

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

(of any potential harm)

Assessment of Risk

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 Enable Ireland Sandymount School.

School activity	School has identified the following Risk of Harm	Current procedures in place to address risk identified	Additional controls	Action plan (including date)	Risk Rating January 2021
					RR
Training of school personnel in child protection matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm not recognised or reported promptly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child safeguarding statement & DES procedures made available to all staff All staff have completed Túsla training module BOM records all records of staff and board training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff to have completed online training prior to commencing posts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DLP & DDLP will attend PDST training in Spring 2021 Module to be watched regularly by all staff (ongoing) 	M
Classroom teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm by school personnel Physical abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate staffing Awareness that other staff members can/will enter the room at any time Code of Behaviour Policy Teaching Council Code of Conduct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each classroom has glass in door or a window to allow other school staff to see in Blinds on windows to be left open when a staff member is on their own in the room (where doors cannot be left open) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trial SNAs on split breaks (Jan 2021) 	M
One to one teaching / activities (for example session in the multi-sensory room)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm by school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easy access to room by other members of staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visibility into rooms that are used for one to one work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	M

RR = Risk Rating. An action plan may or may not be required

L = Low, M = Medium, H = High

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher or other staff member to be informed/aware that a child is having a 1:1 session. Extensive CCTV in all public areas. All staff regularly vetted every two years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff must be in view along the corridor 		
Personal care of pupils including intimate care needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm by school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intimate Care Policy Two staff members must toilet a pupil together 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Intimate care Policy (February 2021) 	M
Curricular provision in respect of SPHE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-teaching of same Vulnerability of pupils due to lack of understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heightened awareness of the need to care for the pupils when out for outings or in public places or if visitors come to the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiated SPHE programme for pupils who may be able to understand some aspects of Stay Safe etc. Supervision and School outings policies reference to Stay Safe in SPHE curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review RSE Policy (January 2021) 	L
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm from unknown adults in the immediate environment/school grounds area Injury to pupils and staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrival and dismissal fully supervised by teachers, SNAs and bus escorts Supervision policy Additional Safety plan in place – drivers and escorts to check area surrounding bus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular review of bus driver parking/speed Designated staff to bring pupils to their buses 		L

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Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Injury to pupils and staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of behaviours that challenge Health & safety policy Code of behaviour policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behaviour support plans in place for pupils who have behaviour that is challenging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link with psychology for advice and support – ongoing Review Health and Safety Policy March 2021 	M
Sporting activities (eg visiting sports coaches)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm to pupils by volunteer/sports coach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies & procedures in place including Supervision policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting between teachers, physios and visiting coaches to ensure best practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Supervision Policy April 2021 	L
Swimming (see also Personal / intimate care)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm to pupils by volunteers/lifeguard See intimate care policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies & procedures in place including Supervision policy Pupils are never left alone without school staff Vetting of lifeguard by Enable Ireland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular liaising between teachers and volunteers/EI swimming pool instructor/physios and pool management to ensure consistency of practice 		M
Movement breaks for pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm by school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate staffing Awareness that other staff members can/ will enter the room at any time Code of behaviour policy Teaching council code of practice Behaviour guidelines for individual students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a room is used for a movement break ensure there is visibility (eg glass in door) Awareness of staff to stay visible when using school grounds (eg going for a walk) 		L
School outings (including school walks & class outings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm from staff Harm from unknown persons in the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate staffing & supervision (see Supervision policy) Intimate care policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consent received from parents for school outings both planned, spontaneous and walks in local environment 		M

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate vetting for all volunteers or students assisting if applicable • Code of behaviour policy • School outings policy • Ensure that bus driver is vetted and not left alone with pupils 			
Use of off-site facilities for school activities (eg horse riding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm by school staff • Harm by volunteers • Harm by unknown persons in the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate personnel so that no pupil is left unattended • Volunteers vetted • Intimate care policy / School outings policy • Code of behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse riding volunteers have been made aware that a member of school/clinic staff must be able to see pupils at all times (eg standing in the arena; transferring from bus to arena) 		L
School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm by bus driver • Harm by bus escort • Harm not recognised or promptly/properly reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vetting of bus driver by contractor & bus escorts by patron • Training in child protection for bus escorts • Child safeguarding policy • Medication policies / procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All escorts to report incidents on school incident report forms • Bus escorts attended training re emergency procedures and epilepsy • Bus escort carries medication protocol for each pupil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epilepsy Refresher Training for SNAs & Bus Escorts March 2021 	M
Administration of medicine Administration of first aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm by nurse • Harm by staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School nurse to administer all medications when on site • SNAs trained to give Midazolam emergency medication when nurse is not available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration of medication policy shared with staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epilepsy Refresher Training for SNAs & Bus Escorts March 2021 • Policy on PEG Feeds (January 2021) 	M

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Administration of PEG feeds		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nurse to adhere to administration of medication policy Some SNAs are trained to administer PEG feeds Some SNAs trained to oral suction pupil when necessary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All nursing staff to be aware of medication protocols for the pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School nurses to supervise trained SNAs administering PEG feeds and deem them competent (Feb 2021- June 2021) Policy on Oral Suctioning (January 2021) 	
Recruitment of school personnel including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers SNAs Caretaker / secretary / cleaners Sports coaches Guests (eg for arts week) Volunteers / parents in school activities Visitors / contractors present in school during school hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm not recognised or promptly/properly reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child safeguarding statement & DES procedures made available to all staff Staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST Rigorous Vetting procedures Rigorous interview process Frequent supervision by in school management team Reference checks Policy on volunteers Services/contractors are scheduled outside school hours whenever possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents to be assigned to their own children only if assisting with an activity Staff to be made aware that it is their responsibility to question somebody in the school that they don't recognise and redirect them to main reception or the school office 		M
Use of information and communication technology (by staff or pupils)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exposure to inappropriate content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acceptable use policy Assistive technology at home policy Anti-bullying policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy for use of photos and videos & parental consent Use of Encrypted memory sticks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of AUP Policy (December 2020) Review of data protection policy 	L

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Use of video and photography		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of behaviour • Adequate firewall and encryption of computers • Parental consent 		(April 2021)	

Important note: It should be noted that the 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 staff and ratified by the School’s Board of Management on 26 January 2021. It will be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed *Sé Goulding*
 Chairperson, Board of Management

Jennifer Doyle
 Principal Board of Management

Date 26 January 2021

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