



*Parteen National School*

*Parteen*

*Co. Clare*

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**Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment  
of any Potential Harm.  
Review February 2021**

<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>The School has identified the following Risk of Harm</b>	<b>The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment</b>
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters.	Low	Harm not recognised or reported promptly if training is not completed.  Staff who have not completed training joining staff.	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff.  DLP (Ger Ruane) & DDLP (Sheila Ryan) attended PDST face to face training on May 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2018. DLP attended Child Protection Training on Child Protection Inspections on 4/3/19.

			<p>All Staff have viewed the Túsla training module will also avail of the PDST Training.</p> <p>Principal maintains a CPD Record located in the Staff Meeting folder. This is presented to the BOM annually.</p> <p>Fidelma Coughlan in-charge of induction of new teachers. Aislinn Carey in-charge of mentoring co-op students. Ger Ruane in-charge of mentoring SNAs and any new non-teaching staff.</p>
<p>One to one teaching, small group teaching, classroom teaching, outdoor teaching, children contact with non-teaching staff.</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Harm by school personnel. False allegation made against a staff member.</p>	<p>All resources – books, DVD’s, CD’s, newspapers, websites etc. must be checked for their appropriateness with regard to age and suitability.</p> <p>As a general rule, physical contact between adults and children should not be necessary. However, physical contact may be used to comfort, reassure or assist a child. In these cases it must be in the open in front of others, be acceptable to the child and be age appropriate. It should be in response to the needs of the child and not the adult.</p> <p>New doors were installed in 2019 in the main building and all doors have glass panels.</p> <p>All staff Garda Vetted.</p> <p>All staff should never do anything of a personal nature that the child can do themselves.</p> <p>All substitute staff required to produce Garda Vetting, a Statutory Declaration, Form of Undertaking and photo I.D.</p> <p>Induction of new staff: Fidelma Coughlan in-charge of induction of new staff. Aislinn Carey in-charge of mentoring co-op students. Ger Ruane in-charge of mentoring SNAs and any new non-teaching staff.</p>

Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs.	Low	Harm by school personnel. False allegation made against a staff member.	Meeting will take place to organise this and a Support Plans Plus will be created before child starts school. Specific toileting plan to be drawn up. Two staff members will be present where possible.
Toilet areas.	Low	Inappropriate behaviour.	Toilets are located within classrooms. Children who ask to go to the toilet ask the teacher on yard and must return to the teacher to say they are back.  Clean underwear and suitable clothing is kept in the school. If a child has an accident they will be given clean clothes to change into. If they are stuck verbal instruction will be given by teacher/SNA. If for some reason they can't change themselves parents/ emergency contacts will be called. If no contacts can be reached the child will be assisted by two staff members.
Toileting accidents.	Low	Harm by school personnel. False allegation made against a staff member.	
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Med	Non-teaching of same.	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full. This is monitored through Cuntas Míósúil and Sheila Ryan's discussion with teachers.
LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT.	Low	Bullying.	See Anti-Bullying Policy. See Code of Behaviour.
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils.	Med	Unknown adults on the playground. Harm to pupils.	Supervision in place from 8.50am. Parents/ guardians must not drop children before this time and this is regularly communicated to parents. Teachers dismiss children each day. Teachers call home if (themselves or through Catherine) if they have a query re who has presented themselves to collect the child, See Supervision Policy.
Sports Coaches.	Low	Harm to pupils.	Teachers remain in charge of class and stay with pupils at all times. Joint Agreements made with any sporting organisations which involve presentation of Garda

			Vetting and Statutory Declaration/ Form of Undertaking.
Students participating in work experience.	Low	Harm to pupils.	Only children who are over 16 are accepted as Garda Vetting can only be processed for those over 16. Joint Agreements made with secondary schools which involve presentation of Garda Vetting and Statutory Declaration/ Form of Undertaking. Saranne O' Rouke in charge of this.
Recreation breaks for pupils.	High	Harm to pupils.	Teachers ensure they are visible on yard and that all children are visible. There are out-of-bounds areas that children must not go. Supervision Rota in place – Mairéad Guckian in charge of rotas. Supervision Policy in place.
Homework club, Speech and Drama, Choir, Sporting Activities including swimming for 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> , Art Classes, Computer Classes, Singing Classes etc.	Low	Harm to pupils.	Garda Vetted Teachers run these activities and Child Protection Safeguarding Statement applies. Supervision applies to all sporting activities. School has received written assurance from swimming pool management that all staff are Garda Vetted and that they have a Child Protection Policy in place.
Morning Club, Infant Club, Irish Dancing.	Low		Joint Agreements made with these three organisations which involve presentation of Garda Vetting and Statutory Declaration/ Form of Undertaking.
Display of photographs in school corridors/hall/ church.	Medium	Children identified by adults.	Names of children currently enrolled in the school are never published in the church, hall or school corridors. Parents/ guardians give permission (registration form and annual update of same) for same.
School outings.	Medium	Harm to pupils.	Teachers do not bring children anywhere in their cars, except in cases of absolute emergency.

			<p>Garda Vetted teachers, SNAs and/or classroom assistants travel on outings. Strict supervision applies. See Supervision Policy.</p> <p>Parents/ guardians that are Garda Vetted are only parents/ guardians that may assist teachers.</p> <p>Teachers stay with pupils at all times on school trips and do not hand supervision over to tour leaders.</p>
School trips involving overnight stay/ foreign travel.	High	Harm to pupils.	<p>Very rare occurrence. Very high supervision ratio would apply. Garda Vetted teachers and/or SNAs would travel. Female and male staff would travel.</p>
Annual Sports Day.	Medium	Harm to pupils.	<p>Sports Day takes place at local pitch and/or school grounds.</p> <p>Garda vetted teachers and SNAS attend. Parents/ guardians that are Garda Vetted are only parents/ guardians that may assist teachers.</p> <p>Strict supervision applies.</p> <p>Teacher supervision of toilet areas.</p> <p>Children are not allowed to be collected from pitch.</p>
Use of off-site facilities for school activities.	Medium	Harm to pupils.	<p>See Sports Day.</p>
Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required.	Medium	Harm to Pupils.	<p>Code of Behaviour.</p> <p>Staff only take actions as per a prudent parents. Support Plans are developed for children with special education needs and or behavioural needs.</p>
Administration of Medicine.	Medium	Harm to pupils.	<p>Meeting takes place between Saranne O' Rouke parents/ guardians and relevant teachers and SNAS.</p> <p>Parents/ guardians must fill out instructions for medication administration.</p> <p>Parents/ guardians must make request to BOM and fill out Indemnity form.</p>

Administration of First Aid.	Medium		See First Aid Policy. Administration always takes place in view of others.
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum.	Medium	Harm to pupils.	In cases where external personnel are involved in coaching, mentoring, counselling, teaching or training of pupils, Joint Agreement must be made, Garda Vetting and Statutory Declaration/ Form of Undertaking produced. Teacher stays in charge at all times.  When external personnel are coming as a resource to the teacher e.g. one off talk, the teacher stays in charge and in full supervision.
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants</li> <li>• Members of the Traveller community</li> <li>• Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children</li> <li>• Pupils perceived to be LGBT</li> <li>• Pupils of minority religious faiths</li> <li>• Children in care</li> <li>• Children on CPNS</li> </ul>	Medium	Harm to pupils.	Support Plans are developed for all children with special educational needs.  See Anti-Bullying Policy.  School will work closely with Túsla re children in care.
Recruitment of school personnel including - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• SNA's</li> <li>• Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners</li> <li>• Volunteers/Parents in school activities</li> </ul>	High	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported.	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff. Fidelma Coughlan in-charge of induction of new teachers. Aislinn Carey in-charge of mentoring co-op students. Ger Ruane in-charge of mentoring SNAs and any new non-teaching staff.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours</li> <li>• Visitors/contractors present during after school activities</li> </ul>			<p>Strict recruitment procedures followed – all staff must be Garda Vetted, complete Statutory Declaration and Form of Undertaking before starting and present photo I.D.</p> <p>New staff to view Tusla training module &amp; any other online training offered by PDST. Secretary has received training. Self-employed caretaker and cleaners have received training.</p> <p>School has Garda Vetted a number of parents and only they can assist teachers at events.</p> <p>Visiting contractors to carry out work outside of school hours where possible. Contractors, when working during the day, will not have contact with children. All contractors sign-in and discuss activities with Principal. Principal/ secretary will alert staff to presence of contractors.</p>
<p>Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Harm to pupils.</p>	<p>See ICT policy. Anti-Bullying Policy. Code of Behaviour. Use of ICT always under direct teacher supervision.</p>
<p>Use of video/photography/other media to record school events.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Harm to pupils.</p>	<p>Pupil names are never used. Parents/ guardians give permission (registration form an annual update of same) for children to appear in print media with names. Parents/ guardians give permission (registration form an annual update of same) for children to appear on website – no names used. Parents are asked that if taking pictures at school events not to share them on social media. This reminder has</p>

			now been added to the 'Reminders for Parents' letter published each September.
Ball Zone	Low	Harm to pupils	Ball zone has been moved in response to consultation with children on Child Protection Risk Assessment.
Bus Late	Medium	Harm to pupils	This was high risk two years ago as it was noted that despite contact with bus company bus was still late sometimes. School principal has been in contact with the bus inspector in writing. The matter is now resolved. If the bus was to be late e.g. road accident causing traffic delay, they must call the school and the secretary will inform teachers to send children who go on the bus to the hall where they will be supervised by principal/ deputy until the bus comes.

**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 was first completed by the Board of Management on 7/3/2018. It was reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement on 11/3/19 and 5/3/20.

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

Chairperson, Board of Management  
Seamus Gallagher 25/2/2021

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

Gerard Ruane 25/2/2021  
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management



