



St. Anne's Loreto Primary School Risk Assessment

In understanding this risk assessment, the board of Management of St. Anne's Loreto Primary School, following in-service with PDST (DLP and DDLP) and CPSMA (BOM members) during April and May 2018, has endeavoured to identify as far as possible, the risks of harm that are relevant to our school 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.

Important Notice: 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.*

In accordance with Section 2 of the Children First Act, 2015 the defined threshold of “harm” in relation to a child is as follows:

“harm” means, in relation to a child –

- a) Assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child's health, development or welfare or
- b) Sexual abuse of the child,

whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise;”

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment (of any potential harm)

	List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
	<p>Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters</p> <p>National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children.</p>	<p>Harm not recognised or reported promptly</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Anne’s Loreto Primary School Child Safeguarding Statement, Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment & DES procedures made available to all staff. • Staff members will acknowledge receipt of St. Anne’s Child Safeguarding Statement, and Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment. • DLP & DDLP have attended PDST face to face training on April 26th 2018 and further update training offered by NESC. • All Staff, including bus escorts have viewed Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST, most recently in December 2020. PDST E-Learning “Children 1st” • BOM members have been invited to avail of CPSMA Child Protection Training on 1st May 2018. More recently the Tusla Children First E-Learning Programme in December 2020 • The staff initially trained in February / March 2018, retrained on the Tusla Children First Webinar on 20th March 2019 and most recently refreshed their training on 16th December 2020 with the PDST E-Learning Programme. • BOM records all records of staff and board training.
	<p>One to one teaching/counselling</p>	<p>Harm by school personnel/visitor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School has policy in place for one to one teaching- Appendix A guidelines. • Parents are informed and provide written consent if children are withdrawn from class for additional supports. • Garda Vetting Secured Policy & Child Protection Awareness & Training Procedures in place • Adequate supervision by school personnel. • Doors open as often as possible • Table between teacher and pupil where possible/ furniture arranged for adult to be visible from outside • Glass panel in the door. • Glass panels will not be obstructed in any way.

Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on intimate care- Appendix A guidelines
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full. Appendix A guidelines 'Induction of Pupils'.
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival and dismissal supervised by Teachers • Appendix A guidelines- Supervision & Attendance • The BOM has an entry system commencing at 09.00 am to ensure appropriate entry of children during term time. • A school yard supervision rota is in place. • Parents are reminded regularly that no supervision is available before 09.00 am. • All adults are required to report to reception prior to advancing through the school building where necessary and accompanied. • Pupils are requested not to leave the care of teacher until they are safely collected by their parents / guardians / appointed adult. • Pedestrian entrance to the school has a lock to allow pupils / staff of nominated classes timely entry to and exit from school. School staff may open the appropriate gates. • Our front door is fitted with an intercom so visitors must state their business and are allowed essential access by a staff member. • Parents of pupils in all classes must ensure they have satisfactory arrangements in place for the collection of pupils. • Up-to-date contact numbers must be available to the school at all times. Any change of number must be notified to the office / updated on the Aladdin Connect App by parents with immediate effect. • At school discharge time all children must be collected at their individual class dismissal time.
Hand-over of children to an appointed adult	Risk of child being harmed in the school by another adult. Risk of harm not being recognised by school staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Names and contact number of 3 adults who have permission to collect each child are provided by parents at the beginning of each year and stored on our school online data –base. • Up-to-date contact numbers must be available to the school at all times with any change of number notified to the office with immediate effect. • Children are accompanied by staff to exit the school and released to their appointed adult. • If an unknown adult comes to collect a child (e.g. a family friend, an aunt/uncle, a cousin, etc) and the school has not been informed beforehand in writing by the parent/guardian, the class teacher/staff will endeavour to contact the

		<p>parents/guardians to confirm the child has permission to go with this adult.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event of being unable to contact the parent or nominated emergency contact the child will not be permitted to leave the school in the company of this adult. • If an adult appears to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol when they come to collect a child from school, the child is not released by the class teacher. This would then be reported to the DLP or DDLP immediately.
Late drop-offs, early pick up collection, late pick up, attendance	Risk of child being harmed in the school by another adult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with our School Attendance Policy: Late arrivals must be recorded by their teacher from their class start time plus 5 minutes discretion time. • Early leavers must be signed out by an appointed adult. The appointed adult must wait at the reception area while the child is called from class by a staff member. • Significant concerns in relation to timekeeping are recorded, retained and reported to the School Principal. These records are inputted on the school online data system.
Preventing of and dealing with school-based bullying behaviour amongst pupils.	Risk of harm pupil to pupil due to bullying of a child.	<p>The school Anti-Bullying Policy is available to all staff online in the "A" folder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strict adherence to the above and Code of Behaviour as referenced in Appendix A. • The Anti-Bullying Policy is on our school website to inform parents. • Promotion of a culture of openness and respect in which students can approach staff to discuss concerns and worries. • Adequate supervision is provided to ensure the code of behaviour is being followed. • Stay Safe / Walk Tall / Internet Safety, Cyberbullying Programme "Don't Be Mean Behind your Screen" / RSE and Web wise programmes are offered to the appropriate classes annually. • Child Protection Awareness and Training is offered to staff when the opportunity presents locally. • Anti-bullying survey conducted at least termly, in all Classes, and results followed up upon.
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils.	Injury to pupils and staff	<p>As outlined in Department of Education & Skills Primary Curriculum 02/05 some pupils with serious difficulties may require more urgent action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should these cases present, they will, with parent /guardian permission, be discussed with the relevant Special Needs Education Officer (SENO) and / or NEPS Psychologist. • This may lead to a more detailed behavioural management programme being implemented at home and/or in class and/or a referral for further specialist assessment. • SNA's and support teachers will follow educational plans for these particular students. • Intervention plans will be agreed with the parents / guardians.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school will engage the services of the Special Education Support Services (SESS) to support teaching and non-teaching staff when required. • Garda Vetting Secured Procedures • Appendix A - Bullying • Child Protection Awareness & Training • Health & Safety Policy • Code Of Behaviour
Sporting Activities and Sports Day	Harm to pupils/ unknown adults/public in the environs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting Secured Policy & Child Protection Awareness & Training Procedures in place • Adequate supervision • Appendix A guidelines – Games.
Recreation breaks for pupils	Harm from other pupils/school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has a yard/playground supervision roster for both the teaching staff and SNA's to ensure appropriate supervision of children during the recreation breaks. • Appointed adults wishing to collect a pupil during recreation time must report to reception and are not permitted to enter school yards. • School staff will ensure that no member of the public engages any child in conversation during yard time. • Yard duty rota in place/sub cover in case of absence is managed by the Principal. • Appendix A guidelines on Visibility & Behaviour • Mission Statement
Lack of or insufficient lunch.	Child at risk of neglect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers will monitor children's lunches and ensure that all children are provided with a reasonable quantity of healthy food each day. • If a child is not provided with any lunch in school, the school phones the parents and asks them to bring the lunch to school. • If a lunch is not provided the DLP or DDLP will be informed immediately and best efforts are made to ensure the child is adequately fed throughout the day. • If a child is regularly provided with insufficient lunch the class teacher discusses it with the parents in the first instance. If the situation does not improve the class teacher will take appropriate action to ensure resolution in consultation with the Principal.
Classroom teaching	Harm to pupils Harm by school personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All school staff will be supplied with a hard copy of the school Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment. • Glass viewing panels installed in S.E.T. Classrooms. • Glass viewing panels will not be obstructed in any way. • Garda Vetting Secured Procedures

		Harm from other pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protection Awareness & Training • Mission Statement & Code of Behaviour
	School Outings	Harm to pupils, unknown adults/public in the same environs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue suitability checked & where possible, exclusive use secured for our pupils for the duration. • Adequate supervision by garda vetted personnel. • Appendix A – Tours/Trips. • Pupils will not be permitted to board / remain on a bus without school staff supervision.
	School transport arrangements.	Risk of child being harmed by another adult.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school will only use transport operators that have a “Road Passenger Transport Operator’s Licence”; are garda vetted and have Túsla First training. • All our bus escorts are garda vetted and have studied the Túsla Child Protection Training module and submitted their assessment certificate for our records. <p>Furthermore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus escorts will notify the DLP / DDLP of any notable child protection concerns. • The school shall receive confirmation from any service provider that their employees are suitably vetted.
	Homework club	Harm to pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting Secured Procedures • Child Protection Awareness & Training
	Use of toilet/changing areas in schools	Inappropriate behaviour causing potential harm to pupils.	<p>During pupil contact time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class teachers will supervise pupil’s use of toilet facilities. • Only one pupil at a time permitted in the toilet cubicle. <p>During recreation breaks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils are encouraged to use the toilet facilities before / after breaks. • Pupils must get permission from the SNA on yard duty to enter the school to use the toilets. • Only one pupil at a time permitted in toilet cubicles. • Pupils can only access the building through the nearest doors. • Usage & supervision under our Appendix A guidelines: ‘Intimate care needs’ heading.

	Fundraising events involving pupils	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate supervision by Garda Vetted Personnel & School Staff
	Use of off-site facilities for school activities	<p>Harm from other adults at the venue.</p> <p>Harm from other pupils.</p>	<p>In line with our Supervision Policy and Health & Safety Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All teachers will exercise a Duty of Care to pupils during sporting activities whether undertaken on site or off-site. • When off-site teachers will as far as is practicable have a second staff member with them to safeguard the supervision and care of pupils. • Adequate supervision by Garda Vetted Personnel. • Strict adherence to Appendix A guidelines 'Changing for Games/P.E./Swimming & 'Children travelling in Staff Cars'.
	School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	Harm to pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate supervision by Garda Vetted Personnel • Appendix A guidelines - Communication
	Administration of Medicine	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another adult.</p> <p>Check expiry dates on medicines.</p>	<p>In line with our school Administration of Medicines Policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents are welcomed into the school to administer medication to pupils. • Older pupils may self-administer medication following detailed guidance on the matter by parents / guardians and teacher briefed on the topic by parents / guardians.
	Administration of First Aid	<p>Harm to pupils</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another adult.</p>	<p>In line with the Accident & Injury Policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff will exercise their duty of care to pupils for the duration of the school day. • Only Garda Vetted school personnel are permitted to administer First Aid. • First Aid Training/Diabetes Training from Diabetes Nurse, defibrillator training, to be used if need be. <p>In the event of Accident or Injury to a pupil:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor accidents / injuries will be treated by the relevant staff member in the presence / view of other pupil/s / staff. • Accidents / injuries that involve treatment of minor cuts, bumps etc that are not exposed, will be alerted to the child's parents / guardians by phone, briefed on the issue and bring the child home for treatment if deemed appropriate. • A timely account of the incident should be recorded and signed by staff present in school accident / incident report book. • Minor incidents will be notified to Parents/Guardians at home time by their teacher.

<p>CoVid 19 nominated Isolation Areas</p>	<p>Risk of spread of infection to pupils.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 2 nominated isolation areas prepared. <p>In the event of a child displaying possible CoVid 19 symptom's the following procedures are adhered to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher contacts the office. • PPE is worn by The School Principal / nominated school personnel. • Principal / nominated school personnel will excuse the child from class directly to the nominated isolation area. A face mask is provided to the child while awaiting collection. • Parents / Guardians will be contacted immediately and child excused from the premises. • Parents are directed to seek GP advice and liaise with the School Principal thereafter. • The nominated isolation area will be removed from service, signage displayed, disinfected and left to dry. • The School Principal will make a note of the incident in her CoVid 19 diary and keep staff notified on an need to know basis. • The school Principal will follow public health guidelines on the matter and communicate accordingly.
<p>Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum – volunteers/Parents</p>	<p>Harm to pupils</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These visits are arranged and confirmed by prior appointment only. • Class Teacher to remain with the class. • Garda Vetting Procedures Secured • Child Protection Awareness & Training • Adequate supervision by school personnel
<p>Interaction with visitors to the school / external coaches</p>	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another adult.</p> <p>Risk of harm not being recognised by school staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors and external coaches must check in at reception at the front entrance before accessing the main school. • Regular visitors e.g. guest speakers are vetted and a copy of their vetting (either hard copy or digital) will be provided to the school. • Persons administering external programmes (e.g. GAA coaches etc) through another body will provide the school with confirmation of vetting from their relevant organisation and a copy of any appropriate insurance. <p>In line with our school Health and Safety Statement :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are closely supervised by staff members during all school events in which visitors are invited to or are present in the school.

<p>Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General learning difficulties /developmental language delay • 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 	<p>Harm to pupils, bullying.</p>	<p>In line with our school Mission Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Anne’s Loreto PS will be welcoming, caring and respectful towards the needs of all pupils. • Parents will be notified of any changes from agreed procedures. • At all times the dignity and privacy of the pupil will be paramount. • Staff will facilitate, as far as is practicable professional report recommendations. <p>Practices and procedures in this regard are detailed in various school policies such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Anti Cyber Bullying Policy • S.P.H.E. Policy • Supervision Policy • Mobile Phone Policy • Acceptable usage Policy • School Tours Policy • Garda Vetting Procedures Secured. • Child Protection Awareness & Training • Adequate supervision by school personnel • Appendix A guidelines – Communication
<p>Recruitment of school personnel including -</p> <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 	<p>Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff • Appendix A guidelines – Induction of Staff • Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST • Vetting Procedures Secured • Parent Volunteers are welcomed by appointment and supervised at all times. • Visiting Contractors are scheduled for after school hours as far as is practicable and supervised by the Principal / School Caretaker. • Adequate supervision by School Personnel

	school activities		
	Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to school	Harm to pupils	<p>In line with our school Supervision Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils will not be permitted to make their way to the church unaccompanied. • Teachers will ensure there is effective supervision at all times both en route to, from and in the church. • Where ceremonies are conducted outside of school time it is parents responsibility to ensure that there are suitable arrangements in place for getting pupils to and from the event location. • Where ceremonies take place as part of a scheduled mass outside of school time it is parents responsibility to ensure that their child/children are adequately supervised and that suitable arrangements are in place for getting pupils to and from the ceremony. • Garda Vetting Secured Procedures • Child Protection Awareness & Training • Adequate supervision by school personnel
	Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	<p>Risk of harm due to children inappropriately access/using computers, social media, phone and other devices while at school.</p> <p>Harm to pupils - Bullying</p>	<p>Access to the internet is filtered by PDST Technology in Education. All Filtering Levels are designed to block content of an illegal or pornographic content. Our school has a filtering setting which allows access to YouTube but blocks websites that are categorised as Personal such as blogs and Social Networking such as Flickr or Face Book.</p> <p>In line with our schools' Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each child signs an iPad contract, the conditions attached are revised annually. • Internet sessions are always supervised by a teacher / nominated school personnel. • Access to the Internet is under the guidance of the teacher. See AUP for more details. • ICT policy including firewall software. • Anti-Bullying Policy • Appendix A guidelines – Internet Safety. • Code of Behaviour • Adequate supervision by school personnel • Awareness & Training of staff/pupils : Webwise
	Online teaching and learning	Risk of harm due to inappropriate remote teaching and learning	The school has an Acceptable Use Policy & Remote Teaching and Learning Policy in place to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely.

		communication platform.	
	Use of tablet devices and smartphone in the classroom and in the course of the school day.	Risk of harm associated with misuse, abuse of devices and the various associated technologies.	The school has an Acceptable Use Policy & Remote Teaching and Learning Policy in place covering the use of tablet devices and smartphones in the classroom and during the school day, as outlined in Circular 0038/2018
	Storage and publication of photos of children.	Risk of pupil images being accessed and used inappropriately.	In line with the Data Protection Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental consent to take photos is obtained by the school on Enrolment. • Class teachers are made aware of any children in his or her class who do not have permission to be in school photos. • Pupils names are not published with photos uploaded to the school website or class blogs. • Pupils are not permitted to use electronic devices (e.g. iPads, cameras, personal devices) unless under the supervision of an adult and for educational purposes only. • Pupils are not permitted to have in their possession or use their own personal camera phones / digital devices during the school day, on the school campus or at school events.
	Data Protection	Risk of personal information regarding pupils being accessed and used inappropriately.	In line with the Data Protection Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidential documents relating to children in the school are stored securely in the school and compliant with current GDPR regulations. • Hard copies are stored in locked filing cabinets. • Soft copies are stored in a secure online database. A username & password is required to access the documents. • Documents are only shared with staff on a need to know basis.
	Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention	Harm to pupils Harm from other	In line with school Policy on Detention of Pupils and the School Code of Behaviour: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with the school Code of Behaviour and Policy on Detention of Pupils, detention

<p>of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.</p>	<p>pupils Harm by School Personnel</p>	<p>of pupils during recreation breaks may be used as a sanction for challenging behaviour. During detention periods pupils will be supervised by the Principal or another appointed staff member.</p> <p>In line with the school Policy on Use of Mobile Phones.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phones if brought into school by a pupil are their responsibility and must be switched off. • Any pupil found with a phone switched on or using a phone during the school day will have the phone confiscated and it will remain so until it is collected, in person, by a parent / guardian. • ICT policy including firewall software. • Anti-Bullying Policy • Code of Behaviour • Adequate supervision by school personnel • Awareness & Training of staff/pupils : Webwise • Acceptable Use Policy
<p>Student teachers undertaking training placement in school</p>	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another adult.</p>	<p>In line with our School Charter on Students on Teaching Placement:</p> <p>It is at the discretion of the Board of Management to accept a student on teaching placement. It is the responsibility of said student to provide the school with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written request to the Board of Management to apply for placement. • Written verification that the placement is supported by and indemnified by the college in which the student is attending. • Confirmation that St. Anne’s Loreto PS vetting obligations (as per DES circular 31/2016) will be complied with in advance of commencing teaching placement. • Teachers will remain in the classroom at all times. • Appendix A guidelines – Induction of Staff • Garda Vetting Procedures Secured • Code of Behaviour • Adequate supervision by school personnel
<p>Students participating in work experience.</p>	<p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by another adult.</p>	<p>In line with our school guidelines on Students on work Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school requires confirmation from the school/college, in writing that St. Anne’s

		<p>Loreto P.S. vetting obligations (as per DES circular 31/2016) will be complied with in advance of commencing any work placement/workshop.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must be able to provide current NVB vetting documentation which should be processed in <u>advance</u> of placement start date through the students post-primary school or the relevant colleges. • Due to current legislation the school will not offer work experience / TY placement to students who cannot meet vetting obligations (under 16 years of age).
Parental involvement in school activities.	Risk of child being harmed in school by another adult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where parents visit the school to take part or assist in school activities on a one off or irregular basis the responsibility for supervision and care of pupils rests with the relevant teacher. Where parents visit the school to take part or assist in school activities on regular basis they will be required to undergo vetting through the Meath Diocesan Office.
Use of the school premises by outside groups / individuals	Risk from other adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to the school will not be granted to any outside group for use during the school day from 9.00 am to 3 pm except by Board of Management consent in advance. <p>In line with our schools Use of School Premises Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the event of individuals / groups using the school premises out of school hours where there will be unrestricted access to children, it is essential that those who have said access provide evidence of up to date vetting to the BOM. • These children are supervised at all times by the adults, with their parents also taking responsibility for checking the garda vetting credentials of the activity leaders/providers.
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Harm to pupils via Inappropriate Social Media Use	<p>It is school policy that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents will be informed annually that any photographs or videos of school events or school related activities taken by parents or other individuals are for private, personal use only. • Photographs or videos of school events or school related activities taken by parents or other individuals must not be uploaded to any website and / or social media platform to be viewed by others (e.g. Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, etc) • Messages / excerpts of messages communicated on our school Aladdin Connect Database are specifically for our school community only and must not be shared on any website / social media platform. • Adequate supervision by school personnel

	<p>After school use of school premises by other organisations – Music tuition, Red Cross,</p>	<p>Inappropriate behaviour causing potential harm to pupils.</p>	<p>In line with our school's Use of the School Premises Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals/groups using the facilities of St. Anne's Loreto PS are required to put procedures in place to ensure that all children in their care are properly supervised at all times. This includes the supervision and care of pupils waiting beforehand and waiting to be collected afterwards. • Responsibility lies solely with the individual/Group using the premises for communicating with Parents about Start/Finishing times; Cancellations or re-scheduling. A contact number should be provided to parents. • Garda Vetting Procedures Secured • Behaviour Code • Adequate supervision by organisation personnel
	<p>Children not collected from after school activities.</p>	<p>Risk from other pupils</p> <p>Risk from other adults</p> <p>Inform Principal and is a pattern is evident the Principal will consider.</p>	<p>In line with our school Use of the School Premises and Supervision Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the case of school related activities, all parents are made aware of the finishing time of activities and that pupils must be collected on time. If a pupil is not collected on time the teacher(s) in charge must make contact with the parents. • Teachers will remind parents of their obligation to ensure that the St Anne's Loreto Primary School data base has accurate contact information at all times. • In the event of a teacher being unable to make contact with either a parent or a nominated emergency contact, the teacher shall ring the TUSLA Duty Social Worker to advise, record details of same and take the appropriate action as advised. • Individuals/groups using the facilities of St. Anne's Loreto PS are required to put procedures in place to ensure that all children in their care are properly supervised at all times. This includes the supervision and care of pupils waiting beforehand and waiting to be collected afterwards and toileting. • Responsibility lies solely with the individual / group using the premises for communicating with Parents about Starting / Finishing times. Cancellations or re-scheduling. A contact number should be provided to parents.

St. Anne's Loreto Primary School's Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the **Children First Act 2015**. The **Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017** and TúsIa's **Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice**. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while there are availing of our service.

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 17th May 2018. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed *Máire O'Donoghue*

Date 23rd February 2023

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed *Clodhna O'Bráin*

Date 23rd February 2023

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

APPENDIX A

Child Protection Practices

The staff and BoM of this school have identified the following as areas of specific concern in relation to Child Protection. Following discussion and consultation, the staff and BoM have agreed that the following practices be adopted:

- Physical contact between school personnel and the child should always be in response to the needs of the child and not the needs of the adult.

While physical contact may be used to comfort, reassure or assist a child, the following should be factors in determining its appropriateness:

- It is acceptable to the child
- It is open and not secretive
- The age and developmental stage of the child

School personnel should avoid doing anything of a personal nature for children that they can do for themselves.

School personnel should never engage in or allow:

- The use of inappropriate language or behaviours
- Physical punishment of any kind
- Sexually provocative games or suggestive comments about or to a child
- The use of sexually explicit or pornographic material

All media platforms and products (CDs, DVDs and online videos / programmes etc. should be checked for their appropriateness with regard to age and suitability).

Visitors/Guest Speakers

Visitors to the school are generally welcomed by appointment and will be signed in and given a visitor access badge.

Visitors/Guest speakers should never be left alone with pupils. The school (principal/teachers) has a responsibility to check out the credentials of the visitor/guest speaker and to ensure that the material in use is appropriate.

Children with specific toileting/intimate care needs

- In all situations where a pupil needs assistance with toileting/intimate care, a meeting will be convened as far as is practicable after enrolment and before the child starts school, between parents/guardians, class teacher, special needs assistant, Principal and if appropriate the pupil. The purpose of the meeting will be to ascertain the specific needs of the child and to determine how the school can best meet those needs
- The staff to be involved in this care will be identified and provision will be made for occasions when the particular staff involved are absent.
- Two members of staff will be within proximity when dealing with intimate care/toileting needs. Any deviation from the agreed procedure will be recorded and notified to the DLP / DDLP and the parents/guardians.

Toileting accidents

Clean underwear and a change of clothing must be provided by the parents/guardians and will be stored in the classroom so that if a pupil has a 'toileting accident' they will in the first instance be offered fresh clothing into which they can change.

If the pupil for whatever reason cannot clean or change themselves and the parents/guardians cannot be contacted, the child will be assisted by members of staff familiar to the child. In all such situations, two members of staff should be present. A record of all such incidents will be kept and Principal and parents/guardians will be notified.

Accidents

While every precaution will be taken under our Health and Safety Statement to ensure the safety of children, we realise that accidents will happen. Accidents will be noted on the day in our Accident/Incident book and signed by those staff members present at the time.

One-to-one teaching

- It is the policy in this school that one-to-one teaching can be in the best interest of the child
- Every effort will be made to ensure that this teaching takes place in an open environment
- Parents of children who are to be involved in one-to-one teaching will be informed and their agreement sought
- Work being carried out by Special Needs Assistants will be carried out under the direction of the class teacher in an open environment.

Changing for games/ PE / Swimming

Pupils will be expected to dress and undress themselves for Games/ PE/ Swimming. Where assistance is needed this will be done in the communal area and with the consent of parents. Under no circumstances will members of staff/ volunteers be expected to or allowed to dress/undress a child in a cubicle/private area. In such situations where privacy is required, the parents/guardians of the child will be asked to assist the child. St. Anne's will endeavour to have two male volunteers/member of staff in the male changing area and two female members of staff/ volunteers in the female changing area.

The BoM of St. Anne's Loreto P.S. has requested that all staff present at swimming activities be vetted for forthcoming school years. At all times there must be adequate supervision of pupils. While every effort will be made to adhere to best practice as agreed and outlined above, in the event of an emergency, a full record of the incident should be made and promptly reported to the Principal and parents/guardians.

Attendance

Our school attendance will be monitored as per our Attendance Policy. Due to CoVid 19 we are reliant on the discretion of the parents /guardians to seek prompt GP advice and excuse the child if an infection risk is possible. We respect this approach yet encourage parents/guardians to use their common sense to balance the non-CoVid related sickness with the importance of maintaining, as consistent as possible, presence at school to enhance their learning. With regards to child protection, we will pay particular attention to trends in non-attendance. We will also monitor non-attendance in correlation with signs of neglect/physical/emotional abuse.

Behaviour

Children are encouraged at all times to play co-operatively adopting our School Rules of "Kind Hands, Kind Feet, Kind Words", "Stop & Think", and "Include Others". Inappropriate behaviour will be addressed under our Code of Behaviour. If an incident occurs which we consider to be of a sexualised nature we will notify the DLP/DDLP who will record it, seek advice and respond to it appropriately.

Bullying

Bullying behaviour will be addressed under our Anti-Bullying policy. If the behaviour involved is of a sexualised nature or regarded as being particularly abusive, then the matter will be referred to the DLP/DDLP.

Children travelling in staff cars

In the event of school activities, where a member of staff must use their own car to transport children another member of school staff must accompany the driver. Child must be seated in the rear of the car with their seatbelts on during transportation.

Communication

Every effort will be made to enhance pupil-teacher and parent/teacher communication. If pupils/parents have concerns they will be listened to sympathetically. It is especially important that **issues are managed on the same day as they occur** so that accurate accounts can be recorded from all parties concerned. The SPHE/Oral Language/RE programmes allow for open pupil-teacher communication, which is hoped will aid the pupil-teacher relationship. If teachers have to communicate with pupils on a one-to-one basis, they are requested to leave the classroom door open and/or request a colleague to attend. Parents are always welcome to make an appointment to speak with teachers, preferably during non-contact class time.

Induction of Staff

The DLP/DDLP will be responsible for informing all new teachers and ancillary staff of the Child Protection Guidelines and Procedures (DES, 2017) and Children First Act (2015), but particularly the recently published Children First – National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017). The DLP/DDLP will supply a copy of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary & Post-Primary Schools 2017 (DES) and Children First National Guidance for the Protection & Welfare of Children 2017 (DCYA) and the St. Anne's Loreto Primary School Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Document to all new staff. All teachers are expected to teach the designated SPHE objectives for their class.

Induction of Pupils

All parents and children will be made aware of attendance rules and their implications as laid down in the Education Welfare Act (2000). All parents will be informed of the programmes in place in the school that deal with personal development e.g. RSE, Walk Tall, Stay Safe and SPHE. A copy of the school's Admission Policy is available to view on the school website. Parents are encouraged to make an appointment to call / email the class teacher if they wish to discuss their child's progress. All parents will be guided to the policies of the school including the school's Code of Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy on the schools website www.stannesnavan.ie.

Internet Safety

It is the intention of the Principal and Staff at St. Anne's Loreto P.S. to ensure that child protection concerns will be addressed in the school's Acceptable Use Policy as part of its Information and Communication Technology policy. The Stay Safe lessons in each classroom will be supplemented with a lesson from the Webwise resource pack made available to schools at www.webwise.ie

Record Keeping

Children's school reports are kept in the filing cabinet in the Principal's office. Electronic roll books will be updated daily. Sensitive information regarding children will be shared on a need-to-know basis. All educational files of pupils who no longer attend this school are boxed and stored. Information regarding disclosures are filed and kept in a secure filing cabinet.

Supervision

The school's supervision procedures will be followed by all staff to ensure that there is comprehensive supervision of children at all breaks. A rota will be displayed to cover little break and lunchtime breaks. See Supervision Procedures for agreed rules around break-times.

Visibility

Teachers will ensure that children are visible in the school playground and remain in their designated class "zone" areas. Children will not be allowed to spend time in classrooms, toilets or sheds where they would not be under adult supervision during recreation breaks. Children are not to leave the school playground without school staff consent or to engage with any adults who are outside of the school playground, as outlined in our 'Stay Safe' lessons and role-modelling of these potential scenarios.

Trips/Tours/Outings

Outside of normal class activities, such as library visits, church visits, nature walks, specific consent will be sought from Parents/Guardians in the form of one of the following:

- a. Consent forms
- b. Permission request on Aladdin Connect
- c. Orally by the class teacher.

Specific consent will be needed to be furnished for each child for them to participate in the outing. In the event that there is no consent provided on the date/time stated by the parents/guardians arrangements will be made, at the discretion of the Principal and class teacher for this eventuality.

Two adults minimum shall accompany children on these outings

1. Teacher will bring a copy of the class contact details in the event of needing to communicate with parents/guardians and/or call the school office to send out a notification on Aladdin Connect.
2. Upon return to school, all pupils will remain with 2 school staff members until safely collected.
If a pupil is allowed to return home independently, the school needs to be notified in writing of this consent by their parents in advance of the day trip.
3. A first aid kit will accompany the group on tour.
4. School staff will be in attendance with the pupils throughout the tour / outing.

