

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Aiséirí Chríost

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 PostPrimary Schools (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Scoil Aiséirí Chríost:

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>Training of school personnel in child protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm not recognised or reported promptly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All school personnel comply with National Vetting requirements ● The school has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement ● The school ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement ● The school encourages staff to avail of relevant training ● The school encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training ● All staff received a copy of Circular 36/2023– Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2023. ● Principal outlines the key aspects of Circular 36/2023 at Staff Meeting 05/12/2023. ● DLP and DDLP to attend PDST face to face training ● All Staff to complete Tusla e learning module: Copy of certificate to be retained by Principal for BoM records. ● Staff will complete e learning module customised for teachers as offered by PDST. ● BOM records and retains all records of staff and BoM training. ● Droichead Programme (Induction)

<p>One to one teaching</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm by school personnel 	<p>School has procedure in place for one to one teaching - 'Best Practice in Child Protection – Scoil Aiséirí Chríost'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use table at all times ● Glass window in door ● Blind on the door to be up at all times <p>Support Teacher accompanies younger pupils to and from their classroom(s) at all times</p>
<p>Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of injury to child ● Risk of child being harmed in school by other pupil(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Code of Behaviour ● See 'Best Practice in Child Protection – Scoil Aiséirí Chríost' ● Seek advice and support from appropriate agency i.e. SENO, NCSE, NEPS & CDNT
<p>Care of children with special needs, including intimate care needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm by school personnel ● Risk of harm to the child while child is in receipt of intimate care assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Policy on Intimate Care included in 'Best Practice in Child Protection' – Scoil Aiséirí Chríost' ● Team approach ● Care assistance logged and communicated in a timely fashion to Parent/Guardian ● Special class policy
<p>Toilet areas re. class</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inappropriate behaviour(s) and risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in toilet area ● Bullying among pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rota system in place for class to use toilets at designated time slots ● Teacher supervises her/his class going to & from the bathroom ● See 'Best Practice in Child Protection – Scoil Aiséirí Chríost' ● Good Practices Document
<p>Toilet areas re. individual access</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inappropriate behaviour and risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in toilet area ● Pupils go to toilet area alone ● Pupils could exit the building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Low & High bolts on three main exit doors ● Buzzer system in place at main entrance, both inside and outside the main door with a code known only by staff members. ● See 'Best Practice in Child Protection – Scoil Aiséirí Chríost' ● Good Practices Document ● SNA support(s) for vulnerable children i.e. child with additional needs

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<p>Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Risk of non- teaching of same● Pupil absent and misses important aspect(s) of lesson● Non-participation by pupil due to absence of parental consent● Risk of child not having Stay Safe strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Option of teacher exchange to teach sensitive lesson(s) in RSE programme for school staff● RSE sensitive lesson material sent home to Parents for instruction to their child● Stay Safe strategies consolidated with all pupils as learning opportunities arise throughout the school year.
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<p>LGBTQ children/pupils perceived to be LGBTQ</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to bullying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anti-bullying Policy ● School Code of Behaviour ● The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum ● External agency supports consulted with parental consent if necessary
<p>Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm from older pupils ● Harm from unknown adults in playground(s) ● Young pupil leaving school grounds unaccompanied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arrival and dismissal of pupils supervised by Principal and Deputy Principal every morning & evening ● Dismissal of pupils supervised by class teachers. Pupils from junior infants to 2nd class are given directly to the designated adult, unless a consent to walk note is signed by the parent. ● See ‘Best Practice in Child Protection – Scoil Aiséirí Chríost’ ● Pupils supervised in their classrooms for ten minutes prior to 8:50 opening time. ● Adults do not enter the building, they escort their children to the entrance where the pupil is met by a staff member.
<p>External tutors – to support the curriculum/to support sports or extra -curricular activities Volunteers/paid tutors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm to pupils by external personnel ● Inadequate supervision by school staff 	<p>School has in place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PE policy ● ‘Best Practice in Child Protection – Scoil Aiséirí Chríost’ ● The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation in relation to Garda vetting ● Pupils under supervision and direction of class teacher at all times while the external tutor is at work ● 5 garda vetted adults (volunteers) and class teacher present at all times during Time to Count sessions with selected pupils.

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<p>Students participating in work experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm by student to pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Work experience policy – see Best Practice in Child Protection – Scoil Aiséirí Chríost’ ● Compliance with National Vetting legislation if over 16 years of age ● Children are always under the supervision of school personnel ● Participating students are under supervision and direction of host school personnel ● Participating students are under supervision and direction of institution of origin personnel
<p>Recreation breaks for pupils</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being harmed by another 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupils supervised by teachers at all breaks: Supervision Roster in place ● Pupils with additional needs are supervised /assisted by SNAs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being bullied by another ● Inappropriate behaviour ● Inadequate supervision ● Risk of child exiting playground unaccompanied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Practice Guidelines – Scoil Aiséirí Chríost- issued to staff at the start of every school year and revisited as often as is required ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● Maximum number of classes on the yard at any given time is 3, supervised by two teachers and SNA where applicable. ● Clearly defined areas in the yards for playtime
<p>Outdoor teaching activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm to pupils from other pupils ● Bullying ● Harm from unknown adults encountered ● Inappropriate behaviour ● Inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Best Practice in Child Protection – Scoil Aiséirí Chríost’ ● Children always under the direction and supervision of class teacher ● Code of Behaviour ● Supervision levels set at an appropriate pupil – teacher ratio depending on the activities.

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<p>Sporting activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm to pupils by external personnel ● Bullying ● Inappropriate behaviour ● Inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Swimming policy ● PE policy ● Good Practices Guidelines ● “Best Practice in Child Protection Guidelines” ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● National Vetting requirements adhered to ● Children always under the supervision and direction of Class Teacher ● First Aid Policy
<p>Homework club/evening study</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bullying ● Inappropriate behaviour ● Inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good practices guidelines ● “Best Practice in Child Protection “guidelines ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● National Vetting Requirements in place for external agencies working with children in the school ● Children always under the supervision and direction of teacher in charge of the homework club

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School’s Homework Club Policy ● Good communication with the home re. collection ● School dismissal rules apply.
<p>School outings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm to pupils by external personnel ● Bullying ● Inappropriate behaviour ● Inadequate supervision ● Harm from unknown adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Practices Guidelines ● Best Practice in Child Protection Guidelines ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● National Vetting legislation ● Children always under the supervision and direction of class teacher ● Out of School Trips Policy ● Medication on School Trips Policy ● Teacher/Adult Pupil Ratio adhered to on out of school trips
<p>Class Teaching</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm to pupils by school personnel ● Bullying ● Inappropriate behaviour ● Inadequate supervision ● Harm from unknown adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Practices Guidelines ● “Best Practices in Child Protection Guidelines” ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● National Vetting legislation ● Children always under the supervision and direction of class teacher
<p>School Based Summer Camp</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm to pupils by school personnel ● Bullying ● Inappropriate behaviour ● Inadequate supervision ● Harm from unknown adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Practices Guidelines ● “Best Practices in Child Protection Guidelines” ● The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● National Vetting legislation ● Children always under the supervision and direction of class

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		teacher
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm to pupils by other pupils ● Bullying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Practices Guidelines ● Best Practice in Child Protection Guidelines ● Code of Behaviour
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● Children always under the supervision and direction of class teacher ● Children fully supervised by teachers on the yard, in the playground, and in the classroom.
Use of school premises by other organisations during school day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm to Pupils by external personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Vetting Requirements ● Class Teacher always present with her/his class ● Tutors for parent classes under HSCL remit – Tutors aware of DLP & Deputy DLP in the school – Tutors receive a copy of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement & risk assessment

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<p>Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants ● Members of the Traveller Community ● Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBTQ) children ● Pupils perceived to be LGBTQ ● Pupils of minority religious faiths ● Children in care ● Children on CPNS ● Children with special needs/additional care needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bullying Behaviour ● Poor integration ● Exclusion ● Risk of harm due to racism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anti – Bullying Policy ● Pastoral Care/Team approach ● HSCL coordinator available in the school to liaise with the home ● Access to “STAR” personnel to support members of the Traveller & Roma communities ● The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum ● The school implements the “Weaving Well – Being” programme for second, third, fourth and sixth class standards. “Friends for Life” programme is available for Fifth class standard.
<p>Use of Information and communication Technology by pupils in school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Access to inappropriate sites ● Inappropriate images ● Bullying ● Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers/laptops, social media, phones & other devices while at school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ICT Policy ● AUP for Adults and Pupils -Updated October 2023 ● The school has an AUP in place, to include provision for online teaching & learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents/guardians ● Application of sanction(s) under the school’s Code of Behaviour including confiscation of phones as necessary ● Pupils under the direction and supervision of teachers at all times ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● Parental permission to use technology in the school setting ● Teachers will preview any internet materials before using them in the classroom

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Freeze board when doing internet search during class time ● Ensure that personal data is not on display at any time ● Internet Safety & Cyberbullying Workshops provided for senior classes ● MDM management of all Windows and Android Devices.
<p>After school use of school premises by other organisations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harm to pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compliance with National Vetting Procedures ● Contract between BoM & organisation ● Appropriate Insurance cover
<p>Recruitment of school personnel including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teachers ● SNAs ● Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners ● Sports Coaches ● External Tutors/Guest Speakers ● Volunteers/Parents in school activities ● Visitors/Contractors present during school activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm to pupils from unknown adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compliance with requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting ● Interviews held outside of school hours ● Personnel have a job description/contract ● External Tutors/Visitors report to reception on entering the school building ● Contractors submit their Health & Safety policy to the Board before commencing their programme of work. ● Parents or guardians report to reception on entering the school building and do not go to any classrooms. ● Contractors present in the school during school hours are always accompanied by the caretaker. Where possible contractors only enter the school building outside of school hours.

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<p>Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including confiscation of phones etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupils separated from peers ● Bullying ● Unable to communicate with parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupils under the direction and supervision of teachers at all times ● Parents informed if phone confiscated ● Pupils' phones are handed to the teacher each morning for safe storage throughout the day and redistributed in the evening at hometime. ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● SPHE Programme ● Weaving Wellbeing Programme ● Friends Programme ● Nurture Programme
<p>Student teachers undertaking training placement in school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupils at risk harm from other adults ● Bullying ● Inadequate supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupils under the direction and supervision of teachers at all times ● Compliance with National Vetting Procedures ● Supervision of student teacher by college personnel ● Student Teacher(s) receives appropriate induction from Principal & Deputy Principal re. Child safeguarding statement & Risk assessment ● Class teacher is present with student teacher in the classroom

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<p>Use of video/photography/other media to record school events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupils at risk of harm from others ● Bullying ● Images uploaded onto other sites without consent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents/adults reminded of duty of care for protection of all pupils (particularly during whole school events) ● Permission sought ● No identifying information with pupil image - names allowed with express permission from parents. ● Staff only may photograph. ● Pupils photographed in groups, never as individual unless permission is granted by parent. ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● ICT policy ● AUP for adult school personnel and pupils ● Pupils under the direction and supervision of teacher at all times ● Teachers' phones are only in use outside class time when the teacher is not on supervision duty.
<p>Participation of pupils in religious ceremonies external to the school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pupils at risk of harm from others ● Bullying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Code of Behaviour ● Ant-Bullying Policy ● Pupils under the supervision and direction of teachers at all times ● Out of school activities policy ● Best Practice Guidelines
<p>Administration of Medicine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to lack of care with medicines. ● Safe & Appropriate storage of medicine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils. Please refer to Medication Policy

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Administration of First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm to a child while a child is receiving care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid ● The school has a Safety, Health & Welfare policy in place ● Individual care plans in place for pupils who have specific medical needs.
Use of off-site facilities for school activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in off-site activities ● Risk posed due to inadequate supervision of children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Practice Guidelines ● Best practice in child protection guidelines ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● Children always under the supervision and direction of teacher ● National Vetting Legislation ● School Trips Policy
Use of toilet/ <i>changing/shower</i> areas in off-site activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children ● Risk of inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult ● Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities. ● Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supervision Policy ● Good Practices ● The school has an intimate care policy/plan and a Toileting Accident Policy in respect of students who require such care... (Best Practice in Child Protection) ● Good practices guidelines ● Best practice in child protection guidelines ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● Children always under the supervision and direction of teacher ● National Vetting Procedures ● School Trips Policy ● Swimming Policy ● Communication with Parent/Guardian as soon as possible

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<p>Fundraising events involving pupils</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children ● Bullying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Practice Guidelines ● Best Practice in Child Protection Guidelines ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● Children always under the supervision and direction of class teacher
<p>Annual Sports Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm to pupils due to inappropriate behaviour ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school ● Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel/or other adults accessing/circulating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils ● Adequate supervision in place ● The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils ● 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
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner. ● Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using social media, phones and other devices ● Risk of harm due to bullying ● Risk of pupil exiting complex unaccompanied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good practices guidelines ● Best practice in child protection guidelines ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● Children always under the supervision and direction of teacher ● National Vetting Procedures ● School Trips Policy ● ICT Acceptable Use Policy ● Mobile Phone Policy

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<p>School transport arrangements for offsite outing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm to children ● Bullying ● Inappropriate behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Practices guidelines ● Best practice in child protection guidelines ● Parental Consent ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● Children always under the supervision and direction of teacher(s) ● National Vetting procedures ● School Trips Policy ● Appropriate level of supervision
<p>School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm to children ● Risk of harm to children with SEN who may have particular vulnerabilities ● Bullying ● Behaviours of concern ● Inappropriate behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils ● The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting ● The school has a Special Educational Needs policy ● The school has in place an Anti – Bullying policy ● The school has provided each member of school staff including bus escorts with a copy of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement ● Communication with parents/guardians as required
<p>Management of the provision of food and drink.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm to the children by food company personnel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The food is provided by a company that adheres to the standards outlined by the DSP/DES. ● Morning delivery takes place outside of school hours. ● Lunch time delivery system in place that ensures that delivery personnel does not have any contact with pupils ● Caretaker monitors the arrival and departure of the delivery person.

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<p>Breakfast Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inadequate supervision. ● Bullying. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compliance with requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy
<p>Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel communicating with pupil in an inappropriate manner via social media,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good Practices Guidelines ● “Best Practices in Child Protection Guidelines” ● Code of Behaviour ● Anti-Bullying Policy ● National Vetting legislation