

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment of St Pius X BNS

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 Pius X BNS. In column one a number of activities relevant to our school are listed. These activities without the proper measures would be rated as a high risk of potential harm.

School activities and areas of potential risk in the school environment.	The likelihood of such harm occurring. Rated: High Medium or Low	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	Who is responsible	The School has the following procedures in place to address identified risks
Staff Recruitment and Training				
Recruitment of school personnel . Personnel to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers • SNAs • Substitute teachers • Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners • Sports coaches • External guests. Eg Accord Tutors/PA Facilitators • Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours 	Low	Harm to the child	Board of Management/ Interview Panel/ Principal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda vetting policy for all those with direct unsupervised contact with children • Requirement to provide proof of qualification and training before employment • Child Safeguarding Statement on display in prominent place in the school • DES procedures made available to all staff
Training by school personnel in Child Protection matters	Low	Harm not recognised. Harm not reported promptly	Board of Management Principal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Safeguarding Statement on display in prominent place in the school • DES procedures made available to all staff. • Staff consultation on the formation of the Risk assessment and safeguarding statement • DLP& DDLP attended PDST face to

				face training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff completed Tusla training & other online training offered by PDST
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Low	Harm to pupils	Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision Policy College Vetting Policy Close teacher observation
Transition year students undertaking work experience in school	Low	Harm to pupils	Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision Policy (Under the supervision of teachers at all times)
Remote Schooling				
Live virtual meetings, class/school assemblies	Med	Harm to child	Principal Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff CPD Zoom policy (including parent permission and consent) Co-hosting by at least two staff members
Remote Teaching and Learning	Low	Harm to child	Principal Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of DES approved platforms Teacher approval and control over posting of content/responses Teacher/Staff CPD Pre-recorded lessons Parental consent and supervision
SPHE Curriculum coverage	Low	Harm to child	Principal Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision for coverage of sensitive topics in SPHE curriculum following resumption of face to face schooling Liaising with post-primary providers in event of certain areas not adequately covered

Classroom Teaching & Special Education

One to one teaching	Low	Harm to SEN Child	Principal Teacher	School has policy in place for one to one teaching (See child protection policy and H&S policy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glass in window • Shared teaching areas
Care of children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Low	Harm to child	Teacher SNA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See H&S policy, Child Protection policy, SNA policy and Covid Response Plan
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils.	High	Harm to child Harm to staff	Teacher Principal Deputy Principal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour • Assemblies •
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe.	Low	Harm to child	Principal Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full • Accord • Staff training in Stay Safe programme, updated training in RSE, SPHE plan updated and reviewed by PDST
Daily admission and dismissal of pupils	Med	Harm from other pupils Unknown adults on the playground Unknown adults in “waiting area” from 1.30pm	Principal Teachers SNAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission and dismissal of pupils supervised by Teachers (class level appropriate) • Notice and reminders to parents re morning supervision • Notices and reminders to parents re admission and dismissal • Reporting procedures/incidents at reception. Monitoring of CCTV, • Late register and sign out register in effect • Deferred planned upgrade of external

				doors / fob system
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention and suspension of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Low	Harm to pupils	Principal Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Friends First/ Fun Friends
Extra-curricular activities				
Sporting Activities Sports Coaches	Low	Harm to pupils	Principal Teacher Teacher in charge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All coaches vetted and qualification /references confirmed. (where necessary) • Teachers supervising. • Policy & Procedures in place (See supervision policy)
Annual Sports Day	Med	Harm to pupils. E.g. Unknown people in the park	Principal, Teachers SNAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Extra staff pupil ratio.
Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Med	Harm to pupils	Teachers in charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision Policy • Verification of external agencies Child Protection Procedures. Eg Tours
After school use of school premises by other organisations eg PA classes	Low	Harm to pupils	Teachers in charge Parents' Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA policy and insurance • Personnel vetted and trained with Tusla • Relevant child protection procedures completed and awareness of DLP role for non-mandated personnel
General Risk of Harm				
Recreation breaks for pupils	Med	Harm from other children	Teachers on yard supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Bullying Policy • Supervision Policy • Code of Behaviour • Assemblies • SPHE lessons

Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Low	Cyber Bullying Accessing inappropriate material	Class Teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT policy • NCTE • Anti-Bullying Policy • Code of Behaviour • Cyber Safety Ireland (external speakers) • Assemblies • No unsupervised access to internet for pupils
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Low	Harm to the child	Principal Deputy Principal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety Policy • ICT Policy • Parental consent on admission form • Vetting Policy • Reminder to parents not to post publicly (eg Christmas Plays)
Toilet Areas	Low	Harm to the child	Teachers SNAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision policy • SNA policy

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 [date]. It shall be 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