

## **Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment**

### **Written Assessment of Risk of St Patrick's De la Salle BNS, Kilkenny.**

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 (Revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of **St Patrick's De la Salle BNS, Kilkenny**.

<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -</b>	<b>The school has the following procedures in place to address risks of harm identified in this assessment -</b>
<p>Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters</p>	<p>Harm not recognised or reported promptly Staff members unclear about procedures</p>	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement &amp; DES procedures made available to all staff on Website and in staffroom. Notes from review meeting given to every staff member in CP file. Directions to relevant chapters of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 given to all staff members in CP file.</p> <p>All Staff to view Túsla training module &amp; any other online training offered by PDST.</p> <p>Whole Staff Child Protection Update meeting: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023</p> <p>New members of staff advised of where to find information on CP matters and of DLP and DDLP.</p> <p>Signs in every classroom directing temporary staff to CP information.</p> <p>Annual Child Protection reminders to staff – Reviewing procedures, responsibilities etc. (Croke Park Hours)</p>

		Child Protection on agenda of every staff meeting throughout the year to inform and remind staff of obligations and responsibilities.
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel	Child Protection Policy Table between teacher and pupil Glass in window – View into rooms at all times. Door open where possible.
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	Two adults present when assisting children with intimate needs.  Child Protection Policy
Multi-Sensory Room use	Harm by school personnel or other pupils	Child Protection policy Glass Panels in doors Children supervised at all times
Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour	Code of behaviour Toilet areas in close proximity to classrooms where possible. “One in toilet” system in place.
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full.  Evidence of same recorded in CM and Planning documents. Principal to ensure that SPHE programme is implemented.
LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour SPHE programmes Specialist Internet Safety Workshops when required.

Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Arrival and dismissal supervised by school staff. Staff on yard when children arrive in school. Gates supervised by school personnel All visitors to the school to check in at the office.
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	Injury to pupils and staff	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Positive Reinforcement of Good Behaviour. Proactive approach to behaviour including appropriate staffing levels in classrooms, on yard etc. Clear school/classroom rules Behaviour Management Plans developed where necessary.
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	All outside coaches to be fully vetted and will be accompanied by school personnel at all times when dealing with children.
Students participating in work experience	Harm by student	Students on work experience to be fully vetted and supervised by school personnel when dealing with children. Child Safeguarding Statement.
Recreation breaks for pupils	Harm from other pupils.	Recreation breaks supervised by school staff. Code of Behaviour Health and Safety Policy
Classroom teaching	Harm from other pupils or school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Anti-Bullying Policy
Outdoor teaching activities	Harm from other pupils or school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety policy School personnel to supervise students during outdoor activities.

Sporting Activities	Harm from other students	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Supervision by school personnel Clear rules for classroom/yard/school
Homework club	Harm from other students or school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Supervision by school personnel Clear rules for classroom/yard/school
After School Classes (Music lessons, Hurling, Soccer, Camogie etc)	Harm from other students or school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Supervision by school personnel Clear rules for classroom/yard/school
School outings	Harm from other students or school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety policy Supervised by staff members (Appropriate staff:student ratio on school outings.) Parental Permission sought for school outings.
Use of changing areas in schools	Harm from other students or school personnel	Code of behaviour Supervision by staff members Staff members never alone with a student in a changing area
Annual Sports Day	Harm from other students, school personnel	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Supervision of children by staff members
Fundraising events involving pupils	Harm from other students, school personnel or unknown adults using facilities.	Children attending these events should be accompanied by an adult as it not possible for staff members to supervise in these circumstances.
Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Harm from other students, school personnel or unknown adults using facilities.	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Supervision by staff members

Use of school for Summer Programmes: Staff Run	Harm from School Staff, other students.	Staff fully vetted. Staff fully trained in CP Children supervised at all times Children never alone with adult during camp. Parental consent forms signed Code of Behaviour Health and Safety Policy.
School transport arrangements including use of buses	Harm from other students, staff members, drivers, bus drivers etc	Code of behaviour Health and Safety Policy Staff to supervise on buses Parent volunteers to be vetted under national vetting scheme Children availing of School Bus to Special class accompanied by a fully vetted escort.
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	Harm from school personnel	Parental Consent form – Administration of Medication. Health and Safety Policy
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Harm from other students	Anti – Bullying Policy Code of behaviour National Anti-Bullying strategy Various SPHE classes held in school to encourage a proactive approach to the issue of bullying. Internet Safety Workshop for Children in 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> class: February 2024 Internet Safety and Cyber bullying workshop for all parents: February 2024
Training of school personnel in child protection matters	Training not carried out by school personnel	Tusla Online training (March 2018) – Certs provided PDST Online training (March 2018) – Certs provided New members of staff required to complete training and provide cert.

		Child Protection Whole Staff Update meeting: 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2023
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm from external personnel	External personnel vetted under national vetting scheme. Staff members to supervise External Personnel accompanied by staff member in classes at all times.
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> <li>• Children in ASD Classes</li> </ul>	Harm from other students or school personnel	Anti-Bullying Policy National anti-bullying campaign  Internet Safety Workshop for Children in 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> class: February 2024 Internet Safety and Cyber bullying workshop for all parents: February 2024  Reminders to Parents to raise awareness of the challenges of online Bullying outside of school.  Possible bullying issues dealt with in accordance with Anti Bullying Policy.
Recruitment of school personnel including - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• SNA's</li> <li>• Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners</li> <li>• Sports coaches</li> <li>• External Tutors/Guest Speakers</li> <li>• Volunteers/Parents in school activities</li> <li>• Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours</li> </ul>	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST Visitors and volunteers working with children to be vetted under national vetting scheme. All visitors to the school, including parents, to report to the main reception before entering the school corridor.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitors/contractors present during after school activities</li> </ul>		
<p>Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school</p>	<p>Harm by unknown others Online Bullying</p>	<p>ICT and Acceptable Use Policy Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour ICT use supervised by staff members</p> <p>Internet Safety Workshop for Children in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class: February 2024 Internet Safety and Cyber bullying workshop for all parents: February 2024</p>
<p>Online teaching and learning remotely</p>	<p>Harm from other students or school personnel. Harm from other adults/persons online</p>	<p>Parents to consent to online learning platform “SeeSaw”. During any live sessions, parent must be visible in the room. Recording of sessions prohibited.</p>
<p>Student teachers undertaking training placement in school</p>	<p>Harm from student teacher</p>	<p>Student teachers to be vetted under national vetting scheme. Student teachers closely monitored and mentored by staff members.</p>
<p>Use of video/photography/other media to record school events</p>	<p>Harm online Bullying</p>	<p>Parental Consent sought FB and Website restricted All photos/videos taken at school events by members of staff must be deleted off personal phones. No names included in online pictures</p>

Swimming	Harm from other students, school personnel or unknown adults using facilities.	Child Protection Policy Supervised changing facilities. Supervision on walk to swimming pool
After school use of school premises by other organisations		Children not permitted on the premises after school hours unless accompanied by an adult. It is the responsibility of that adult to ensure that the child is supervised and due care is taken.

**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 (revised 2023)*

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 reviewed and ratified by the Board of Management on **26<sup>th</sup> of October 2023**. It was reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

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

Chairperson, Board of Management.

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

Principal, Secretary to the Board of Management