

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Whitecross N.S.

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 Whitecross N.S.

List of school activities	Risk Level	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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils 	High	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Arrival & dismissal supervised by teachers on duty
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation breaks for pupils 	Medium	Adults may enter the yard Bullying Over crowding Layout of the school grounds Poor surfaces Narrow footpaths	Supervision Policy Friends for Life Programme Mediators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom teaching 	Medium	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils Openness of the school building	Glass panel in the doors Other adults visit or are present Other children present Staff Garda Vetted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-to-one teaching 	Medium	Harm by school personnel	Glass panel in doors Open door
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-to-one counselling 	Medium	Harm by school personnel	Glass panel in the doors Open door
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor teaching activities 	Medium	Harm by pupils including bullying Harm by school personnel Harm by adults Injury	Children are provided with clear instructions of tasks in advance of leaving the classroom Children work under the supervision of the class teacher. Children work within the school grounds.

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			The teacher monitors the work and interactions of all pupils.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online teaching and learning remotely 		Harm by pupils including bullying/cyber bullying Harm by adults	Remote learning policy Acceptable Use Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sporting Activities 	High	Harm by pupils including bullying Harm by school personnel Harm by adults Injury	Transport is arranged by the school Garda Vetting is required by all parents involved Changing of gear takes place before the activity in the school Children must return to the school In-school activities are supervised by each class teacher Children wear gum shields Children wear helmets
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School outings/trips 	High	Harm by pupils including bullying Harm by school personnel Harm by adults Supervision risk increased	Garda Vetting is required by all parents/volunteers involved Teachers supervise the changing of gear Children must return to the school Children must wear the school uniform – depending on venue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of toilet/changing areas in schools 	High	Inappropriate behaviour Harm from other children Harm from school personnel	Supervision Policy Intimate Care Policy Toileting – one child at any time The door must remain open when assisting with changing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dealing with an emergency sick child/toileting issue 	High	Harm from school personnel Harm by other children	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Sports Day/Fun Day 	High	Inappropriate behaviour Harm from other children Harm from school personnel	Supervision Policy

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		Harm from a parent/adult Risk or injury	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fundraising events involving pupils 	High	Inappropriate behaviour Harm from other children Harm from school personnel Harm from a parent/adult	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of off-site facilities for school activities 	High	Inappropriate behaviour Harm from other children Harm from school personnel Harm from a parent/adult Injury	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts 	High	Harm from other children Accident Harm from an adult Harm from school personnel	Code of Behaviour Supervision Policy Anti-Bullying Policy Intimate Care Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed 	High	Harm by school personnel Harm by other pupils	Supervision Policy Anti-Bullying Policy Intimate care Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils including appropriate use of restraint where needed 	High	Injury/harm to pupils and staff	Code of Behaviour Health & Safety Policy Intimate Care Policy MAPA train the trainer course (Feb 22) – staff training thereafter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of provision of food and drink 	High	Harm to school personnel Harm to pupil/pupils	Aladdin database updated regularly Children with allergies colour coded Most at risk children on display in staffroom with parental consent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of Medicine 	High	Harm to school personnel Harm to pupil/pupils	Administration of Medicines Policy Training arranged as required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of First Aid 	High	Harm to pupil	Health & Safety Policy

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		Harm by school personnel	Doors must remain open Records kept in the incident report book
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe 	Medium	Non-teaching of content	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full Any guest speaker/teacher works with the class in the presence of the class teacher
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils and staff 	Medium	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Friends For Life Programme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of school personnel in child protection matters 	High	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to staff DLP & DDLP to attend PDST face to face training module and any online training offered by PDST BOM records all records of staff and Board training.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum 	High	Harm by external personnel	All adults, visitors to the school and volunteers are properly screened and vetted. The Class Teacher must remain with their class when supported by external personnel.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities 	High	Harm by external personnel	All adults, visitors to the school and volunteers are properly screened and vetted. The Class Teacher must remain with their class when supported by external personnel.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ from ethnic minorities/migrants ➤ Members of the Traveller community ➤ Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children ➤ Pupils perceived to be LGBT 	High	Bullying Harm from personnel Harm from pupils Harm from adults	Anti-Bullying Policy Supervision Policy SPHE Programme taught in its entirety Code of Behaviour

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pupils of minority religious faiths ➤ Children in care ➤ Children on CPNS ➤ Children with medical needs 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of school personnel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 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 	High	Harm from personnel	<p>Current vetting procedures are carried out when recruiting. All existing school employees are vetted. All adults, visitors to the school and volunteers are properly screened and vetted. Proper records of vetting are stored in the school.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school 	High	Harm from adults Bullying	<p>Aladdin Database is updated regularly Anti-Bullying Policy Children only attend ceremonies with parental consent or consent to attend but not participate Children who are not attending are supervised completing independent work by the Principal/SET teacher</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school 	High	Harm by adults Bullying – Cyber Bullying Accidental location of inappropriate content	<p>Anti-Bullying Policy Restricted access to the internet Supervision Policy Training arranged for staff & parents</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application of sanctions under the school’s Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc. 	Low	Harm by other pupils	Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Mobile Phones Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students participating in work experience in the school 	Medium	Harm by student	Student must be supervised by the relevant teacher Garda Vetting is required for all students
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student teachers undertaking training placement in school 	Medium	Harm by student teacher	Student teacher must be supervised by the relevant teacher Garda Vetting is required for all students
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of video/photography/other media to record school events 	High	Harm by adults Bullying Inappropriate sharing of material recorded	Parental permission is required Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After school use of school premises by other organisations 	High	Harm by adults Harm by other pupils	Hire/Use of School Policy Garda Vetting is required Supervision ratio Code of Behaviour
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of school premises by other organisation during school day 	High	Harm by adults Harm by other pupils	Glass panels in doors Supervision Policy Garda Vetting Code of Behaviour
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework Club 	High	Harm by adults Harm by other people Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Glass panels in doors

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*

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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 the **14th December 2021**. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: _____
Chairperson, Board of Management

Date: _____

Signed: _____
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: _____