



Tag:/Re: Child Protection / Cosaint Leanaí

## Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Gaelscoil Moshíológ, Guaire, Co. Loch Garman

Uimh Rolla 20165U

### Written Assessment of Risk of Gaelscoil Moshíológ

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 Gaelscoil Moshíológ.

#### 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/changing/shower 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,
- 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, 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
- 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
- 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 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
- Homework club

- Before/After School extra Curricular activities

**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 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 before and during school breaks supervision rota which ensures appropriate supervision of children before school (9:10-9:20am) during breaks (11:00-11:15 and 12:35 – 1:00).
- The school has in place clear procedures in respect of school outings
- The school has a Health and 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 complies with the Dept. of Education's disciplinary procedures for teachers.
- The school has in place clear procedures in relation to Special Educational Needs
- The school has an intimate care plan in respect of students who require such care
- The school has in place safe practices 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 safe practices for the administration of First Aid
- The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils
- The school has in place safe practices in respect of usage of ICT by pupils
- The school has in place safe practices in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils
- The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
- The school has in place safe practices for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum
- The school has in place safe practices for the use of external sports coaches
- The school has in place safe practices for one-to-one teaching activities
- The school has in place safe practices in respect of student teacher placements
- The school has in place safe practices in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school

**School Practices at Gaelscoil Moshíológ re. Child Protection (7/3/2018)**

All pupil –staff interactions take place in open settings (classroom or playground)  
SET instruction generally takes place with small groups, if 1:1 teaching occurs, it takes place in office with door open.

Toileting Needs: A second staff member is made aware if any student has soiled themselves. If a student requires toileting assistance a parent is called. Prior to the parent arriving, the student is encouraged / prompted / reassured from other side of toilet door by staff member. In the case where a parent is unavailable to come to the school or delayed, the school will seek instruction from the parent. The child's privacy and dignity will be respected.

School Trips: Adequate supervision is ensured by teacher and parents accompanying students 1:7 ratio R.2-R.6 and 1:5 ratio Naí. Bh. – R.1

Swimming: Students travel by bus with class teacher to pool. Principal or staff member appointed by the principal travels by car. Swimming coaches, class teacher and Principal or staff member appointed by principal, are present poolside during the lesson. Students change before and after class independently in dressing rooms. Dressing rooms are checked before the children enter as no adult is permitted in the dressing rooms while children are present.

Sports Blitzes: When children share changing facilities with children from other schools at blitzes, the teacher will check that no adult is present in the room with the children.

Guest Speakers/Sport Coaches/Student Teachers: Class teacher/Principal/ staff member appointed by the principal remains present with students.

If any unforeseen deviation occurs from these school practices, staff members are obliged to notify the principal immediately.

**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 12/3/2018. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed *Melanie Ní Dhuinn*

Date: 29.9.2020

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed **Carol Scott**

Date: 29.9.2020

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

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