

Abbey Community College

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

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 Abbey Community College.

1. List of school activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils, and recreation breaks for pupils
- Classroom teaching
- One-to-one teaching and one-to-one counselling
- Curricular provision, in particular, SPHE, RSE
- Co-curricular activities including sports, homework club/evening study, work experience, fundraising events, school outings and school trips
- Use of external personnel and facilities to support curricular other co-curricular activities
- Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed, care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs
- School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
- Administration of First Aid and Medicine
- Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
- Training of school personnel in child protection matters
- Recruitment of school personnel
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school
- Use of video/photography/other media to record school events.

2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities

- 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 curricular or co-curricular activities
- Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child including bullying

- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school or on school activities
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications (including inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices) between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities.

3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment

- The *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017* are made available to all school personnel and training as been provided for 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*
- All teachers are provided with The Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers as published by the Teaching Council in accordance with section 7(2) (b) of the Teaching Council Acts, 2001-2015. **Updated 2nd edition 2016**
- Staff are reminded of their responsibilities under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 at the beginning of each academic year
- The school has formulated a bank of policies **which are reviewed periodically** to provide for a safe structured learning environment.

[<http://www.abbeycommunitycollege.com/Page/Policies/1989/Index.html>]

- 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*
- Appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal, breaks and Co-curricular activities including sports, homework club/evening study, work experience, fundraising events, school outings and school trips.
- The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils
- The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum and has Wellbeing provision at Junior Cycle
- The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan

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 23/09/2020.

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

Signed: 

Signed: Michelle Jefford

Chairperson of Board of Management

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 23/9/20

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Abbey Community College
Ferrybank, Waterford