



Scoil Pól Killfinane

Co. Limerick

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V35 YH27

Scoil Pól's Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Pól

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 Pól

1. List of school activities (This list is not exhaustive)

- Daily arrival and dismissal of students
- Recreation breaks for students
- Classroom teaching
- One-to-one teaching
- One-to-one counselling/meeting
- Outdoor teaching activities
- Sporting Activities
- School outings
- School trips involving overnight stay
- School trips involving foreign travel
- Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools
- Annual Sports Day
- Fundraising events involving students
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
- Care of children with intimate care needs
- Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed

- Care of any vulnerable adult students, including intimate care where needed
- Management of challenging behaviour amongst students, including appropriate use of restraint where required
- Administration of Medicine
- Administration of First Aid
- Administration of CPR/defibrillator
- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Wellbeing
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst students
- 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 students with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as
 - Students from ethnic minorities/migrants
 - Members of the Traveller community
 - Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or Interchange (LGBTIQ+) student
 - Students perceived to be LGBTIQ+
 - Students of minority religious faiths
 - Students in care
 - Students on Child Protection Notification System
- Recruitment of school personnel including -
 - Teachers/Special Needs Assistants
 - Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners/Accountant
 - 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 students in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by students in school
- Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of students, confiscation of phones, etc.
- Students participating in work experience in the school
- Students from the school participating in work experience elsewhere
- 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
- Use of school premises by other organisation during school day
- Homework club/After school study
- Saturday study

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 student being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
- Risk of student being harmed in the school by another student
- Risk of student being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons, etc.
- Risk of harm due to bullying of student
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students in school
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students while attending out of school activities
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between student and another student or adult
- Risk of harm due to students inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
- Risk of harm to students with Additional Educational Needs who have particular vulnerabilities
- Risk of harm to student while a student is receiving intimate care
- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation, one-to-one meeting (eg, Pastoral Care, academic review, Counselling, etc)
- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with students 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 relevant to online teaching and learning remotely

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 SPHE curriculum
- The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle and Senior cycle

- 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 2013*
- The school has a corridor/ground supervision protocol to ensure appropriate supervision of students during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms, etc.
- The school has a Policy on School Tours/Field Trips/Outdoor Pursuits
- The school has a Health and Safety Statement
- 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 staff
- The School has Contracts for 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 & Toileting policy in respect of students who require such care
- The school –
 - Has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ensures all new 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 a code of behaviour for students
- The school has an Administration of Medications Policy to students
- The school has an ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by students
- The school has an Acceptable User policy which includes the use of mobile phone by students
- The school has a Critical Incident Management Policy
- The school will put in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum, sport coaching, musical, career guidance, etc.
- The school has clear procedures for one-to-one student contact eg. teaching activities, counselling, etc.
- The school has a policy on student teacher placement
- The school has a policy on Induction of new staff
- The school has procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school and in external organisations
- The school has a Distance eLearning Policy

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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 22/11/2021 [date]. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed Sister Eileen Kelly Date 22/11/2021

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed Michael O'Hara Date 22/11/2021

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management