St. Louis Secondary School
Monaghan

St Louis Secondary School, Monaghan Child Protection Risk Assessment

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) and 2025, Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024), the board of management has adopted the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment set out in this document.

The board of management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the department's Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

General Daily Activities	Potential Risks Associated	Mitigation of Risks
• Breakfast in canteen • Early Arrival • General Arrival • Departure • Mid-morning Break • Lunchtime for students who remain on the premises • Lunchtime for students who leave the premises • Use of Toilet facilities • School Transport • Use of Technology in areas other than the classroom • Congregation in Canteen • Supervised after school study • An 'empty' school at the beginning or end of the school day	▶ Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel ▶ Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel ▶ Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel ▶ Risk of student being harmed in the school by another student ▶ Risk of harm due to bullying of student ▶ Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of student in school ▶ Risk of harm where student finds herself last/first in the school building	✓ The school has a corridor/grounds supervision protocol to ensure appropriate supervision of students during arrival, dismissal and break times and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, changing rooms etc. ✓ The school has a Health and Safety policy ✓ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for students ✓ All staff are Garda Vetted ✓ All staff have been provided with the Child Safeguarding Statement and have had appropriate training. ✓ The school has an Anti-Bullying policy and procedures in place, which have been explained to the whole school community.

Teaching and Learning Activities	Potential Risks Associated	Mitigation of Risks
• Classroom interactions • One-to-one teaching • Guidance/Counselling one-to-one sessions • Curricular Content and/or presentation in SPHE/RSE/Wellbeing • Use of substitute teachers in the case of absenteeism • Facilitation of all Faiths in Curricular RE • Meetings with Senior Leadership Team members on one-to-one basis • Use of Education Technology within the classroom • Work Experience • Students with Special Needs • Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	▶ Risk of student being harmed in the classroom by another student ▶ Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of students in classroom ▶ Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel ▶ Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel ▶ Risk of harm due to bullying of student in classroom ▶ Risk of student being harmed in the classroom by teacher or substitute teacher ▶ Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching ▶ Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other ▶ Risk of harm while carrying out work experience ▶ Risk of harm caused by personnel not differentiating for the needs of students with Special Needs	✓ The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum ✓ The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle ✓ 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 2025* are made available to all school personnel ✓ School Personnel are required to adhere to the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools. 2025* 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 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 in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum ✓ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for students ✓ The school has an RE policy to cater for the needs of all students ✓ The school has protocols in place for work

		experience in an external organisation ✓ The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements ✓ The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by students ✓ The school has in place an Acceptable Use policy in respect of usage of all Computers, Internet and Social Media ✓ The school has a Special Educational Needs policy
Pastoral Care	**Potential Risks Associated**	**Mitigation of Risks**
• One-to-one counselling • School outings • School trips involving overnight stay • School trips involving foreign travel • Care of students with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed, • Management of challenging behaviour amongst students. • Administration of Medicine • Administration of First Aid • Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe • Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst students. • Training of school personnel in child protection matters • Care of students with specific	▶ Risk of harm in one-to-one counselling situation ▶ Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel ▶ Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel ▶ Risk of harm to students through bullying when away from home on school trips ▶ Risk of mishandling of students with challenging behaviour ▶ Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of student ▶ Risk of harm to students through lack of understanding of specific needs, including sexual identity, religious and ethnic	✓ The school has a Health and Safety policy ✓ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for students ✓ All staff have been provided with the Child Safeguarding Statement and have had appropriate training. ✓ The school has an Anti-Bullying policy and procedures in place which have been explained to the whole school community. ✓ School Personnel are required to adhere to the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2025* and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the *Children First Act 2015* ✓ The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by students ✓ The school has in place an Acceptable Use policy in respect of usage of all Computers, Internet and Social Media

vulnerabilities/ needs such as: Students from ethnic minorities/migrants Students perceived to be LGBT Students of minority religious faiths Students in care Students on CPNS ▶ Supporting students involved m misuse of Social Media ▶ Sanctioning students involved in misuse of Social Media	background ▶ Risk of harm to student ▶ Risk of harm caused by one student to another via inappropriate social media contact, texting, digital device or other ▶ Risk of harm to students by the use of inappropriate or over-harsh sanctions for bullying/misuse of Social Media	✓ The school has a Code of Conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) ✓ The school has appointed a qualified Guidance Counsellor ✓ The school has recruited teachers with Special Education Needs training and qualifications ✓ The school appoints qualified SNA's where deemed necessary and funded by the DES ✓ The school has a Tour policy which covers protocols for overnight stays ✓ The school has a Special Educational Needs policy ✓ The school has an active care Team with particular understanding of the needs of the students in its care, including their background ✓ The school has a set of procedures in relation to the administration of medicines
Recruitment	**Potential Risks Associated**	**Mitigation of Risks**
• Principal • Deputy Principal • Teachers • **SNA's** • Administration staff	▶ Risk of harm to students by personnel who are not qualified ▶ Risk of harm to a student by a member of personnel unwilling to commit to the expected standards of the school	✓ The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting

• Caretaker • Ancillary Staff • Short or longterm Contractors • Canteen Staff		✓ The school has an Employee Handbook and Induction programme for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff) ✓ When appointing, detailed references are sought ✓ The school has a rigorous interview process.
Sporting Activities	**Potential Risks Associated**	**Mitigation of Risks**
• Travelling to matches • Changing in school's changing room • Changing in the changing rooms of other schools • Annual Sports Day • School trips involving overnight stay • Administration of First Aid following a sports injury • Student PE teachers • Use of Social Media to record and comment on sporting events	▶ Risk of a student being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while participating in sporting activities ▶ Risk of harm to student while student is receiving First Aid treatment ▶ Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour ▶ Risk of harm to student due to lack of experience of Student PE teachers ▶ 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 or a student circulating inappropriate material in relation to sporting activities via social media, texting,	✓ All staff are Garda Vetted ✓ All staff have been provided with the Child Safeguarding Statement and have had appropriate training. ✓ School sports personnel are required to adhere to the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2025* and also are required to adhere to the *Children First Act 2015* ✓ The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle, incorporating PE ✓ The school has an Acceptable Use Policy m relation to the use of digital media ✓ The school has a Code of Behaviour, drafted in consultation with all stakeholders. ✓ The school has a supervision protocol for all major events. ✓ The school has a supervision protocol for transport to and from sporting activities ✓ Coaching staff are trained in First Aid

	digital device or other manner	✓ The school has a Tour policy which covers protocols for overnight stays ✓ The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements ✓ The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by students ✓ The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for students

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 2025.

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 risks of harm, the school has in place the procedures listed in this Risk Assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

The Risk Assessment has been reviewed by the Board of Management on **03.09.2026**.

It was first ratified on **22-09-2025**.

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