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Principal: Andy Hanrahan



Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

	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 not being recognised by school personnel	- The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc. - All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment
2.	Recreation breaks for pupils	- Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel - 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	- The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc. - All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's <i>Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment</i>
3.	Classroom teaching	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of	All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's

		school personnel	<i>Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment</i> • The <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> are made available to all school personnel
4.	• One-to-one teaching • Small group teaching • One-to-one counselling	• Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel	• School personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in <i>Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017</i> and its addenda, including the <i>Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025</i> • The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities • The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to-one counselling • 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

5.	• Outdoor teaching activities • After school and lunch time activities • Sporting activities	• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities	• The school reviews the "<i>Codes of Good Practice</i>" on a regular basis • The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc. • The school has clear procedures in respect of school outings
6.	• School outings/tours	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons	• The school has clear procedures in respect of school outings
7.	• Use of toilet/changing areas in schools • Toileting accidents	• Risk of harm to children with SEN who have vulnerabilities • Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care	• The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc • The school has Intimate Care procedures in respect of students who require such care
8.	• Use of off-site facilities for school activities e.g. Watershed	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of	• The school has clear procedures in respect of school outings

		another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons	
9.	Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed,	- Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities - Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care	- The school has Intimate Care procedures in respect of students who require such care - The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils
10.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required	- 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	The school has complied with the <i>Understanding Behaviours of Concern and Responding to Crisis Situations</i> developed by the Department of Education and Youth to address uncertainty for staff on how to respond when facing crisis situations where there are concerns regarding physical safety

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
11.	- Administration of Medicine - First Aid Administration	- Risk of harm to children with SEN who have vulnerabilities - Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate First Aid	The school has in place a policy/ procedure for the administration of First Aid
12.	- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe, Well Being - Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils - Training of school personnel in child protection matters	Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel	- School Personnel are required to adhere to the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2025</i> and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the <i>Children First Act 2015</i> - The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme - The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum - The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's <i>Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools</i>
13.	- Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum - Use of external personnel to support sports and other extracurricular activities	- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school - Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities	- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum - The school has in place a policy and procedures for the

			use of external sports coaches The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation
14.	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as - 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 CPNS – Child Protection Notification System	Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel	- St Canice's has a code of behaviour and an anti-bullying policy in place in accordance with the department's "Bí Cineálta" procedures to prevent and address bullying in schools and as outlined in <i>Circular 55/2024</i> - The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives
15.	Recruitment of school personnel including - - Teachers/SNA's - Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners - Sports coaches - External Tutors/Guest Speakers - Volunteers/Parents in school activities - School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	- Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training - Risk of children being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel	- The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation - The school adheres to the relevant Department of Education and Youth circulars in respect of recruitment - The school has a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) - The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff
	Visitors/contractors	Risk of harm due to	The school has a

16.	present in school during school hours • Visitors/contractors present during after school activities	inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult	health and safety policy • The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation
17.	• Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies		
18.	• Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils and staff in school	• Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner • Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner • Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school	• The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils • The school has in place an ICT and social media Expected Use Policy • The school has in place a policy governing the use of smartphones and tablet devices in the school by pupils as per <i>Circular 38/2018</i> and the national guidelines
19.	• Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel	• The school has in place a policy governing the use of smartphones and tablet devices in the school by pupils as per <i>Circular 38/2018</i> and the national guidelines • The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils

20.	• Students participating in work experience in the school • Student teachers/SNAs undertaking training placement in school	• Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a person undertaking work experience/work placement/teaching placement	• The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements • The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils undertaking work experience in the school • The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation
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	<i>List of School Activities</i>	<i>Risks Identified Against Each School Activity</i>	<i>Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk</i>
21.	• Use of video/photography/other media to record school events • Display of photographs in school/church/media/social media	• Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult	• Children are never recognized by name in any media photography. Parentals opt in/out of photography permission
22.	• After school use of the school premises by school staff and others e.g. Homework Club, Orchestra, Jazz Band, music lessons, matches etc.	• Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by after school personnel	• The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation
23.	• Management of provision of food and drink	• Risk of harm to children during lunch times when they are eating and drinking	• School ensures children are supervised during all lunch times
24.	• Teaching and Learning in the classroom and remotely	• Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platforms, such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms	• The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place, including provision for online teaching and learning remotely

Examples of Activities, Risks and Procedures

The examples listed in this document are provided to assist schools in undertaking their risk assessment under the Children First Act, 2015. Schools should note that this list of examples is not intended to be exhaustive, and that the inclusion of an example of a policy or procedure on these lists does not make it mandatory. It is the responsibility of each school to ensure, as far as possible, that any other risks and procedures that are relevant to its own particular circumstances are identified and specified in the written risk assessment and that adequate procedures are in place to address all risks identified.

It is acknowledged that schools already have in place a range of policies, practices and procedures to mitigate the risk of harm to children while they are participating in the

activities of the school and that some school activities will carry low or minimal risks of harm compared to others. In the context of the risk assessment that must be undertaken by schools, the Children First Act, 2015 refers to risk as “any potential for harm”.

Therefore, it is important that, as part of its risk assessment process, each school lists and reviews all of its various activities (which shall include identifying those that may carry low risk of harm as well as those that carry higher risks of harm). Doing so will help the school to:

- > Identify, as required under the Children First Act, 2015, any risks of harm that may exist in respect of the school’s activities.
- > Identify and assess the adequacy of the various procedures already in place to manage those risks of harm.
- > Identify and put in place any such additional procedures as are considered necessary to manage any risk identified.

Online Safety

The Addendum to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 published in January 2019 clarifies that organisations providing relevant services to children should consider the specific issue of online safety when carrying out their risk assessment and preparing their Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

The Guidance on Continuity of Schooling for primary and post-primary schools (April 2020) advises of the importance of teachers maintaining the safe and ethical use of the internet during distance learning and assisting parents and guardians to be aware of their role also. Schools should ensure that their Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) informs and guides remote or distance learning activity.

Risk in the context of this Child Safeguarding Statement and 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 the Children First Act 2015: “harm” means, in relation to a child— (a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health, development or welfare, or (b) sexual abuse of the child, whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise.

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 30/9/26 (most recent review date).

Signed: * 
Chairperson of the board of management

Date: 30/09/2026

Signed: * Andy Harrahan
Principal/Secretary to the board of management

Date: 30/9/26

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on 30/9/27 (expected review date).