

Mercy Convent Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template

Child Safeguarding Statement

Mercy Convent is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

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 \(2019\)](#), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools \(revised 2023\)](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of [insert school name] has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 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 Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is **Cathal Ruane**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Brian Corkery**
- 4 The Relevant Person is **Cathal Ruane**
(The relevant person is one who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. This person can also be the DLP)
- 5 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, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, 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 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.

6 The following procedures/measures are in place:

- In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child attending the school, the school adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the [gov.ie](https://www.gov.ie) website.
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the school adheres 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 available on the [gov.ie](https://www.gov.ie) website.
- In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to staff in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) the school-
 - Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - Encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training
 - The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training
- In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, all school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)*, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
- All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.
- In accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and the Addendum to Children First (2019), the Board has 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.
- The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school's website, the [gov.ie](https://www.gov.ie) website or will be made available on request by the school.

Note: The above is not intended as an exhaustive list. Individual Boards of Management shall also include in this section such other procedures/measures that are of relevance to the school in question.

- 7 This statement has been published on the school's website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents' Association (if any) and the patron. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and the Department if requested.
- 8 This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

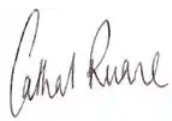
This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on **2nd September 2026**.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on **2nd September 2026**.

Signed:  _____

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: **2nd September 2026**

Signed:  _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: **2nd September 2026**

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Mercy Convent Primary School

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirement of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and PostPrimary Schools (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of **Mercy Convent Primary School**.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1.	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	• Risk of harm to a pupil by another child or adult • Risk of inadequate supervision during arrival or dismissal. • Risk of a pupil leaving the school with an unauthorised person • Risk associated with pupils arriving late or leaving school early. • Risk arising from congestion at school entrances and exits.	• The school gate opens at 8:50am to facilitate the safe and orderly arrival of pupils and to reduce congestion on the narrow walkway outside the school. • Formal school supervision commences at 9:00am Pupils remain the responsibility of their parent/guardian or a trusted adult until this time. • From 9:00am, arrival is supervised by designated school personnel in accordance with the school's supervision arrangements. • Pupils enter through their designated entrance and proceed directly to their assigned area/classroom in accordance with school procedures. • Parents/guardians accompanying pupils in the morning remain within the designated areas of the school grounds. • Dismissal is supervised by teachers/SNAs and other designated school personnel. • Infant pupils, pupils in 1st/2nd Class and pupils accessing the autism classes are handed over in accordance with the school's agreed collection arrangements.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			• Pupils arriving late or departing early are signed in/out at reception by a parent/guardian, with the reason recorded as appropriate. • Where an unfamiliar or unexpected person arrives to collect a pupil, the school verifies the arrangement with the parent/guardian before releasing the child. • Late arrivals and early departures are recorded on Aladdin and monitored by school management.
2.	Recreation breaks for pupils	• Risk of harm to a pupil by another pupil or adult. • Risk of inadequate supervision during recreation breaks. • Risk of inappropriate or unsafe behaviour. • Risk of harm arising from bullying behaviour. • Risk of incidents or safeguarding concerns not being recognised or responded to promptly. • Risk associated with pupils leaving designated recreation areas without appropriate supervision	• Recreation breaks are supervised by teachers and SNAs in accordance with the school's yard supervision rota. Designated supervising staff wear high-visibility jackets to ensure they are easily identifiable to pupils. • Staff are positioned across designated supervision areas to provide appropriate oversight of pupils. • Bí Cineálta Policy and Code of Behaviour are implemented during recreation breaks. • Pupils are not permitted to leave designated recreation areas or re-enter the school building during breaks unless accompanied by, or with the permission of, a designated member of school personnel. • Incidents arising during recreation breaks are responded to and reported to the relevant personnel as appropriate. • Child protection or welfare concerns arising during recreation breaks are dealt with in accordance with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection Procedures.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
3.	One-to-one teaching/ learning support/ counselling	• Risk of harm to a pupil by a member of school personnel or other adult providing support. • Risk associated with a pupil and adult being alone in an isolated or enclosed space. • Risk of inappropriate physical contact, communication or behaviour. • Risk of appropriate professional boundaries not being maintained. • Risk of a safeguarding disclosure or concern not being recognised or reported appropriately.	• One-to-one teaching/support takes place in appropriate designated areas, with glass-panelled doors/appropriate visibility, where possible. • Where one-to-one support is taking place, relevant school personnel are aware of the pupil's location and the member of staff providing the support. • Appropriate seating arrangements and professional boundaries are maintained during one-to-one sessions. • One-to-one support arrangements form part of the pupil's agreed educational/support provision, where applicable. • The Stay Safe Programme is implemented as part of the school's SPHE programme. • All school personnel are provided with/access to the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and are aware of their responsibilities under the Child Protection Procedures. • Any disclosures or child protection concerns arising during one-to-one support are reported in accordance with the school's Child Protection Procedures.
4.	Classroom teaching	• Risk of harm to a pupil by a member of school personnel or another pupil. • Risk of inappropriate behaviour, communication or physical contact. • Risk of inadequate supervision.	• All school personnel are appropriately Garda vetted in accordance with statutory requirements and relevant Department procedures.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of a child protection or welfare concern not being recognised, responded to or reported appropriately.	• School personnel adhere to relevant professional codes of conduct and school policies and procedures. • Classroom doors contain glass viewing panels, supporting appropriate visibility. • Appropriate supervision arrangements are maintained throughout the school day. • The school's Child Safeguarding Statement, Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy are implemented. • School personnel are familiar with their responsibilities under the Child Protection Procedures. • Any allegation or concern relating to a member of school personnel is managed in accordance with the applicable Child Protection Procedures.
5.	Outdoor teaching activities	• Risk of harm to a pupil by a member of school personnel or another pupil. • Risk of inappropriate behaviour, communication or physical contact. • Risk of inadequate supervision. • Risk of a child protection or welfare concern not being recognised, responded to or reported appropriately.	• School personnel are appropriately Garda vetted in accordance with statutory and Department requirements. • School personnel adhere to relevant professional codes of conduct and school policies and procedures. • Classroom doors contain glass viewing panels, supporting appropriate visibility. • Appropriate supervision arrangements are maintained throughout the school day. • The school's Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy are implemented. • All school personnel are familiar with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and their

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			responsibilities under the Child Protection Procedures. Any allegation or concern relating to a member of school personnel is managed in accordance with the applicable Child Protection Procedures.
6.	Online teaching and teaching remotely Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in the school	- Risk of inappropriate or unmonitored online communication/contact between pupils and adults or other pupils. - Risk of pupils accessing inappropriate or harmful online content. - Risk of cyberbullying or other harmful online behaviour. - Risk of inappropriate sharing of personal information, images or recordings. - Risk arising from unauthorised use of personal devices. - Risk of online safeguarding concerns not being recognised or reported appropriately.	- School-controlled accounts/logins are used for school-based digital platforms and services, where appropriate. - Pupils' use of ICT in school is appropriately supervised by school personnel. - The school's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is implemented. - The Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy apply to pupils' use of digital technology and online behaviour. - Pupils are not permitted to use personal smartphones, smart watches or other unauthorised personal devices during the school day, in accordance with the school's AUP. - The school participates in the Go Phone Free initiative. - Appropriate security/anti-virus measures are maintained on school devices. - Online safety, responsible digital behaviour and reporting of concerns are addressed with pupils through appropriate curricular activities. - Safer Internet Day is recognised annually to promote safe and responsible use of digital technology.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			Any online activity giving rise to a child protection concern is addressed in accordance with the school's Child Protection Procedures.
7.	Sporting Activities/ School Outings	- Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child - Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately - Risk of an allegation being made against another child/ren or a member of school personnel	On school outings/ sporting events the ratio of adults to children is strictly monitored.
8.	Annual Sports Day	- Risk of harm to a pupil by school personnel, volunteers, visitors or other pupils. - Risk of inadequate supervision during activities or while pupils move between activity areas. - Risk of inappropriate contact between pupils and adults/visitors. - Risk of bullying or inappropriate behaviour between pupils. - Risk of a pupil becoming separated from their class/group. - Risk of safeguarding concerns not being recognised or responded to appropriately.	- Sports Day activities are appropriately supervised by teachers, SNAs and other designated school personnel. - Pupils remain with their designated class/group and are supervised when moving between activities. - Volunteers assisting with Sports Day operate under the direction and supervision of school personnel. - Appropriate arrangements are in place for managing visitors and access to pupil/activity areas. - School personnel adhere to relevant professional codes of conduct and school procedures. - Garda vetting requirements are adhered to where applicable. - The school's Child Safeguarding Statement, Bí Cineálta Policy and Code of Behaviour apply throughout Sports Day.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			Any child protection or welfare concerns are dealt with in accordance with the school's Child Protection Procedures.
9.	Fundraising events involving pupils	- Risk of harm to a pupil by school personnel, volunteers, visitors or other pupils. - Risk of inadequate supervision during fundraising activities/events. - Risk of inappropriate contact between pupils and adults/visitors attending an event. - Risk of pupils having unsupervised access to areas of the school or event venue. - Risk of safeguarding concerns not being recognised, responded to or reported appropriately.	- Fundraising events involving pupils are appropriately supervised by school personnel. - Parents/volunteers assisting with events operate under the direction and supervision of school personnel. - Appropriate arrangements are made to manage visitors and access to the school during fundraising events. - Pupils remain in designated areas and under appropriate supervision. - The school's Child Safeguarding Statement, Code of Behaviour and Bí Cineálta Policy apply to school fundraising activities. - Garda vetting requirements are adhered to where applicable. - Any child protection or welfare concerns arising during an event are dealt with in accordance with the school's Child Protection Procedures
10.	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	- Risk of harm to a pupil by school personnel, volunteers, external personnel, members of the public or other pupils. - Risk of inadequate supervision in an unfamiliar or public environment. - Risk of a pupil becoming separated from the group.	- Appropriate supervision arrangements and pupil/staff groupings are established for off-site activities. - School personnel adhere to relevant professional codes of conduct and school policies and procedures. - The school complies with Garda vetting requirements and relevant Department guidance in

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of inappropriate contact between pupils and members of the public/external personnel. • Risk of bullying or inappropriate behaviour between pupils. • Risk of a safeguarding concern not being recognised, responded to or reported appropriately.	relation to personnel and volunteers, where applicable. • Pupils remain under the supervision of designated school personnel throughout the activity. • External personnel/coaches are not given unsupervised access to pupils unless appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place. • The school's Child Safeguarding Statement, Bí Cineálta Policy and Code of Behaviour apply during off-site school activities. • Any child protection or welfare concerns arising during an off-site activity are dealt with in accordance with the school's Child Protection Procedures.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
11.	School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	• Risk of harm to a child by an adult or child • Risk of harm not being recognised and/or reported correctly and appropriately	• Children are supervised by staff when buses are hired for all school events. • Morning and evening collections for our Autism Classes are provided by Bus Eireann. Bus Eireann sub contracts these runs. All bus drivers are vetted and inspected by Bus Eireann. Bus escorts are employed by the BOM and are vetted through the diocese vetting process. • The principal/ deputy principal regularly liaises with bus drivers and the bus children are supervised by staff when buses are hired for all school events.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
12.	Care of Children with Special Needs, including intimate care needs	• Risk of harm to a pupil by a member of school personnel or another pupil • Risk of inappropriate physical contact during the provision of personal or intimate care. • Risk to a pupil's privacy, dignity or personal boundaries during intimate care • Risk arising where a pupil has difficulty communicating or reporting a concern • Risk of safeguarding concerns not being recognised or reported promptly.	• Special Educational Needs Policy and Intimate Care Policy are implemented. • Individual care plans are developed, where required, in consultation with parents/guardians and relevant personnel. • Intimate care is provided in a manner that respects the pupil's dignity, privacy and independence while maintaining appropriate safeguarding practices. • Only appropriate school personnel provide intimate/personal care, in accordance with the pupil's agreed care arrangements. • Pupils are encouraged to develop independence in personal care appropriate to their age, ability and individual needs. • Relevant staff are made aware of individual care needs on a need-to-know basis. • Any child protection or welfare concerns arising during the provision of care are reported in accordance with the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection Procedures.
13.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required	• Risk of harm to the pupil displaying behaviours of concern. • Risk of harm to other pupils or school personnel. • Risk of inappropriate or disproportionate physical intervention.	• Code of Behaviour and relevant school procedures are followed. • Positive behaviour supports, preventative approaches and de-escalation strategies are used, where appropriate. • Individual support/care plans and risk assessments are developed for pupils where required.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of incidents not being appropriately recorded, reported or followed up • Risk of underlying safeguarding concerns not being recognised	• Physical intervention is used only where necessary to prevent immediate harm and is proportionate to the level of risk presented. • Relevant school personnel receive appropriate guidance/training where required. • Significant incidents are recorded and reported in accordance with school procedures, and parents/guardians are informed as appropriate. • Child protection concerns arising from an incident are dealt with in accordance with the Child Protection Procedures. • Critical Incident Policy and procedures are followed where applicable.
14.	Administration of medicine	• Risk of harm to a pupil arising from the incorrect administration of medication. • Risk of medication being administered to the wrong pupil or at an incorrect dosage/time. • Risk arising from inappropriate access to or storage of medication. • Risk of a pupil requiring medication in an emergency and appropriate action not being taken promptly.	• Where a pupil has a specific medical need requiring the administration of medication during the school day, appropriate arrangements are agreed with the pupil's parents/guardians. • The Board of Management is informed, where appropriate, of arrangements for the administration of medication • Relevant staff are informed of the pupil's needs on a need-to-know basis and receive appropriate training where required. • Medication is stored safely and securely in the child's classroom while ensuring that emergency medication is readily accessible when required.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			• Clear instructions and relevant information are provided by parents/guardians in relation to the administration of medication. • School procedures relating to First Aid, supervision and emergency response are followed.
15.	Administration of First Aid	• Risk of harm to a pupil during the administration of first aid. • Risk associated with necessary physical contact when providing first aid. • Risk of a pupil being inadequately supervised while receiving first aid. • Risk of a serious injury or concern not being recognised, responded to or reported appropriately.	• During playground duty, first aid is administered by staff on duty in the designated Recovery Area. Where an injury requires further attention, appropriate school personnel are informed and the child is assessed as necessary. • Parents/guardians are contacted in all cases of a head injury, in accordance with school procedures. • Serious injuries/incidents are recorded on the school's Incident/Accident Form and the relevant record is maintained on the pupil's Aladdin profile. • First aid kits are available in classrooms, with larger first aid kits located on each floor. • First aid supplies are brought on school tours, sporting events and other off-site activities. • A defibrillator (AED) is available at reception. • Members of the school's Code Blue Team receive appropriate training annually. • School personnel maintain appropriate professional boundaries when administering first aid and, where practicable, avoid

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			situations where a pupil is alone with an adult in an isolated area.
16.	Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	• Risk of inadequate implementation of the SPHE curriculum and the Stay Safe programme • Risk of pupils not learning the skills and strategies necessary to protect themselves	• School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full. • Revised and reviewed SPHE Policy
17.	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	• Risk of harm to a pupil arising from bullying behaviour • Risk of serious or persistent bullying behaviour not being recognised as a potential child protection concern. • Risk of pupils not having the confidence, strategies or skills to report bullying or inappropriate behaviour. • Risk of bullying behaviour not being recognised, responded to or reported appropriately.	• The school's Bí Cineálta Policy to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour has been developed and is implemented in accordance with the Department of Education's Bí Cineálta Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post-Primary Schools. • All school staff follow the Bí Cineálta Policy when responding to reports or incidents of bullying behaviour. • The Stay Safe Programme is implemented as part of SPHE. • Pupils are taught age-appropriate strategies for recognising, responding to and reporting bullying and inappropriate behaviour. • The Code of Behaviour supports respectful and positive relationships throughout the school. • Where a bullying incident gives rise to a child protection concern, the school's Child Protection Procedures are followed.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
18.	Training of school personnel in child protection matters	• Risk of harm or a child protection/welfare concern not being recognised, responded to or reported promptly or appropriately. • Risk of school personnel not being sufficiently familiar with their statutory and procedural responsibilities in relation to child safeguarding. • Risk of new personnel not receiving appropriate child protection information/training.	• The school's Child Safeguarding Statement and the current Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools are made available to all school personnel. • The Child Safeguarding Statement and relevant procedures/resources are also available to staff on the school information Padlet. • The DLP and DDLP undertake relevant Oide child protection training and other training/updates as appropriate. • School personnel complete relevant Tusla child safeguarding training and other training provided or recommended by Tusla, Oide and/or the Department. • Child protection and safeguarding procedures are addressed with staff, including at the beginning of the school year and when updates to procedures arise. • New members of staff are provided with the relevant safeguarding documentation and complete appropriate child protection training. • Records of relevant child protection training undertaken by school personnel and Board of Management members are maintained, as appropriate.
19.	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	• Risk of harm to a pupil by external personnel. • Risk of inappropriate contact, communication or behaviour	• External personnel are appropriately Garda vetted where required, in accordance with statutory requirements and relevant Department procedures.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		between external personnel and pupils. • Risk of pupils being inadequately supervised while engaging with external personnel. • Risk of a safeguarding concern not being recognised or reported appropriately.	• Pupils remain under the supervision of the class teacher or other designated school personnel when engaging with external personnel. • External personnel are not permitted unsupervised access to pupils unless appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place. • External personnel work under the direction of school personnel and maintain appropriate professional boundaries with pupils. • School Safeguarding Statement
20.	Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities	• Risk of harm to a pupil by external personnel. • Risk of inappropriate contact, communication or behaviour between external personnel and pupils. • Risk of pupils being left unsupervised with external personnel. • Risk of a safeguarding concern not being recognised or reported promptly.	• External personnel are appropriately Garda vetted where required before commencing activities with pupils. • Pupils remain under the supervision of school personnel while participating in activities facilitated by external personnel. • External personnel are not permitted unsupervised access to pupils unless appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place. • Appropriate professional boundaries between external personnel and pupils are maintained. • Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection Procedures are in place. • Any child protection or welfare concerns are reported in accordance with the school's safeguarding procedures.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
21	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants Members of the Traveller community Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children Pupils perceived to be LGBT Pupils of minority religious faiths Children in care Children on Tusla's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)	• Risk of harm to a child from other pupils or adults. • Risk of harm arising from bullying, discrimination, exclusion or inappropriate behaviour. • Risk that a vulnerable child may be less likely or able to report a concern. • Risk of concerns not being recognised, responded to or reported promptly by school personnel.	• Bí Cineálta Policy and associated procedures. • Code of Behaviour. • Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection Procedures. • Stay Safe Programme implemented as part of the SPHE curriculum. • Age-appropriate SPHE lessons addressing bullying, inclusion, respect and personal safety across class levels. • Weaving Well-Being programme implemented across the school. • School personnel are made aware of pupils who may require additional support, where appropriate and on a need-to-know basis. • Concerns regarding the safety or welfare of a pupil are reported and managed in accordance with the Child Protection Procedures.
22	Recruitment of school personnel including: • Teachers • SNAs • Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners • Sports coaches • External tutors/Guest Speakers • Volunteers/Parents in School Activities	• Risk of harm to pupils arising from the recruitment or engagement of unsuitable personnel. • Risk of inappropriate contact or behaviour towards pupils by adults working in or visiting the school. • Risk of harm not being recognised, responded to or reported promptly.	• All school personnel are appropriately vetted in accordance with statutory requirements and relevant Department procedures. • Adults who regularly work with pupils, or who attend the school in a teaching/coaching capacity, are appropriately vetted where required. • Coaches engaged to provide PE/sports activities are appropriately vetted before commencing work with pupils.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
	- Visitors /contractors present in school during school hours - Visitors / contractors present during after school activities		- Visitors enter through the designated main entrance, report to the school office, sign in and are issued with a visitor lanyard. - Access to the main school building is controlled through the electronic/fobbed access system. - Visitors and contractors do not have unsupervised access to pupils unless appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place. - School personnel are made aware of their responsibilities under the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and relevant child protection procedures.
23	Students participating in work experience	- Risk of harm to pupils through inappropriate contact or behaviour by a work-experience student. - Risk arising from a work-experience student being left unsupervised with pupils.	- Work Placement & Teaching Practice Policy September 2025 - Work-experience students are supervised by school staff and are not permitted to have unsupervised access to pupils. - They are informed of relevant school procedures, including the Child Safeguarding Statement, Code of Behaviour and appropriate professional boundaries. - Responsibility for the care and supervision of pupils remains with school staff at all times.
24	Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	- Risk of harm to a pupil by a student teacher. - Risk of inappropriate contact, communication or behaviour	- Garda Vetting Procedures for all student teachers undertaking placement in our school. - Student teachers are always supervised by class teacher when in the presence of children

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		between a student teacher and pupils. • Risk of inadequate supervision of pupils while working with a student teacher. • Risk of inappropriate disclosure or sharing of confidential or sensitive information relating to pupils. • Risk of a safeguarding concern not being recognised or reported appropriately.	• School Safeguarding Statement • Staff Code of Conduct • Work placement & teaching practice policy
25	Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	• Risk of inappropriate use, storage or sharing of images/video recordings of pupils. • Risk of images or recordings being accessed by unauthorised persons. • Risk of pupils being identifiable through inappropriate sharing of images and personal information. • Risk of images/video being used for cyberbullying or other inappropriate purposes. • Risk of images being taken or published without appropriate consent.	• The school's ICT/Acceptable Use Policy, Data Protection Policy and Bí Cineálta Policy are implemented. • Appropriate parental/guardian consent regarding the use of pupil photographs and recordings is obtained and recorded by the school. • Staff are made aware of pupils for whom consent for photography/recording has not been provided, where relevant. • Photographs and recordings may be taken by authorised school personnel for appropriate educational, school communication or school-event purposes. • School photographs and recordings are stored on approved, secure school systems, including the school's SharePoint, as appropriate.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			• Care is taken to limit unnecessary identifying or personal information when photographs or recordings are published or shared. • Images and recordings are only shared through appropriate school-approved channels and in accordance with consent and data-protection requirements. • Any inappropriate use or sharing of images that gives rise to a safeguarding concern is addressed in accordance with the school's Child Protection Procedures.
26	After-school use of school premises by other organisations	• Risk of harm to a child due to inappropriate behaviour or contact by personnel from an external organisation. • Risk arising from unclear responsibility for supervision and safeguarding arrangements.	• Organisations using the school premises are responsible for the supervision and safeguarding of children attending their activities. • Organisations are required to have appropriate child safeguarding procedures in place and to comply with relevant safeguarding and vetting requirements. • Clear arrangements are in place regarding access to and use of the school premises.
27	Use of school premises by other organisations during school day	• Risk of inappropriate contact between pupils and personnel/individuals from an external organisation. • Risk of harm arising where visitors have access to areas of the school used by pupils.	• Access to the school during the school day is controlled. • Visitors/contractors report to the school office and access is limited to the areas necessary for their work/activity. • School staff retain responsibility for the supervision of pupils during the school day.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			External personnel are not permitted unsupervised access to pupils unless appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place.

Important Note: It should be noted that risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of “harm” as defined in the Children First Act 2015 and not general health and safety risk. The definition of harm is set out in Chapter 4 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)*

In undertaking this 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.