



## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

### Written Assessment of Risk at Scoil Mocheallóg.

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 Scoil Mocheallóg.

#### 1. List of school activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils.
- Recreation breaks for pupils.
- Classroom teaching.
- One-to-one teaching.
- Outdoor teaching activities; nature walks off school site.
- Sporting Activities including changing into playing kit.
- School outings.
- Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools.
- Annual Sports Day in local GAA field.
- Fundraising events involving pupils and staff, events and performances out of school and outside of school hours eg Trip to Mart, Church, Nursing home .
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities eg Friar's Gate, Library.
- School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts.
  - Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed.
  - Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint /withdrawal where required.
- 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.
  - Children in care.
  - Children on CPNS (Child Protection Notification System.)
- Recruitment of school personnel including -
  - Teachers/SNAs.
  - 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.
- Use of CCTV to monitor yard activity and main entry/exit point.
- Risk of Covid

## Examples of Risks of Harm

**2. The school has identified these possible risks of harm associated with our school 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 person while child 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 inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as uninvited person accessing the lesson link.
- 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 eg library, sports field, theatre, swimming, other locations pupils are taken to on a school activity
  - 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 including medical vulnerabilities
- Risk of child in school lift
- Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care
- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, coaching situation, detention
  - 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, CCTV or other manner
- Risk of Covid

**3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in the 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. All have copy on desk top and hard copy in Staffroom.
- 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* All staff have a copy on desktop and hard copy in Staff room.
- 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. use of school lift.
  - The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings.
  - The school undertakes anti racism initiatives
- 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 copy of codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) Teaching Council; Code of Professional conduct for Teachers.
- 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 encourages staff to avail of relevant training.
  - Encourages board of management members to avail of 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 ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by pupils.
  - The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils and has effective software systems which are regularly updated to prevent accessing unsuitable material in school.
  - School has a policy for the use of CCTV within the school and the accessing of footage.
- 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.
  - The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches or external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum
  - 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. COVID-19

- 3 Lead Worker Representatives appointed for each
- The school is following public health guidance from HSE re hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- The school has completed School COVID-19 Policy Statement
- The Staff completed Return to Work Forms received and reviewed
- Induction Training was communicated to and provided for all members of staff
- Contact log is in place for all school visitors
- School Management checklist has been adhered to
- Procedure for suspected case has been put in place
- Appropriate cleaning checklists have been put in place for enhanced

### cleaning

- Systems in place to maintain adequate cleaning supplies and their distribution
- Entry/Exit plan for school to ensure social distancing
- Visitors on site kept to an absolute minimum and if so are required to wear face masks
- Social distancing within classrooms 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: 1m distancing/room layout
- Pods of pupils/Bubbles with classes and teachers
- Staff room timetable and max. occupancy: 2m social distancing
- Informational Posters regarding hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and social distancing explained and displayed in every classroom and around the school
- Hand hygiene: hand washing and sanitising rotas
- Respiratory hygiene and etiquette
- Masks worn by all staff
- CO2 monitors in classroom to monitor ventilation requirements

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 November 17<sup>th</sup> 2021. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed; *James Connery*

Chairperson

Date 17/11/21

Signed; *Leonie Passmore*

Secretary /Principal

Date 17/11/21