

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

St Mary's NS is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

In accordance with the requirements of the [Children First Act 2015](#), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](#), [the Addendum to Children First \(2019\)](#), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools \(revised 2023\)](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of St Mary's NS has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is **Mrs. Kathleen Bane**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Mrs. Gail Cooke**
- 4 The Relevant Person is **Mrs. Kathleen Bane**

(The relevant person is one who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. In a school setting the relevant person shall be the designated liaison person.)

- 4 The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The school will:

- recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
- fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;
- fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters;
- adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

The school will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adult pupil with a special vulnerability.

5 The following procedures/measures are in place:

- In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child attending the school, the school adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the school adheres to the statutory vetting requirements of the [National Vetting Bureau \(Children and Vulnerable Persons\)](#) Acts 2012 to 2016 and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and available on the gov.ie website.
- In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to staff in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) the school-
 - Has provided each member of 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
 - The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training
- In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, all school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)*, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
- All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.
- In accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and the Addendum to Children First (2019), the Board has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school's procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.
- The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

Note: The above is not intended as an exhaustive list. Individual Boards of Management shall also include in this section such other procedures/measures that are of relevance to the school in question.

- 6 This statement has been published on the school's website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents' Association (if any) and the patron. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and the Department if requested.
- 7 This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on 12/04/2018.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 23rd January 2025

Signed: Gordon Bradish

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: 23/1/2025

Signed: Kathleen Bane

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 23/01/2025

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of St Mary's Nation 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 St Mary's NS.

List of school activities	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
(a) Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	(a) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being harmed in school by visitor to the school ● Risk of harm to children getting off the school bus in the mornings and getting on in the evenings and risk of surrounding traffic 	(a). Children arrive to school in either of the following manner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents walks child into the school yard ● Parents drops child to outside school gates and watches as child enters school ● A teacher is on supervision duty for the arrival and dismissal of pupils each day ● Teacher supervises children getting on and off the bus in the mornings and the evenings to ensure they arrive safely onto the school grounds (currently one teacher

		<p>supervises, should we have two for bus getting on and off)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The school has a record of parents/guardians or emergency contacts who are permitted to collect children on Aladdin. If a parent/guardian wishes for another adult to collect their child, they should inform the school.• In accordance with the child protection guidelines of Child First, if a parent/adult comes to the school to collect a child and a member of staff perceives that the child may be in danger, the staff member must allow the child to be taken by the parent but the DLP will be notified who will decide whether to call the Gardaí. If a situation arises when the adult collecting is not the child's parent, before allowing the child to be released, the child's parent will be telephoned. If a parent cannot be reached, the school reserves the right not to let a child go home with the aforementioned adult.
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<p>(b) Recreation breaks for pupils daily in school and on Annual Sports Day</p>	<p>(b)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 another child ● Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school ● Risk of harm due to bullying of child ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school ● Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities ● Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour ● Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	<p>(b)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is a minimum of 1 teacher of supervision on yard at all times ● There is a minimum of 1 SNAs on supervision on yard at all times ● All injuries are reported and recorded on Aladdin and First Aid procedures are followed ● Visitors are not allowed observe yard activities ● Children with SEN are supervised according to their needs and according to the resources granted to the school ● All staff are up to date/familiar with the Behaviour Policy and it's available to them at all times in Google Drive
<p>(c) Classroom teaching One to one teaching One to one counselling One to one learning support</p>	<p>(c)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel ● Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel 	<p>(c)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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

		<p>(revised 2023) and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● All staff Garda vetted● St. Mary's N.S. invites guest speakers, parents and other members of the community in the school. A teacher will at all times be in present during such visits● At times, children are taken from class by a teacher for one-to-one teaching. All classrooms and support rooms have a window in the door or corridor to ensure that both the pupil and the teacher are protected. Where one-to-one teaching is happening the window is uncovered and where possible the classroom teacher leaves the classroom door open● In certain circumstances, the window of a room must be covered, i.e. Play Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy. In such cases, any practitioner working with children in the rooms must be Garda vetted and insured
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<p>(d)</p> <p>Outdoor teaching and sporting activities</p> <p>Use of offsite facilities for school activities</p> <p>Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school</p>	<p>(d)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being harmed while not on school grounds by a member of school personnel ● Risk of child being harmed by a visiting instructor/teacher or member of the public while not on school grounds ● 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 by another child ● Risk of harm due to bullying of child ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while off the school grounds ● Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	<p>(d)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children often go on outings throughout the year. There is a recommended minimum adult pupil ratio of.(15:1) An SNA or second teacher will accompany the class teacher on all outings (religious, sporting or educational) to ensure children are adequately and safely supervised. ● 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 ● All staff are Garda vetted ● St. Mary's N.S. may invite guest instructors or teachers, parents and other members of the community in the school to offsite events. A teacher will at all times be present during such events and visiting instructors or teachers will be Garda vetted. ● Religious instruction for Confirmation is organised externally by parents themselves with the relevant Reverend. It is the responsibility of the parents to ensure such events are safe and adequately supervised.
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<p>(e) Fundraising events outside of the school day involving pupils and parents and the management of the provision of food and drink at fundraising events</p>	<p>(e)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel ● Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of the public or the school community 	<p>(e)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents will be notified prior to fundraising events outside of the school day, that children are their sole responsibility during and after these events as these events take place outside of school hours
<p>(f) Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs or at the risk of being discriminated against</p>	<p>(f) Risk of harm due to racism</p>	<p>(f)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc
(g) Recruitment of school personnel	(g) Risk of child being harmed in the school by member of school personnel	(g) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff are Garda Vetted • New staff will complete Tusla child protection training • 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 • St Mary's NS invites guest speakers, parents and other members of the community in the school. A teacher will at all times be present during such visits

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At times, children may be taken from class by a teacher for one to one teaching. All classrooms and support rooms have a window in the door or corridor to ensure both the teacher and pupil are protected. Where one to one teaching is happening the window is uncovered and where possible the classroom door is left open. • In certain circumstances, the window of a room must be covered – play therapy, speech and language therapy. In such cases, any practitioner working with children in the rooms must be Garda Vetted and insured
<p>(h) Application of sanctions under the school’s Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils</p>	<p>(h)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by another pupil 	<p>(h)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children attending detention will be supervised by teacher in the Junior classroom with the outside exit door open with teacher on yard duty also monitoring detention • Children will not attend detention on their own and children attending will be supervised at all times to ensure a child is not harmed by another child

<p>(i) School outings</p>	<p>(i)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 another child ● Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school ● Risk of harm due to bullying of child ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school ● Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities ● Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour 	<p>(i)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children often go on outings throughout the year. There is a recommended minimum adult pupil ratio of 15:1. An SNA or second teacher will accompany the class teacher on all outings (religious, sporting or educational) to ensure children are adequately and safely supervised. ● 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 ● All staff are Garda vetted
<p>(j) Use of toilet in school</p>	<p>(j)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 	<p>(j)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are toilets in every classroom. However, in cases where children are not in their classroom, (eg are in the SET room) when children are required to go to the toilet, they must return to the toilet in their own classroom when the classroom teacher is present with other children

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than 1 child should be allowed to leave a classroom (the SET Room) to use the relevant toilet. • At break times, the teacher on duty is responsible for ensuring that only 1 child goes to the toilet at a time and ensures that they return to the yard. If an adult is required to accompany a child to the toilet, another child must accompany them
(k) School transport arrangements	(k) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 or bus driver 	(k) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All bus drivers and school personnel are Garda vetted
(l) Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed	(l) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	(l) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 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● 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 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 a Special Educational Needs policy● SNAs are responsible for certain children's care needs. This can involve helping children with toileting, changing of clothes, etc. An SNA and another adult staff member should accompany a child for any situation involving the removal of clothing, applying lotions or creams or other situations where the situation could be considered sensitive. Where this is not possible the door of the room being used will be kept open and parental permission will be sought and consent given in writing
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<p>(m) Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required</p>	<p>(m)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	<p>(m)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school's existing Code of Behaviour will be implemented. • Challenging or dangerous behaviour will be reported to the guardians/parents of child and a safe solution reached together with school personnel • In the extreme case of a child posing a potentially dangerous physical threat to another child or staff member the child may need interventions that will require physical restraint. A staff member/members where it is deemed absolutely necessary will restrain a child to prevent physical harm to another child or staff member. • Parents of all children involved will be informed and this will be recorded on Aladdin.
<p>(n) Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils</p>	<p>(n)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p>(n)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School has policies specifically for these risks

<p>(o) Training of school personnel in child protection matters</p>	<p>(o)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel 	<p>(o)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School provides training in Child Protection to staff • Tusla child protection training will be completed by permanent staff each year in September • PDST training for DLP and DDLP will be completed yearly also. • Board of management training will be completed every two years • School allows for staff to attend CPD where adequate supervision can be arranged
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<p>(p) Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum Use of external personnel to support sports and other extracurricular activities Students participating in work experience in the school Students teachers undertaking training placement in school After school use of premises by other organisations</p>	<p>(p)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 volunteer or visitor to the school 	<p>(p)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For one-off events, Garda vetted teacher will remain in the room for the entire event • Where this is a regular occurrence, the guest must be Garda vetted • For after school activities, organisation or trainer or individual must be Garda vetted and have adequate insurance if working with children
<p>(q) Use of information and communication technology by pupils in school, including social media Use of video/photography/other media to record school events</p>	<p>(q)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel • Risk of child being harmed online in the school by another child 	<p>(q)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School has policy in place governing the use of smartphones and tablet devices in the school as per Circular 0038/2018 • Anti-Bullying policy • In line with our AUP (Acceptable Usage policy) children should not be labelled or tagged on the school's website. Parents/guardians have the right at all times to disallow photos of the child(ren) to be taken or used online or in any other way • Photography or videoing is not permitted in the swimming pool or changing rooms. At concerts, adults are allowed to take photographs. However, any behaviour deemed to be suspicious will be reported to the DLP

<p>(r) Distance learning</p>	<p>(r)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel ● Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms during zoom lessons ● Risk of harm due to bullying of child ● Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult ● Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour ● 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 	<p>(r)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Acceptable Usage Policy in place to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely ● Since the COVID19 pandemic, children are engaging in live distance learning, known as synchronous learning. This involves children using digital devices to engage with the school. The school, in general, takes the same position on online interactions as it does on offline interactions. If something occurs online that is a child protection concern, it will be treated in the same manner. It is impossible to predict all the risks; however, the following is recommended for all parties. ● Children should not be alone with any device. A parent or other caregiver should be in the same room as the child if he/she is engaging in a synchronous online class ● A staff member should never arrange to speak to a single pupil in an online form ● Where a meeting takes place between a family and a teacher, it should be recorded and stored ● The parent/guardian will be sent the link to join an online meeting, not the pupil directly. The invitation must not be shared with anybody ● All meetings will be password protected
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All screens must be visible • The child's real name must be used unless asked otherwise • All users must be dressed appropriately and age-appropriately • The background, whether real or virtual, must be appropriate • Sessions must never be recorded and photo must not be taken • Pupil behaviour must be in-line with our Code of Behaviour
(s) Swimming	(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, by a member of swimming personnel or by a member of the public 	(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children going to the swimming pool should be able to change in and out of the clothes and to wash themselves. When the Juniors are included in going swimming a permission slip giving permission to physically help the child may be completed. St. Marys' N.S. staff members should not be asked or expected to change a child but will assist a child where necessary as previously discussed with the parent. While staff at St Mary's NS are insured to be in the changing room with children changing, it is advised that two or more adults are in the room at that time. Where this is not possible the door of the changing room being used will be kept open.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School staff will supervise and oversee swimming lessons and changing areas to ensure swimming personnel and members of the public do not have unsupervised access to children
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Deis Summer Camp Program

List of school activities	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
<p>1. Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils</p>	<p>1. Risk of child being harmed in school by visitor to the school</p>	<p>1. Children arrive to the school camp in either of the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents walk child into the school yard ● Parents drops child to outside school gates and watches as child enters school ● A teacher is on supervision duty for the arrival and dismissal of pupils each day ● The school has a record of parents/guardians or emergency contacts who are permitted to collect children on Aladdin. If a parent/guardian wishes for another adult to collect their child, they should inform the school. ● In accordance with the child protection guidelines of Child First, if a parent/adult comes to the school to collect a child and a member of staff perceives that the child may be in danger, the staff member must allow the child to be taken by the parent but the DLP will be notified who will

		<p>decide whether to call the Gardaí. If a situation arises when the adult collecting is not the child's parent, before allowing the child to be released, the child's parent will be telephoned. If a parent cannot be reached, the school reserves the right not to let a child go home with the aforementioned adult.</p>
<p>2. Recreation breaks for pupils daily during camp time</p>	<p>2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 another child ● Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school ● Risk of harm due to bullying of child ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school ● Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities ● Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour ● Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel 	<p>2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is a minimum of 1 teacher on supervision on yard at all times ● All injuries are reported and recorded on Aladdin and First Aid procedures are followed ● Visitors are not allowed observe yard activities ● Children with SEN are supervised according to their needs and according to the resources granted to the school ● All staff are up to date/familiar with the Behaviour Policy and it's available to them at all times on school shared drive. New substitute staff will be provided with the code of behaviour.

<p>3. One to one teaching</p>	<p>3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of personnel ● Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel 	<p>3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 ● All staff Garda vetted ● St. Mary’s N.S. invites guest speakers, parents and other members of the community in the school. A teacher will at all times be in present during such visits ● At times, children are taken from class by a teacher for one-to-one teaching or consultation about their camp experience. All classrooms and support rooms have a window in the door or corridor to ensure that both the pupil and the teacher are protected. Where one-to-one teaching is happening the window is uncovered and where possible the classroom teacher leaves the classroom door open
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<p>4.</p> <p>Outdoor teaching activities and sporting activities</p> <p>Use of offsite facilities for school activities</p>	<p>4.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being harmed while not on school grounds by a member of school personnel ● Risk of child being harmed by a visiting instructor/teacher or member of the public while not on school grounds ● 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 by another child ● Risk of harm due to bullying of child ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while off the school grounds ● Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities 	<p>4.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children often go on outings during the camps. There is a recommended minimum adult pupil ratio of 15:1. An SNA or second teacher will accompany the class teacher on all outings (sporting or educational) to ensure children are adequately and safely supervised. ● 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 ● All staff are Garda vetted ● St. Mary's N.S. may invite guest instructors or teachers, parents and other members of the community in the school to offsite events. A teacher will at all times be present during such events and visiting instructors or teachers will be Garda vetted.
<p>5.</p> <p>Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs or at the risk of being discriminated against</p>	<p>5.</p> <p>Risk of harm due to racism</p>	<p>5.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme during the school year ● The school implements in full the SPHE Curriculum during the school year ● 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

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives during the school year ● The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms during the duration of the camps
6. Recruitment of school personnel	6. Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel	6. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All staff are Garda Vetted ● New staff will complete Tusla child protection training ● 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

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● St Mary's NS invites guest speakers, parents and other members of the community in the school. A teacher will at all times be present during such visits ● At times, children may be taken from class by a teacher for one to one teaching. All classrooms and support rooms have a window in the door or corridor to ensure both the teacher and pupil are protected. Where one to one teaching is happening the window is uncovered and where possible the classroom door is left open. ● In certain circumstances, the window of a room must be covered – play therapy, speech and language therapy. In such cases, any practitioner working with children in the rooms must be Garda Vetted and insured
<p>7. Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils</p>	<p>7.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel ● Risk of child being harmed by another pupil 	<p>7.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children attending detention will be supervised by teacher in the Junior classroom with the outside exit door open with teacher on yard duty also monitoring detention ● Children will not attend detention on their own and children attending will be supervised at all times to ensure a child is not harmed by another child

<p>8.</p> <p>School outings</p>	<p>8.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 another child ● Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school ● Risk of harm due to bullying of child ● Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school ● Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities ● Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour 	<p>8.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children may go on outings during the camps. There is a recommended minimum adult pupil ratio of 15:1. An SNA or second teacher will accompany the class teacher on all outings (religious, sporting or educational) to ensure children are adequately and safely supervised. ● 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 ● All staff are Garda vetted.
<p>9.</p> <p>Use of toilet in school</p>	<p>9.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 	<p>9.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are toilets in every classroom. All children attending the camps will be in one classroom together. They will use the toilets in the classroom they are attending. ● No more than 1 child should be allowed to leave a classroom to use the relevant toilet one at a time. ● At break times, the teacher on duty is responsible for ensuring that only 1 child goes to the toilet at a time and ensures that they return to the yard. If an adult is required to accompany a child to the toilet, another child must accompany them.

<p>10. Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed</p>	<p>10. Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</p>	<p>10.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 ● 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 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 a Special Educational Needs policy ● SNAs are responsible for certain children’s care needs. This can involve helping children with toileting, changing of clothes, etc. An SNA and another adult staff member should accompany a child for any situation involving the removal of clothing, applying lotions or creams or other situations where the situation could be considered sensitive.
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<p>11. Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils</p>	<p>11. Risk of child being harmed in the school by a child who is presenting with challenging behaviour</p>	<p>11.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The schools existing Code of Behaviour will be implemented during camp times ● Challenging or dangerous behaviour will be reported to the guardians/parents of child and a safe solution reached together with school personnel ● In the extreme case of a child posing a potentially dangerous physical threat to another child or staff member the child may need interventions that will require physical restraint. A staff member/members where it is deemed absolutely necessary will restrain a child to prevent physical harm to another child or staff member ● Parents of all children involved will be informed and this will be recorded on Aladdin

<p>12.</p> <p>Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid</p>	<p>12.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 	<p>12.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School has policies specifically for these risks and these policies will be followed during camp times ● All new staff will be informed of these policies ● Manager of the camps will check with all registered childrens' parents regarding medical conditions - if medicine needs to be administered parents will complete a medical administration form
<p>13.</p> <p>Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils</p>	<p>13.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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 	<p>13.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The schools existing Anti-Bullying policy will be implemented during camp times ● All new staff will be given a copy of the Anti-Bullying Policy and all procedures explained to them
<p>14.</p> <p>Use of information and communication technology by pupils in school including social media</p> <p>Use of video/photography/other media to record school events</p>	<p>14.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices ● Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel ● Risk of child being harmed online in the school by another child 	<p>14.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School has policy in place governing the use of smartphones and tablet devices in the school as per Circular 0038/2018 ● Anti-Bullying policy ● In line with our AUP (Acceptable Usage policy) children should not be labelled or tagged on the school's website. Parents/guardians have the right at all times to disallow photos of the child(ren) to be taken or used online or in any other way

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photography or videoing is not permitted in the swimming pool or changing rooms. At concerts, adults are allowed to take photographs. However, any behaviour deemed to be suspicious will be reported to the DLP
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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.