



Mandatory Template 1: Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment Template

Written Assessment of Risk of St. Louis Senior 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 Post-Primary Schools 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of St. Louis Senior Primary School.

Updated February 2021

1. List of school activities	2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Arrival and Dismissal of Pupils (including morning supervision) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in the school • Risk of harm from unknown adults around the school • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child. • Risk of harm due to bullying of child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Supervised drop-off system each morning • Notice in school newsletter annually to highlight arrival and collection procedures. • Health & Safety Policy • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • All personnel provided with copy of school’s Child Safeguarding Statement

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All school personnel required to adhere to Child Protection Procedures for Primary & Post Primary Schools 2017 • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Teaching 	<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 • Risk of harm due to bullying of a child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers • Supervision Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • School complies with agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff • Glass in doors of all teaching areas • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-to-One Teaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school person personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEN Policy • Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers • Glass in doors of all teaching areas • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Group Teaching 	<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"> • Supervision Policy • SEN Policy • Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers • Garda Vetting Procedures • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glass in doors of all teaching areas • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor Teaching Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation Breaks for Pupils (including sensory/movement breaks) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in the school • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Health & Safety Policy • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers • SEN Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-to-One Discussion with a Teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm in one-to-one situation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Toilet Areas in School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • SEN Policy/Intimate Care Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care of Children with Special Educational Needs (SEN), Including Intimate Care when Needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intimate Care Policy SEN Policy Garda Vetting Procedures Supervision Policy Covid-19 School Response Plan Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care of Pupils with Specific Vulnerabilities/Needs such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers Inclusion Policy School Ethos Covid-19 School Response Plan Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of Challenging Behaviour Amongst Pupils (including appropriate use of restraint where required) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed during management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities. Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health & Safety Policy and Procedures Support Team Response for Incidents Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy SEN Policy Garda Vetting Procedures Behaviour Plans (where relevant) Covid-19 School Response Plan Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Tours 	<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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garda Vetting Procedures Child Protection Procedures Requesting confirmation of Garda Vetting and Child Safeguarding

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • 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 • Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school 	<p>Statement from school tour locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents informed of school tours • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Acceptable Usage Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Outings 	<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 harm due to bullying of child • 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 • Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while on school outings • Risk of harm due to unknown adults in the areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting Procedures • Child Protection Procedures • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Acceptable Usage Policy • Mobile Phones and Electronics Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporting Activities (including going to play school matches) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • 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 • Risk of child being harmed by another child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting Procedures • Child Protection Procedures • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • School Procedures for transport to attend sporting activities. • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Schools Week/Sports Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of child being harmed 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • School Procedures for organising and completing activities during Sports Day/ASW • School Procedures for supervising volunteers/visitors when on school premises • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming Lessons in Rathmines Swimming Pool 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities • 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 • Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE/Swimming Policy • Supervision Policy • Health & Safety Policy • Behaviour Policy & Anti-Bullying Policy • Code of Behaviour • Garda Vetting Procedures • SEN/Intimate Care Policy • Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Off-Site Facilities for School Activities (e.g –Lisson Field/ /Church) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Supervision Policy • Religious Education Policy

	<p>child participating in out-of-school activities and/or extra-curricular activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities • Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptable Usage Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures • Health & Safety Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration of Medicine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel during administration of medicine • Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Safety Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures • Intimate Care Policy (for particular administration of medicine) • Medical Protocols (where applicable) • First Aid Responders • First Aid Training for specific staff members • School Procedures for administration of medicine • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration of First Aid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel during administration of First Aid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Safety Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures • Medical Protocols (where applicable) • First Aid Responders • First Aid Training for specific staff members

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Procedures for administration of first aid • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising Events Involving Pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school and/or while attending out of school activities • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm due to inadequate Acceptable Usage Policy • Risk of harm due to bullying of child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Health & Safety Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curricular Provision in Respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to poor communication of school policy procedures • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPHE Whole-School Plan • RSE Policy • Implementation of the Stay Safe Programme • School records of curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe: CM (existing measure) and signed log by teachers after RSE & Stay Safe lessons have been taught (new for 2020/21 school year) • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention and Dealing with Bullying Amongst Pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviour Policy & Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedures

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inappropriate communications between child and another child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full adherence to the requirements of the Department's <i>Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools</i> • Acceptable Usage Policy • Child Protection Procedures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of School Personnel in Child Protection Matters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protection Policy • Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment • All classes provided with copy of DES Child Protection Procedures • All personnel provided with a copy of 'TUSLA – Children First' guidelines. • All personnel provided with a copy of the Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment • All personnel sign document each year to state that they are aware of Child Protection Policy, Safeguarding Statement, Risk Assessment and the need to report any child protection/welfare concerns. • Requirement for completion of 'TUSLA Children First' e-learning course by all staff • Copy of certificate filed for each staff member • Record of all staff and training in Child Protection (TUSLA E-Learning Course/PDST E-

		<p>Learning Course/DLP/DDLP PDST Training)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion about Child Protection Policy and Procedures during staff meeting each school year • Recommendation for NQTs through Droichead process to complete the NIPT Child Protection Seminar • Garda Vetting Procedures • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of School Personnel Including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers/SNAs • Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners • Sports Coaches • External Tutors/Guest Speakers • Volunteers/Parents in School Activities (e.g. – Parents’ Association) • Visitors/Contractors Present in School During School Hours • Visitors/Contractors Present in School During After School Activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate vetting when recruiting school personnel • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting Procedures • Recruitment Protocols • Checking of references • Training in Child Protection • All personnel provided with a copy of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment • All school personnel required to adhere to Child Protection Procedures for Primary & Post-Primary Schools 2017 • Supervision of visitors/contractors present in school during school hours by a member of school personnel • School procedures for when sports coaches/external tutors/guest speakers/volunteers are on the premises when children are present

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of External Personnel to Supplement Curriculum (e.g. – Science Week/History Talks) 	<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"> • Supervision Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures (if volunteer will be in school on a regular basis) • School Procedures for when volunteers are on school premises • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of External Personnel to Support Sports and Other Extra-Curricular Activities (e.g. – GAA coaches/Rugby coaches/sports coaches) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm caused by a staff member/adult/coach/trainer when participating in extra-curricular activities outside of school • Risk of child being harmed in the school grounds during extra-curricular/out of class activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures (if volunteer will be in school on a regular basis) • School Procedures for when volunteers/coaches are on school premises • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation by Pupils in Religious Ceremonies/Religious Instruction External to the School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities • Risk of harm from unknown adults around the church • Risk of child being harmed by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Parish Safeguarding Measures for Volunteers working in the church • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Information and Communication Technology by Pupils in School 	<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 • Risk of harm due to inadequate ICT Policy and Acceptable Usage Policy in place • Risk of harm due to inappropriate communications between child and another child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptable Usage Policy • ICT Policy • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedures • Supervised use of ICT in school • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students Participating in Work Experience in the School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting Procedures • Work Experience Policy

	<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"> • Confidentiality Statement for students participating in work experience. • Supervision Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Teachers Undertaking Training Placement in the School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting Procedures • Work Experience Policy • Student teacher Policy • Supervision Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of School Premises by Other Organisation During the School Day (e.g. – Parents’ Association/Pupils from Secondary School/) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child during activities • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting Procedures • Supervision Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After School Use of School Premises by Other Organisations (e.g. – Parents’ Association) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • Risk of child begin harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm from unknown adults around the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of School Premises Policy • Health & Safety Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students Participating in After-School Programmes/Extra-Curricular Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football • Hurling • Camogie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm caused by a staff member/adult/coach/trainer when participating in extra-curricular activities outside of school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of School Premises Policy • Health & Safety Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures • Supervision Policy

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball • Choir • Homework Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school grounds during extra-curricular activities • Risk of child begin harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students Participating in School Committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Schools Committee • Green Schools Committee • Student Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child begin harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervisionof children in school • Risk of child being harmed in school groundsduring out of class activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting Procedures • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Health & Safety Policy • Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers • Glass in all class doors • Procedures for pupils completing tasks related to committees/Student Council • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole-School Assembly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classes Split Up (Teacher Absence) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • School Procedures for splitting classes • Code of Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents Using Toilets at Dispersal Times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed by unknown adults/volunteer/visitor to the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Procedures for escorting visitors on school premises

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid-19 School Response Plan • Covid-19 Guidelines for Schools
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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 2017*

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.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on ____24/2/21_____. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed _____ Jake Byrne _____

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed _____Dolores Hanrahan_____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

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. 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 (1) identify, as required under the Children First Act, 2015, any risks of harm that may exist in respect of the school’s activities, (2) identify and assess the adequacy of the various procedures already in place to manage those risks of harm and (3) identify and put in place any such additional procedures as are considered necessary to manage any risk identified.

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 2017.

- 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 mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils
- The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
- 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 in respect of student teacher placements
- The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school
- The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff