



Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Harm of Scoil Náisiúnta Mhuire, Rathpeacon, Mallow Road, Cork. Roll Number: 17360B

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 Scoil Náisiúnta Mhuire, Rathpeacon, Mallow Road, Cork.

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 below and has been taken directly from Chapter 4 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017*

In accordance with section 2 of the Children First Act, 2015 the defined threshold of “harm” in relation to a child is as follows:

- (a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health, development or welfare, or
- (b) sexual abuse of the child,

whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise;”

“ill-treatment” means, in relation to a child, to abandon or cruelly treat the child, or to cause or procure or allow the child to be abandoned or cruelly treated;

“neglect” means, in relation to a child, to deprive the child of adequate food, warmth, clothing, hygiene, supervision, safety or medical care;

“welfare” includes, in relation to a child, the moral, intellectual, physical, emotional and social welfare of the child.

- 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*
- **All registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015**

List of school activities	Risk Level	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:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils 	High	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> child being harmed by a member of school personnel child being harmed by visitor to the school child being harmed in the school by another child child being dropped to school before supervision begins at 9.00a.m child arriving late and not able to enter the building inadequate supervision of children in school bullying of child child left awaiting collection after school hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour for pupils School rules are published in the school journal and pupils and parents sign up to this on enrolment and annually thereafter Anti-Bullying Policy The Board of Management regularly reminds parents/guardians/carers via school notes, texts and at meetings not to leave pupils unattended on the school premises before supervision begins at 9.00 a.m. No supervision arrangements exist for pupils who arrive at the school before this time or who remain after school hours awaiting collection. This includes pupils who are brought to school by bus or who are collected by bus. Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) Child Safeguarding Statement Compliance with Garda vetting legislation Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom teaching 	Low	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school child being harmed by a member of school personnel child being harmed by volunteer or visitor to the school child being harmed in the school by another child 	<p>The school has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided each member of staff with a copy of the Supervision Policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children throughout the school day including during assembly and dismissal times, teaching times and break times, in respect of specific areas such as toilets, in respect of external coaches/teachers and in respect of school outings A Code of Behaviour An Anti-Bullying Policy 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 Requires staff to avail of relevant training in Child Protection. Adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting Codes of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) Complies with the agreed Disciplinary Procedures for Teaching Staff Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-to-one teaching and one to one SNA - pupil activities e.g. sensory breaks 	High	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> child being harmed by a member of school personnel child being harmed by visitor to the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy and Procedures for One-to-One Teaching and School Activities. Codes of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) Child Safeguarding Statement Compliance with Garda vetting legislation

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation breaks for pupils 	Medium	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed by a member of school personnel • child being harmed by volunteer or visitor to the school • child being harmed in the school by another child • child being left alone and vulnerable in the classroom, school building or school yard • child left behind and not able to enter the school building • bullying of child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Code of Conduct for School Personnel • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor teaching activities 	Medium	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed by a member of school personnel • child being harmed by visitor to the school • child being harmed in the school by another child • child/children being left alone and vulnerable in the classroom, school building or school yard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporting Activities 	Medium	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed by a member of school personnel • child being harmed by visitor to the school, volunteer or external coach • child being harmed in the school by another child • child/children being left alone in the classroom, school building, school yard, bus or sports venue • inappropriate behaviour of a member of school personnel • child being left alone in the classroom, school building or school yard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour • Policy and Procedures for School Swimming Lessons • Policy on School Tours and Outings • Policy on After-School Sporting Activities • Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out of School Activities e.g. after-school training, matches during the school day, Feis etc • Use of off-site facilities for school activities 	Medium	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed by a member of school personnel, visitor to the school, or member of the public who may be present • child being harmed in the school by another child • child/children being left alone in the classroom, school building, school yard, bus or venue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour • Policy on School Tours and Outings • Policy on After-School Sporting Activities • Code of Conduct for School Personnel • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils moving between school buildings, or within the corridors of a building (while rest of class remains with teacher) to go on errands or to SEN rooms for Special Education Teaching. 	High	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed by a member of school personnel • harm by authorised or unauthorised visitor on the school premises • child being harmed by member of the public who may be present • child being harmed in the school by another child • child unable to enter a building due to security doors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • CCTV monitoring and recording • SEN Policy • Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School outings/tours 	High	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children • child being harmed by a member of school personnel • harm by authorised or unauthorised visitor on the school premises • child being harmed by member of the public who may be present • child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities • child being harmed in the school by another child • child/children being left alone in the classroom, school building, school yard, bus, tour venue etc • inadequate code of behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Policy and Procedures in Respect of School Tours and Outings • Swimming Policy • Code of Behaviour • Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of toilet areas in the school 	High	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed by a member of school personnel • child being harmed by authorised or unauthorised visitor on the school premises • child being harmed by member of the public who may be present • child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons • child being harmed in the school by another child • child/children being left behind and vulnerable in toilet area • children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour • Intimate Care Policy • Administration of First Aid Policy which includes a section on Toileting • Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed • Changing of a pupil's clothing due to soiling 	High	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel while a child is receiving intimate care • harm to child with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Special Educational Needs Policy • Intimate Care Policy • Administration of First Aid Policy which includes a section on Toileting • Code of Conduct for School Personnel • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required 	High	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed in the school by another child • or by a member of school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour • Policy on Restraint and Physical Intervention • Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport arrangements 	Medium	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> harm due to inadequate supervision of children child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons Child/children left alone and vulnerable child being harmed by staff of transport company or other individual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision Policy Policy and Procedures in Respect of School Tours and Outings Garda Vetting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of First Aid 	Medium	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy and Procedures for the Administration of First Aid
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of Medicine 	Low	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy on Administration of Medication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of pupils who are not well enough to go outside at break times 	Medium	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school child being harmed by a member of school personnel harm by authorised or unauthorised visitor on the school premises child being harmed in the school by another child child left waiting alone and vulnerable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision Policy Policy on Administration First Aid Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) Child Safeguarding Statement Compliance with Garda vetting legislation Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe 	Low	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	<p>The school implements in full the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay Safe Programme SPHE Curriculum

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils 	Low	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed in the school by another child • inadequate supervision of children in school • bullying of child • children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Child Protection Procedures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of school personnel in child protection matters 	High	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities • harm not being recognised by school personnel • harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner • harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult • harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner 	<p>The school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Requires staff to avail of relevant training • Requires all staff to view Tusla training module and any other online training offered by PDST or other such organisation • Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training • Maintains records of all staff and board Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • Complies with Garda vetting legislation • Has Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of external personnel to supplement sports, curriculum and extra-curricular activities 	Medium	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school • child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum. • Child Safeguarding Statement • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	High	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed by a member of school personnel • harm by authorised or unauthorised visitor on the school premises • child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons • child being harmed in the school by another child • harm due to bullying of child • harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities • harm due to inadequate code of behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Anti-Bullying Policy • Code of Behaviour • Codes of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • SEN Policy • Child Safeguarding Statement • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.

<p>Recruitment of school personnel including -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 and after school activities 	<p>Low</p>	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • child being harmed by a member of school personnel • harm by authorised or unauthorised visitor on the school premises • child being harmed by member of the public who may be present • child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons • child being harmed in the school by another child • child being harmed by a sports coach, an external tutor or guest speaker • child being harmed by a parent volunteer • child being harmed by a contractor 	<p>The school adheres to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting • Codes of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • Disciplinary Procedures for Teaching Staff <p>Provides staff with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Safeguarding Statement • DES Child Protection Procedures • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum. <p>Requires staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST or other such organisation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school 	<p>Low</p>	<p>Risk of harm may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • harm by authorised or unauthorised visitor on the school premises • child being harmed by member of the public who may be present • child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities • child being harmed by external tutor or guest speaker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Policy and Procedures in Respect of School Tours and Outings • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school 	Medium	Risk of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • child being harmed in the school by another child • harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school • harm due to inadequate code of behaviour • harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Acceptable Use of ICT Policy • Anti-Bullying Policy • Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour 	Low	Risk of harm may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate code of behaviour • child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour • Code of Conduct for School Personnel
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students participating in work experience in the school • Student teachers undertaking training placement in school 	Low	Risk of harm may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Policy and Procedures in respect of Student Teacher Placements and Students Undertaking Work Experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of video, photography or other media to record school events 	High	Risk of harm may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Harm caused by member of school personnel/parents of the wider school community accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Acceptable Use of IT Policy • Code of Conduct for School Personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) • Child Safeguarding Statement • Compliance with Garda vetting legislation • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of school premises by other organisations during the school day and after school 	Medium	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Policy and Procedures for Visitors to the School, Sports Coaches and External Persons used to Supplement Delivery of the Curriculum.
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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 March 5th 2018. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

The original signed copy is available in the school office.

Frank Maguire

Chairperson, Board of Management