

## **Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment, 2024 - 2025**

### **Written Assessment of Risk of Finglas Parochial National School**

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Finglas Parochial National School.

#### **1. List of school activities**

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
- Recreation breaks for pupils
- Classroom teaching
- One-to-one teaching
- Outdoor teaching activities
- Sporting Activities
- School Outings
- Use of toilet areas in schools
- Annual Sports Day
- Fundraising events involving pupils
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- School transport arrangements
- Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed -
- Care of any vulnerable students, including intimate care where needed
- Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required
- Administration of medicine
- Administration of First Aid
- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, and 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) pupils
  - Pupils perceived to be LGBT
  - Pupils of minority religious faiths
  - Pupils in care
- 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

- Interns

- Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school
- Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including confiscation of phones etc.

- Pupils participating in work experience in the school
- Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
- Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
- After school use of school premises by other organisations and parents
- After school use of school premises by teachers for GAA/Soccer
- Use of school premises by other organisation during school day
- School Assemblies
- Fire Drills

## **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 pupil being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel

Risk of pupil being harmed in the school by another pupil

Risk of pupil being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school

Risk of pupil being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while pupil participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons

Risk of harm due to bullying of pupil

Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils in school

Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of pupils while attending out of school activities

Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between pupil and another pupil or adult

Risk of harm due to pupils inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school

Risk of harm to pupils with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities

Risk of harm to pupil while a pupil 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 an inappropriate 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 (revised 2023)* are made available to all school personnel
- School Personnel are required to adhere to the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)* and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the *Children First Act 2015* and its Addendum (2019)
- 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 ensures appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.
- The school has clear procedures in respect of school outings
- The school has a health and safety policy in place.
- 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 codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff)
- The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff
- The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care
- 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
- The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils
- The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place
- The school has in place a policy governing the use of smartphones and tablet devices in the school by pupils as per circular 38/2018
- The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
- The school has in place a Home School Liaison related procedures
- The school has in place procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum

**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.