, board of management members, student teachers and those on work experience) with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.
 - The school ensures that members of school personnel have availed of relevant training and completed child protection training.
 - The school encourages board of management members to avail of any relevant training and complete child protection training.
 - The board of management ensures that records of all staff and board member child protection training are maintained.
- **Procedure for the Reporting of Child Protection or Welfare Concerns to Tusla**
 - All members of school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, in relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla. Mandated reporting applies to all registered teachers and any other mandated person who may be employed by the school, for example a chaplain or nurse. A full list of those people who are mandated persons is set out in Appendix 1 procedures.
- **Procedure for Maintaining a List of the Persons (if any) in the Relevant Service Who Are Mandated Persons**
 - There is a procedure in place to maintain a list of mandated persons. Schools may on occasion employ additional staff who are mandated by virtue of their profession. This list will include all registered teachers and identify additional employees that are not registered teachers.
- **Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person (In schools this person is the DLP)**
 - There is a procedure in place for appointing a relevant person.

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The various procedures referred to in this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, the board of management carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school's procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.

Note: The procedures and measures in place outlined above, are not intended as exhaustive list. Individual boards of management shall also include in this section such other procedures and measures that are of relevance to the school.

This statement has been published on the school's website or will be made available on request by the school. It has been provided to all members of school personnel, the parents' association (if any), the patron and parents. A copy of this statement and risk assessment will be made available to Tusla and the department if requested.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.



Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1.	Adhering to Child Protection Procedures Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff not recognising abuse /risk • Inadequate training • Risk of omission of care where a child attendance is very poor/ failure to attend school • Risk of harm/ abuse/ misconduct against School Personnel of a child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole staff training completed. • Recruitment of all staff- teachers, SNA's, caretaker, secretaries- ensure vetting is in place and school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation. • The school will adhere to Recruitment procedures and obtain a statutory declaration and a form of undertaking from new recruits as per the requirements on the DEY website. • Attendance Policy in place – monitoring children's attendance • Child-friendly Safeguarding Statement displayed at reception / classrooms / corridors.



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	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
2.	Bullying Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm from bullying, risk of not addressing / or inadequate code of behaviour Risk of harm due to bullying of child or child being harmed by another child in School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Behaviour in place Bí Cineálta policy Child friendly Visual Bí Cineálta displayed on posters around school
3.	Critical Incident happening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate training Misinformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical Incident Management plan in place
4.	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm to staff members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School complies with disciplinary procedures for teaching staff Teaching council Code of Conduct for Teachers Working Together document
5.	One-to-one teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Conduct for Teachers (Teaching Council) Leave glass in door /window clear, when possible take more than one child Open view and adequate proximity
6.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm in a one to one situation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Conduct for Teachers (Teaching Council) in place

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	use of restraint where required.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay visible to others / public place
7.	External teacher/coach/personnel to supplement curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Conduct for Teachers (Teaching Council) in place School adheres to Garda vetting legislation DE circulars in relation to recruitment adhered to Teachers remain with their class during sessions with external sports coaches
8.	Students participating in Work experience/ Student Teacher undertaking training placement in School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School adheres to Garda vetting legislation DE circulars in relation to recruitment Procedures in place- vetting/ never left alone with pupils Work Experience Policy/ procedures in place
9.	Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Say Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm to the child due to non-teaching of same 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School implements Stay Safe Programme, RSE, SPHE in full

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10.	Use of ICT, including the provision of online learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online teaching and learning communication platform such as uninvited person accessing the lesson link • Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing social media and other devices at school. • Risk of harm by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media / digital device. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning, and has communicated this policy to parents.
11.	Parents entering school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety Policy • All visitors should enter only through front door / sign visitors' book. • Main doors opened by code only • Code regularly changed • No access without permission
12.	Visitors / contractors in the school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety Policy • Visitors must use office door only and sign in • Visitors wear a visitor badge for the duration of their stay.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students must never be alone with a guest speaker or other visitors
13.	Visiting private therapists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health & Safety Policy Visitors must use office door only and sign in
14.	Library /halla/music room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate supervision at all times
15.	After -school activities Use of in-site facilities for school activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm while attending after school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children at after school activities must be fully supervised and remain with the facilitator - Vetting legislation adhered to
16.	Late arrival entry of children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All must report to office and not to use side doors
17.	External doors being left open during school day at all times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm from adults having unsupervised access to children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only staff to know codes and code regularly changed All staff be vigilant for any non-staff to enter the building.



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18.	Children who are a flight risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm as a result of leaving the school premises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and Safety policy Increased awareness among staff due when opening doors for ventilation. Yard gates to remain closed SNAs to accompany students who may be a flight risk on excursions/trips.
19.	Parents collecting children early from school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm from inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents must only collect early via the office, never during yard time, Child cannot leave the school without being collected.
20.	Use of ICT by pupils at School including social media Access to internet sites (YouTube /pops/search engines etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICT Acceptable Usage Policy Mobile Phone Policy in place Block sites via PDST internet provider Supervised access at all times Children not permitted to have phone/Smartwatch unless with written consent but phone remains off during school day.

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21.	Intimate care (infants and SEN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm when child is receiving intimate care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEN policy Intimate Care Policy in place
22.	Care of children with SEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEN policy
23.	Lifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any child who requires use of the lifts will be accompanied in the school life
24.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of physical and mental harm to children and staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Behaviour Bí Cineálta procedures
25.	Care of children with specific vulnerabilities such as gay, lesbian, bi sexual / LGBT, Minority religious faiths/ migrants/ members of travelling community/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to discrimination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay Safe Programme Code of behaviour Bí Cineálta procedures
26.	Administration of medicine. First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inappropriate physical contact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical/ administration of medicine Policy
27.	Swimming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming Policy in place Intimate Care Policy

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28.	Yard Supervision – including transition onto the yard and from the yard and use of toilet during break times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision Rota Yard gates to be kept closed during the school day. SNA to accompany children to the bathroom. Health and Safety Policy Intimate Care Policy
29.	Wet-Day Supervision/ Recreation breaks for Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision Rota SNAs to stay with their assigned children
30.	Pupils sent on a school related errand (to the office or another classroom)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision Risk of harm to the child from other pupils Risk of harm to the child from adults on the school grounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Behaviour Bí Cinealta Policy Health and Safety Statement
31.	Lunch Breaks and yard time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm to the child from other pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Behaviour Bí Cinealta - Anti-Bullying Policy Supervision rota in place Health & Safety Statement in place. Pupils are accompanied to and from the yards by their class teacher. SNAs accompany the children, with SNA access, to and

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			from yards and remain with them for the duration of the breaks.
32.	After School Sporting Activities/Sciath na Scol training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm to the child from adults on the school grounds. • Risk of harm from other pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour • Bí Cinealta - Anti-Bullying Policy • Health & Safety Statement
33.	Poor Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm to child's welfare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance Post Holder • School attendance is monitored as per the school's Attendance Policy and DEIS Plan. <p>With regards to child protection/ welfare, the school staff will pay attention to trends in poor/ nonattendance. All absences will be recorded on Aladdin by the class teacher. Where possible the reason for absences will also be recorded. Procedures in place for children who have missed in excess of 20 days</p>
34.	Toilet Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm to the child due to inadequate supervision of children • Risk of harm to the child from other pupils (including physical harm/bullying) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour • Bí Cinealta Policy • Pupils should be given sufficient time to go to the toilet prior to going out on yard. • Pupils will be reminded by the

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			class teacher, Principal and Deputy Principal of the correct behaviour surrounding the use of the toilets in the school.
35.	Breakfast Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vetting of O’Cruaiaoi staff providing breakfast club. Morning supervision rota ensuring a teacher supervises breakfast club daily
36.	Summer Provision (e.g. Literacy and numeracy DEIS camp, July Provision, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Behaviour Bí Cinealta Policy The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation Supervision rotas in place
37.	Care of children with specific vulnerabilities such as gay, lesbian, bi sexual / LGBT, Minority religious faiths/ migrants/ members of travelling community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to discrimination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay Safe Programme Code of behaviour Bí Cineálta procedures Show Racism the Red Card Programme
38.	Use of the sensory room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensory room policy.



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Conduct for Teachers (Teaching Council) • Leave glass in door clear • Open view and adequate proximity
39.	Use of the calm room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision • Risk of child harming themselves due to dysregulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff adhere to the Code of Conduct for Teachers (Teaching Council) • Glass in door left clear for visibility at all times • Staff maintain open-view supervision and stay within appropriate proximity • Use of de-escalation strategies and restorative supports • Room kept free from loose objects or hazards
40.	School excursions and trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adequate staff–pupil ratios based on class needs and guidance • Head counts conducted regularly during the trip • Medications to be brought if

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			necessary, e.g. EPI pen •
41.	Arrival and dispersals of children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe crossing with the crossing guard • Staff welcoming at the door • Morning supervision rota (corridor duty, 8:30 – 8:45) • SNAs in the classrooms at 8:25 • Dispersals supervised by class teachers and SNAs
42.	Wet-Day Supervision Recreation breaks for pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff yard duty roster in place. • Staff engage in corridor duty supervision on wet days. • SNAs go to yard with their class or remain indoors with their class on wet days
43.	School Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision during boarding, travelling, or disembarking • Risk of child being harmed by another child while on transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear drop-off and collection procedures for pupils • Vetting procedures adhered to for drivers and escorts • Bí Cinealta • Code of conduct



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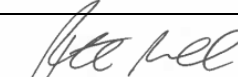
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44.	School tours/field trips/trips to church	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities• Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child• Risk of child running from group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Code of conduct• Bí Cinealta• Appropriate teacher: student ratio• SNAs to stay with their students
45.	Whole school assemblies/gathering	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school• Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class teachers and SETs to supervise their classes• Code of conduct• Bí Cinealta

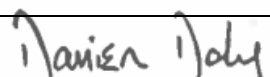
In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 9 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025, the following is the written Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

In undertaking this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment, the board of management has endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to this school and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified. While it is not possible to foresee and remove all risk of harm, the school has in place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was reviewed by the board of management on 23/3/26 (most recent review date)

Signed:*		Date: 23/3/26
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Chairperson of the board of management

Signed:*		Date: 23/3/26
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Principal/Secretary to the board of management

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on 19/03/27 (expected review date)





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Uimhir Rolla: 20140E

North Monastery Primary School,
North Monastery Road,
Cork.
Tel/Fax: 021 – 4305020
secretary@northmonprimary.net

Appendix - Location of copies of the Child Protection Procedures and Children First Guidance

Copies of the **Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2025**, the **Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017**, and the **Children First Act 2015** are available to all members of the school community at the following locations:

Online Locations

- Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2025
 - Department of Education and Youth website:
www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools
- Children First National Guidance 2017 (Tusla):
 - https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Children_First_National_Guidance_2017.pdf
- Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment:
 - School Website:
www.northmonprimary.net

Hard Copies Available in the School

Hard copies of the following documents are available for staff and parents to view on request:

- **Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025** available in the Principal's office
- **School Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment** available inside the main door.

