



**SCOIL MHUIRE CARLANSTOWN**  
CARLANSTOWN, KELLS, CO. MEATH  
ROLL NO. 18132 Q

### **CHILD SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT 2023 – 2024**

*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 2023, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Scoil Mhuire Carlanstown*

#### **1. LIST OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

- *Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils*
- *Recreation breaks for pupils*
- *Classroom teaching*
- *One-to-one teaching*
- *Remote Teaching/Distance Learning*
- *Zoom Calls with a pupil/group/class as part of Distance Learning Programme*
- *Outdoor teaching activities*
- *Sporting Activities including swimming*
- *School tours & fieldtrips*
- *Use of toilet/changing 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*
- *Administration of Medicine*
- *Administration of First Aid*
- *Sanitising children's hands on the playground and in the classroom as part of our COVID 19*
- *Response Plan*
- *Sanitising children's workspaces, resources etc*
- *Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe*
- *Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils*



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- *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 such as*
  - *Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants*
  - *Members of the Traveller community*
  - *Pupils of minority religious faiths*
  - *Children in care*
  - *Children with medical 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 IT and Digital platforms & apps by pupils in school and at home as part of Distance Learning*
- *Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils*
- *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*



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**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 children & staff from SEN children with violent outburst, severe meltdowns.
- Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care
- Risk of harm while a child is undressing/dressing at the swimming pool
- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching
- 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.





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**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 2023 are made available to all school personnel*
- *School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2023 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 yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets.*
- *The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings*
- *The school has a Health and Safety policy*
- *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 a Special Educational Needs policy*
- *The School has a Distance Learning Policy and clearly communicated protocols in relation to Zoom calls with pupils/groups/classes*
- *The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care*
- *The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils*
- *The school has procedures in place as part of the COVID Response Plan for sanitising pupils, hands and sanitising pupils' workspaces, resources etc throughout the school day.*
- *Staff are fully trained in the appropriate use of PPE*



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- *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 and complete the online E-Learning module on Child Protection or provide evidence of same*
  - *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 a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid*
  - *The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils*
  - *The school has in place an AUP policy in respect of usage of ICT by pupils*
  - *The school has in place a mobile phone & electronic device policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils*
  - *The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan, including procedures for Managing Aggressive & Violent Outburst from pupils.*
  - *The school has in place procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum*
  - *The school, in consultation with the local swimming pool, has devised a swim policy with particular reference to parents/adults accessing the changing room*
  - *The school has in place clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities*
  - *The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements*
  - *The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school*
  - *The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.*



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- *The school's COVID 19 Policy & Response Plan combined with the revised school routines and protocols gives clear and actionable guidance for staff, parents, pupils and the wider school community in relation to the prevention, early detection and control of COVID-19 in our school.*
- *The school will work under the direction of the Public Health Officials & follow any public health advice in the event of a case(s) or outbreak in the school.*

**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 2023*

*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.*



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*This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management in January 2024.*

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

Signed *[Signature]* Date: 01.24

**Chairperson, Board of Management**

Signed *Colleen Garvey* Date: 01.24

**Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management**

