

Marist National School – Written Assessment of Risk.....to be read with the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement (October 2021)

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 the **Marist National School**.

1. List of school activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
- Recreation breaks for pupils
- Classroom teaching
- One-to-one teaching
- Small group teaching
- One-to-one engagement with various Teaching/Activities/Meetings with Play Therapist/School Completion Project Staff/Social Workers/Professionals from the HSE, Túsla, CAHMS & other agencies
- Outdoor teaching activities
- After school and lunch time activities
- Sporting activities
- School outings/tours
- Use of Isolation Room to accommodate children who are symptomatic/ill in time of Covid 19 Pandemic
- Use of toilets/changing/areas in schools
- Toileting accidents
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- Care of children with special educational needs, 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, Stay Safe, Well Being
- Prevention and dealing with Bullying amongst pupils

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- 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 pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as
 - Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants
 - Members of the Traveller community
 - Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children
 - Pupils perceived to be LGBT
 - Pupils of minority religious faiths
 - Children in care
 - Children on CPNS
- Recruitment of school personnel including
 - Teachers/SNA's
 - Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners
 - 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 pupils in religious ceremonies
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school
- Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour, including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.
- Students participating in work experience in the school
- Student teachers/Snas undertaking training/placement in the school
- Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
- Display of photographs in school/church/media/social media/school website

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 a volunteer or visitor to the school

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- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while the child is participating in out of school activities e.g. a school trip, swimming lessons etc.
- Risk of harm due to bullying of a child
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
- Risk of harm due to children engaging with Online Learning/Teaching
- 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 due to inadequate Code of Behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation
- Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel communicating with pupils via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
- Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner

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 school's Child Safeguarding Statement and its associated Risk Assessment are available to view in the school's Reception Area and on the school website*
- *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 Stay Safe Programme
- The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum

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- 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 a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.
- The school has clear procedures in respect of school outings
- The school has implemented a sign-out system for the early dismissal of pupils
- The school has implemented a sign in/sign out for Staff Members
- The school has implemented a sign in/sign out for Visitors to the school
- 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 school personnel (teaching and 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 Intimate Care procedures in respect of students who require such care
- The school has in place a Policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils
- 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 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 and Social Media Acceptable Use Policy
- The school has procedures in place in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils
- The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
- The school has in place Home School Liaison procedures
- The school has procedures in place for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the Curriculum
- The school has procedures in place for the use of external sports coaches

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- The school has clear procedures in place for one-to-one teaching activities
- The school has procedures in place for one-to-one Meetings/engagement with Play Therapist/School Completion Project Staff/Social Workers/Professionals from the HSE, Túsla, CAHMS & other agencies
- The school has procedures in place in respect of student teacher placements
- The school has procedures in place in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school
- The school has procedures in place in respect of pupils of the school engaging with external organisations
- The school has a Covid-19 response plan which is updated in accordance with Departmental Guidance. This is available to view online at www.maristprimaryschool.ie
- The school has completed a risk assessment to minimise the risk of being exposed to Covid-19. This is available to view online at www.maristprimaryschool.ie

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 is a Review of one initially completed on **20th March 2020**. It was completed by the Board of Management on **14th October 2021**. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement in **June 2022**

Signed: Dual Breuman

Date: 14-10-21

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed: Sr. Fealdine Campbell

Date: 14/10/2021

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

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