

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Stepaside Educate Together NS

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 Stepaside Educate Together NS.

1. List of school activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
- Recreation breaks for pupils
- Classroom teaching
- One-to-one teaching
- One-to-one counselling/art therapy
- Outdoor teaching activities
- Sporting Activities
- School outings
- Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools
- Annual Sports Day
- Fundraising events involving pupils
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
- Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed
- Administration of Medicine
- Administration of First Aid
- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
- Training of school personnel in child protection matters
- Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
- Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities
- 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

- Children on CPNS (child protection notification system)
- Recruitment of school personnel including -
 - 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
 - Visitors / contractors present during after school activities
- Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school
- Use of Information and Communication Technology to communicate with pupils remotely.
 - Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.
 - Students participating in work experience in the school
 - Student teachers and SNAs undertaking training placement in school
 - Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
 - After school use of school premises by other organisations
 - Use of school premises by other organisation during school day
 - Early morning care of pupils by external organisation (N/A)

2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -

- Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel
- Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel
- Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
- Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child
- Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- 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 out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons
- Risk of harm due to bullying of child
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
- Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing / using computers while engaging in remote learning.
- Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities

- Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care
- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation
- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner

3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -

- 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 implements in full the Stay Safe Programme
- The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum
- 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*
- The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks
- The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings/school tours
- The school has a Health and safety policy/safety statement
- 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 code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) (under role of the staff in Code of Behaviour)
- The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff
- The school has a Special Educational Needs policy
- The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils
- The school –
 - 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

- Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
- Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training
- Maintains records of all staff and board member training
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid.
- The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils
- The school has in place an ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by pupils
- The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils.
- The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum in development
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches in development
- The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities as part of the SEN policy.
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to-one counselling in development
- The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements.
- The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school.
- All visitors to the school must sign and sign out in the visitors book.
- All visitors will wear visitor lanyards which they are given upon entry and returned when they sign out.
- There is no unauthorised access to the school building at any time of the day. School staff (ie. teachers, Principal and SNA staff) are the only people permitted in to the building before, during and after the school day without prior arrangement and without signing in/out.
- The only staff with knowledge of the keypad code are teaching and non-teaching staff. The door codes must not be distributed to other parents, visitors, committee members. Chairpersons of the Board of Management and of the Parents Association Committee have a fob to allow them and their board/committee members access to the building for their evening meetings.
- The school office can only be accessed by the window hatch for anyone other than school staff (ie. teachers, Principal and SNA staff) due the sensitive information stored here and phone conversations etc.

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 November 26th 2018. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed  Date 25/05/2022

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed  Date 25-5-22

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management