

# Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

## ST PAUL'S SECONDARY SCHOOL

### Written Assessment of Risk of St. Paul's Secondary School, Oughterard, Co. Galway.

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. Paul's Secondary School, Oughterard.

#### 1. List of school activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
- Recreation breaks for pupils
- Classroom Teaching
- One to one teaching
- One to one counselling
- 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
- 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
- Care of any vulnerable adult students including intimate care where needed
- Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils including appropriate use of restraint where required
- Administration of Medicine
- Administration of First Aid
- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
- Training of school personnel in child protection matters
- Use of external personnel to supplement the 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/migrant
  - Members from the Travelling |Community
  - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or transgender children
  - Pupils perceived to be LGBT
  - Pupils of minority religious faiths
  - Children in care
  - Children on CPNS
- Recruitment of school personnel including
  - Teachers/SNAs
  - Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners
  - Sports Coaches
  - External Guest Speakers
  - Volunteers/Parents in school activities
  - Visitors/contractors present during school hours
  - Visitors/contractors present during after school activities

Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school  
Use of ICT by pupils in school  
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupil  
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 the school  
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events  
After school use of premises by other organisations  
Evening 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 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 members of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or another person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip  
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 while attending out of school activities  
Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communication between child and another child or adult  
Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones or other devices while at school or on school trips  
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 to child due to inadequate Code of Behaviour  
Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling and coaching situation  
Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils 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

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

All school are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement  
The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 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 t Act 2015  
The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum  
The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior 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  
The school has yard supervision procedures to ensure adequate supervision during breaks and in respect of such areas as toilets  
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 Codes of Conduct for school personnel  
The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff  
The school has a Special Educational Needs Policy  
The school has procedures for the administration of medication to pupils  
The school-

- Has provided each member of 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 all staff to avail of relevant training
- Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training
- Maintains records of all staff and board training

The school has in place 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

**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 ..... . It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, Board of Management