

Child Safeguarding Statement – St. Brigid’s Girls’ School

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment (of any potential harm)

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment.
Training of School personnel in child protection matters	Harm not recognised or reported promptly.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES procedures made available to all staff. DLP & DDLP to attend PDST face to face training. All staff to view Tusla Training Module and any other online training offered by PDST. B.O.M. records all records of staff and Board training.
One to One teaching	Harm by school personnel.	School has a policy in place for special education teaching. Staff are Garda vetted. Glass in door – teacher and pupil visible.
Care of Children / children with special needs including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel.	Policy in place.
Toilet Areas	Inappropriate behaviour.	Usage and supervision policy
Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Non-teaching or inadequate teaching of same.	School implements SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe in full. Due to school closures because of Covid-19 restrictions topics that cannot be covered remotely will be taught at the beginning of the new academic year. Plan to be put in place for this.

Arrival and Dismissal of pupils	Harm from other pupils, unknown adults.	School starts at 8.40a.m. and supervision is provided from then onwards. On wet days supervision is provided in the school hall from 8.10a.m. Dismissal is supervised by teachers. Procedures for non-collection of pupils are in place. Policy to be put in place for any changes that need to occur due to Covid-19 restrictions and the reopening of schools. Health and Safety Policy
Managing of Challenging Behaviour amongst pupils	Injury to pupils and staff.	Code of Behaviour
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils.	Garda vetting in place. Teachers always present.
Students participating in Work Experience	Harm by student.	Garda vetting in place. Only students known to the school or staff are accepted.
Recreation Breaks for Pupils	Harm by other students. Bullying.	Recreation yard supervised by school personnel. Code of discipline and Good Behaviour, including anti-bullying policy.
Classroom teaching	Harm to pupils / staff.	Child Safeguarding Statement Health and Safety Statement Garda Vetting
Outdoor Teaching Activities	Harm to pupils / staff.	Child Safeguarding Statement Health and Safety Statement Supervision – Garda vetting
Sporting Activities	Harm to pupils.	Child Safeguarding Statement Health and Safety Statement Supervision – Garda Vetting
School Outings	Harm to pupils.	Child Safeguarding Statement Health and Safety Statement Supervision – higher supervision levels.

		Garda Vetting.
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	Harm to pupils.	Administration of Medicine Policy School indemnity form First Aid Procedures
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Harm to pupils.	Code of Good Behaviour and Discipline and Anti-bullying policy. Specialised training for pupils
Use of External Personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm to pupils.	Garda Vetting Supervision by teacher
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities / needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants ● Members of the Traveller Community. ● Lesbian / gay / bi-sexual or transgender (LGBT) children. ● Pupils perceived to be by LGBT ● Pupils of minority Religious faiths. ● Children in care. 	Bullying.	Anti-Bullying Policy and Code of Good behaviour and Discipline. Compliance with all legislation and DES circulars.
Recruitment of school Personnel, including - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teachers ● SNAs 	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported.	Child Safeguarding Statement and DES procedures made available to all staff. Staff to view Tusla training module and any other online training offered by PDST.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Caretaker / Secretary ● Sports Coaches ● External tutors / guest speakers. ● Volunteers / parents in school activities 		Vetting procedures
Use of information and communication technology by pupils in the school.	Bullying.	I.C.T. Policy Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Good Behaviour and Discipline Mobile phone policy and procedure Acceptable Use Policy
Annual Sports Day	Harm to pupils.	Child Safeguarding Statement Health and Safety Statement High supervision levels Garda Vetting procedures First Aid Station – qualified personnel
Fund-raising events involving pupils	Harm to pupils.	Supervised activities Child Safeguarding Statement Health and Safety Statement
Use of Off Site facilities for school activities	Harm to pupils.	Health and Safety Statement Child Safeguarding Statement Garda Vetting Procedures High supervision levels
School transport arrangements to outside venues	Harm to pupils.	Health and Safety Statement Buses with seatbelts
Student Teachers	Harm to pupils.	Child Safeguarding Statement

undertaking training placement in the school	Harm not recognised or reported properly.	DES procedures made available to student teachers Garda Vetting procedures
Use of Video / Photography / other media to record school events.	Harm to pupils. Inappropriate use of imagery.	School policy Parental permission
After-school use of school premises by other organisations.	Harm to pupils.	Health and Safety Statement Child Safeguarding Statement Garda Vetting procedures
Security of School Building	Harm to pupils.	Health and Safety procedures Security procedures in place
Remote teaching during school closures	Risk of harm to pupils using online content Homes are unlikely to have a filtering system on their broadband line as is currently in place on our school system. Pupils may access inappropriate material or websites. Risk of pop-ups or inappropriate content appearing. Increased risk of cyberbullying.	Acceptable Use Policy Distance Learning Policy
Voice calls to parents and students.	Risk of harm to pupil Risk of call being interrupted by an unwelcome other.	Acceptable Use Policy - Online Communication Guidelines
Lack of face to face contact with pupils due to school closures	Risk of harm to pupil as the school staff will not observe any potential evidence of neglect or abuse Risk of harm to pupil as they may not have anyone they can disclose an incident/incidents of abuse or neglect to while they are at home	Where the DLP or DDLP becomes aware of a concern, it will be reported to Tusla. School staff are in touch with families identified as vulnerable over the telephone/email Teachers have contacted any families not engaging in learning to ensure that everything is ok in the household

		Staff were reminded of their duty of care and reporting procedures.
Live face to face interactions with pupils	<p>Risk of harm to pupil</p> <p>Risk of call being interrupted by an unwelcome other.</p> <p>Risk of others taking an audio or visual recording of children and teacher.</p> <p>Risk of others taking photos of children or teachers.</p> <p>Risk of indecent images being shown by an unwelcome other.</p> <p>Risk of other family members coming onto the screen.</p> <p>Risk of using a platform that is not fully secure.</p>	Distance Learning Policy

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 9th June 2020. It will be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement in June 2021.

Signed _____
Chairperson, Board of Management.

Date _____

Signed _____
Principal / Board of Management.

Date _____