

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Athea National School

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 Athea 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 toilets areas in schools Fundraising events involving pupils Use of off-site facilities for school activities Transport arrangements Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint 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 Recruitment of school personal including -Teachers/SNA's -Caretaker/ Secretary/ Cleaners -Sports coaches -External Tutors/ Guest speakers -Volunteers/ Parents in school activities -Visitors/ contractors present in school during 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, including social media

Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviours including detention of pupils etc
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 organisation during school day

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 another child
Risk of child being harmed in 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 racism
Risk of harm due to bullying child
Risk of harm due to cyber-bullying 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 inappropriate accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
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 unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms
Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities
Risk of harm to child while a child 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
Risk of harm due to non-teaching of SPHE, Stay Safe

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 and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc.
The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings
The school has a Health and Safety Policy
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
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 –
o Has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
o Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
o Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
o Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training
o 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 an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents
The school has in place a policy governing the use of smart phones and 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 policy and related procedures

The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum
The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches
The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities
The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to-one counselling
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

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 endeavored 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 20/10/21.

It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: *Marie Gleeson*

Date: 20/10/21

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed: *Margaret Watters*

Date: 20/10/21

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Athea National School, Athea, County Limerick

September 2021

To be reviewed annually or more frequently as appropriate

In accordance with section 11 of the [Children First Act 2015](#), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](#), [the Addendum to Children First \(2019\)](#), chapter 8 of the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the following is the Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment for Athea National School, Athea, County Limerick. The school has identified areas of potential risk of harm to pupils in the school environment. The table below lists those potential risks and the procedures and/or policies in place for managing those risks.

	<u>List of School Activities</u>	<u>The school has the following procedures in place to address the risk identified in this assessment</u>
1.	Training of school personnel in Child Protection Matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child Safeguarding Statement and DES procedures made available to all staff.• DLP and DDLP to attend PDST face to face training.• All staff to view Tusla training module and any other training offered by the PDST.• BOM retains all records of staff and Board training.• Visiting staff and part-time teachers to comply with Garda vetting and to be familiar with Child Safeguarding Statement.
2.	One to one teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School has glass panels in doors of all classrooms where one to one teaching takes place.
3.	Care of children with special needs including intimate care needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School has Intimate Care Needs Policy (available on website) Two adults are present for all intimate care needs procedures.• This may be SNAs or teachers depending on availability.• RSE and SPHE can be differentiated as appropriate
4.	Toilet areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Toilet procedures. Supervision policy
5.	Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School implements SPHE (Social, Personal and Health Education) RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education), Stay Safe Programmes & Weaving Well-Being Programme and facilitates staff training when available
6.	Recruitment of new staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child Safeguarding Statement and DES procedures made available to all staff.• Staff to view Tusla training module and any other online training offered by PDST (Professional Development Service for

		Teachers) or provide certificate to prove training has previously been undertaken
7.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety Policy Code of Behaviour
8.	External Sports Coaches – including extra-curricular activities coaches/teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda vetting procedures in place.
9.	Swimming Lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda vetting procedures in place.
10.	Students participating in work experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Experience Policy in place (available on our website). All students over 16 years of age Garda vetted.
11.	3rd Level students participating in School Placement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students over 16 years of age Garda vetted. Letter of agreement completed with 3rd Level College. Child Safeguarding Statement
12.	Volunteers / Parent Helpers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervised by staff in open areas • Garda vetting procedures in place
13.	Supervision of children at playtime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision policy and procedures in place. • Rota maintained by Dep Principal
14.	Use of church & community hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always supervised by teachers
15.	Visiting speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers remain in class with visiting speakers.
16.	Use of ICT by pupils or staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT and Acceptable Use policies in place. • Online teaching and learning remotely provisions included in policies • Internet Safety lessons taught to pupils throughout the school
17.	Use of mobile phones by pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile phone policy; not permitted to be used without authorisation
18.	Bullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-bullying Policy and Procedures in place. Weaving Well-Being programmes taught in all classes (linked to SPHE).
19.	School Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Front door access by bell & security camera. • Access during school day through front door only. Gates locked while children outside. Visitors must sign in at office. • Access to classrooms during the school day is restricted and monitored. • CCTV cameras in place to monitor access.
20.	Administration of First Aid/Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration of Medicine policy. • Training provided on specific conditions as necessary. • Trained First Aiders; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Cardiac First Response (6) ➢ Administration of Salbutamol, Epinephrine, and Glucagon (6)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full First Aid kits available – included schools own supply of Epi-Pen both adult and Junior and Salbutamol
21.	School trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Safety Policy Fully supervised by teachers. Venues chosen after careful consideration of safety and educational value.

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In undertaking this risk assessment, the BOM has endeavored 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 initially completed by the BOM on March 6th 2018. It was updated in 2019, 2020 and 2021. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: *Marie Gleeson*

Date: 20/10/21

Chairperson, BOM

Signed: *Margaret Watters*

Date: 20/10/21

Principal/Secretary to the BOM