



Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment.

Written Assessment of Risk of St Joseph's Patrician College

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 Joseph's Patrician College Galway.

List of school activities	The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities	The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>General Daily Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Arrival • General Arrival • Departure • Mid-morning Break • Lunchtime for students who remain on the premises. • Lunchtime for students who leave the premises. • Use of Toilet facilities • School Transport • Use of Technology in areas other than the classroom • Congregation in locker areas • Supervised after school study • An 'empty' school at the beginning or end of the school day • Detention during school hours, after school (Fri evening) and Saturday morning as part of our Code of Responsibility and Behaviour. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Potential Risks Associated (General Daily Activities)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 by a member of school personnel • Risk of student being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm due to bullying of student • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of student in school • Risk of harm where student finds himself last/first in the school building • Risk of harm during late night study, especially during break and at the end of study. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mitigation of Risks (General Daily Activities)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has a corridor/grounds supervision protocol to ensure appropriate supervision of students during arrival from 8am, (Pupils will have no access to the school until 8am). • Supervision provided from 8am. dismissal and break times and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc. • Appropriate supervision is provided before, during and after STUDY times which occur after school tuition times. • Teachers should ensure Pupils leave in a collective and a teacher must not find themselves on their own with an individual student. • The school has a Health and Safety policy. • The school has in place a Code of Responsibility and Behaviour for students • All staff are Garda Vetted, and the School has a current vetting Policy. • All staff have been provided with the Child Safeguarding Statement and have had appropriate training. And be updated every 3 years. A register is compiled annually. • Educate and advise pupils of risks associated with being off premises at lunch (1st year induction/ SPHE/ Add information to Journal. Video clip.) • The school has an Anti-bullying policy (currently being reviewed March 2021) and procedures in place, which have been explained to the whole school community. • Teachers in charge of detention to be notified of students attending detention. Parents will have received communication

		<p>re detention also, if it is outside of normal school hours, with venue, and collection details.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has guidelines for students undertaking work experience in an external organisation.
<p><u>Teaching and Learning Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom interactions One-to-one teaching Guidance/counselling One-to-one sessions Curricular Content and/or presentation in SPHE/RSE/ Wellbeing Use of substitute teachers in the case of absenteeism Facilitation of all Faiths in Curricular RE Meetings with Senior Leadership Team members on one-to-one basis Use of Education Technology within the classroom Work Experience Students with Special Needs Student teachers undertaking training placement in school 	<p><u>Potential Risks Associated (teaching & learning Activities)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of student being harmed in the classroom by another student Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students in classroom Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel Risk of harm due to bullying of student in classroom Risk of student being harmed in the classroom by teacher or substitute teacher Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other Risk of harm while carrying out work experience Risk of harm caused by personnel not differentiating for the needs of students with Special Needs 	<p><u>Mitigation of Risks (Teaching & learning Activities)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school is implementing in full the SPHE & RSE curriculum. (Current ASD class need to implement this training, outside agency) The school is implementing in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle 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 has a RE policy to cater for the needs of all students Work is progressing on a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements. Mobile Phone use will be covered by our AUP The school has in place an Acceptable Use policy (May 2020) in respect of usage of all Computers, Internet and Social Media, and it is currently being updated. (4 additions need to be made) The school has a Special Educational Needs policy (Whole School Inclusion Policy). Draft Guidelines for dealing with pupils on a one-to-one basis are progressing.
<p><u>Pastoral Care</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-to-one counselling 	<p><u>Potential Risks Associated (Pastoral care)</u></p>	<p><u>Mitigation of Risks (Pastoral Care)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has a Health and Safety policy

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School outings • School trips involving overnight stay • School trips involving foreign travel • Care of students with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed, • Management of challenging behaviour amongst students. • Administration of Medicine • Administration of First Aid • Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe • Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst students. • Care of students with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students from ethnic minorities/migrants • Members of the Traveller community • Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) students • Students perceived to be LGBT • Students of minority religious faiths • Students in care • Students on CPNS (Child Protection Notification System TUSLA) • Supporting students involved in misuse of Social Media • School Retreats / School Outings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm in one-to-one counselling situation • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • Risk of harm to students through bullying when away from home on school trips • Risk of mishandling of students with challenging behaviour • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of student • Risk of harm to students through lack of understanding of specific needs, including sexual identity, religious and ethnic background • Risk of harm to student • Risk of harm caused by one student to another via inappropriate social media contact, texting, digital device or other • Risk of harm to students by the use of inappropriate or over-harsh sanctions for bullying/misuse of social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has in place a Code of Responsibility and Behaviour for students . • School Trip / Tour policy currently being finalised (March 2021) • All staff have been provided with the Child Safeguarding Statement and have had appropriate training. • The school has an Anti-bullying policy and procedures in place which have been explained to the whole school community. • 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 has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by students. Our AUP will cover mobile phone use. • The school has in place an Acceptable Use policy (May 2020)in respect of usage of all Computers, Internet and Social Media • Training of school personnel in child protection matters . • The school has a Code of Conduct for Teaching Staff (Teaching Council) • Draft guidelines for non-teaching staff are being progressed. • The school has appointed qualified Guidance teachers • The school has recruited teachers with Special Education Needs training and qualifications and is actively encouraging ongoing CPD in this area. • The school appoints qualified SNA's where deemed necessary and funded by the DES • The school is progressing work on a Tour policy which covers protocols for overnight stays • The school has a Special Educational Needs policy (Whole School Inclusion Policy) • The school has an active Care Team with particular understanding of the needs of the students in its care, including their background. • The school will adopt of procedures in relation of the administration off Medication.
--	---	--

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitators for school retreats and school outings must be Garda Vetted.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Recruitment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Deputy Principal(s) Teachers SNA's Administration staff Caretaking Staff Housekeeping Staff Cleaning Staff Short or long-term Contractors 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Potential Risks Associated (Recruitment)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm to students by personnel who are not qualified Risk of harm to students from personnel who have a history of unacceptable practices in previous employment Risk of harm to students from a member of personnel with a history of abuse Risk of harm to a student by a member of personnel unwilling to commit to the expected standards of the school 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mitigation of Risks (Recruitment)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Vetting Policy. The school an Induction Programme for school personnel. When appointing, detailed references are sought. The school has a rigorous interview process. All NQT, Newly Qualified Teachers must partake in the Droichead training programme. The Nationally Manadetde Teacher Induction programme.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sporting Activities Extra Curricular</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travelling to matches Changing in school's changing room Changing in the changing rooms of other schools School trips involving overnight stay Administration of First Aid following a sports injury Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities Sports coaches Volunteers/Parents in sports activities Student PE teachers 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Potential Risks Associated (Sporting Activity)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of a student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while participating in sporting activities Risk of harm to student while student is receiving First Aid treatment. Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Responsibility and Behaviour Risk of harm in one-to-one coaching situation Risk of harm to student due to lack of experience of Student PE teachers Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mitigation of Risks (Sporting Activities)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff and volunteers involved in "Teaching, Coaching, Counselling, Mentoring and Training" are Garda Vetted through the JMB All staff have been provided with the Child Safeguarding Statement and have had appropriate training. School sports personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015. The school is implementing in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle, incorporating PE, SPHE and CSPE. The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in relation to the use of digital media The School has a Code of Responsibility and Behaviour, drafted in consultation with all stakeholders. A supervision plan is drawn up for all major events. A protocol template / risk assessment will be established.

- Use of social media to record and comment on sporting events

- manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel or a student circulating inappropriate material in
- relation to sporting activities via social media, texting, digital device or other manner

- A supervision plan for transport to and from all activities. (as part of supervision plan / risk assessment transport supervision will be an integral part)
- Coaching Staff should be trained in First Aid and training will be funded by the BOM.
- The school has commenced work on a Tour policy which covers protocols for overnight stays.
- The school has commenced work on a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements.
- The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of mobile phones by pupils.
- The school will compile a protocol for teachers involved in supervising pupils in a sporting situation.

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 Monday **March 15th 2021**. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed 
Chairperson, Board of Management

Date 15th March 2021

Signed 
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date 15th March 2021