

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of St. Brendan's Boys' N.S.

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of St. Brendan's Boys' N.S.

1. List of school activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
- Recreation breaks for pupils
- Classroom teaching
- One-to-one teaching
- Outdoor teaching activities
- Sporting Activities
- School outings
- Use of toilet/changing areas in schools
- Annual Sports Day
- Fundraising events involving pupils
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- School transport arrangements
- Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed,
- Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils
- Administration of Medicine
- Administration of First Aid
- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
- Training of school personnel in child protection matters
- Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
- Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities
- 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
- Recruitment of school personnel including -
 - Teachers/SNA's
 - Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners
 - Sports coaches
 - External Tutors/Guest Speakers
 - Volunteers/Parents in school activities
 - Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours
 - Visitors/contractors present during after school activities
- Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school

- Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.
- Students participating in work experience in the school
- Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
- Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
- After school use of school premises by other organisations
- Homework club
- Attending classes outside of main school building
- Online/remote teaching

2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –

- Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel
- 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
- Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other adult/child while child is participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons
- Risk of harm due to bullying of child
- 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
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
- Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities
- Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching or coaching situation
- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate 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 leaving school grounds at the end of the day.
- Risk of going to and coming from the Cathedral, the hurling pitch, tennis courts, nature and other walks in the area.
- Online teaching in the event of a pupil(s) isolating for Covid-19 reasons or a school closure as part of a Government led Covid-19 mitigation measure
- Risk of child being exposed to inappropriate material.
- Risk of child accessing and circulating inappropriate material
- Risk of Zoom meetings being "bombed".
- Risk of Zoom meetings being recorded.
- Well-being of pupils

3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -

- All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's *Child Safeguarding Statement*
- The *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017* are made available to all school personnel
- School Personnel are required to adhere to the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017* and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the *Children First Act 2015*
- 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 *Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools*
- 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 in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings
- The school has a Health and Safety policy
- The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
- 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
- The school has a Special Educational Needs policy
- The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils
- The school –
 - Has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school's *Child Safeguarding Statement*
 - Ensures all new members of 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
 - Maintains records of all staff and board member training
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid
- The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils
- The school has in place an IT policy in respect of usage of IT by pupils
- The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils
- The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities
- The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan

- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum, external sports coaches and students undertaking work experience in the school.
- The school ensures that all students are supervised by a member of school staff when moving to and from external buildings
- The school ensures that the school gate is supervised by members of staff at the end of the school day
- The school ensures that all pupils are escorted to and from the Cathedral, the hurling pitch, tennis courts, nature and other walks in the area.
- The school has a Mobile Phone and ICT Policy
- School has an AUP signed by parents on enrolment of child in school and on behalf of pupils.
- Anti-Bullying policy is in place
- Code of Behaviour is in place
- Staff use professional email address at all times.
- Lessons in online safety taught in all classes.
- Only platform established as secure will be used for interactions.
- Parental consent for use of all online platforms
- Lessons in Well being taught as part of SPHE
- Remote Teaching and Learning Policy in place
- Regular communication between teachers/SNAs and families via Databiz, Seesaw, Class Dojo, email or phone call to check in on child's well-being and levels of engagement with remote/online learning.
- Regular phone calls made to parents of children with SEN in Mainstream Classes to touch base.