

# Castleblakeney National School

Castleblakeney, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway Tel. No. 090 9678433 U.R. 164641

DLP - Ms. Anna Maher

Deputy DLP - Mrs. Michelle Walsh

## Mandatory Template 1: Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment Template

### Written Assessment of Risk of Castleblakeney National School

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 (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Castleblakeney N.S.

<b>1. List of school activities</b>	<b>2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities</b>	<b>3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment</b>
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Harm not recognised reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff.
One to One Teaching	Harm by school personnel	School has set guidelines in Additional Support Guidelines for one to one teaching. Open doors Table between teacher and pupil Glass in window
Care of Children with Special Needs including intimate care needs.	Harm by school personnel	Policy on Toileting and Intimate Care Needs
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Non teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full every alternate year.
LGBTQIA+ Children/ Pupil perceived to be LGBT	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy/Bí Cineálta

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		Code of Behaviour
Daily Dismissal of pupils	Unknown adults circulating pick up area	Dismissal supervised by Teachers and SNAs
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint.	Injury to pupils and staff	Health and Safety Policy Code of Behaviour Policy on Physical Intervention with Pupils.
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	Coaches Garda Vetted Coaching Sessions supervised by teacher- Supervision Policy
Students participating in work experience	Harm by student	Supervision Policy Child Safeguarding Statement
Recreation Breaks for Children	Bullying behaviour among pupils	Supervision Policy
Classroom teaching	Harm by school personnel	Code of Professional Conduct Teaching Council
Outdoor Teaching Activities	Harm by school personnel	Code of Professional Conduct Teaching Council Supervision Policy
Sporting Activities	Harm by school personnel	Code of Professional Conduct Teaching Council Supervision Policy
School Outings	Harm by school personnel Harm by tour guides/instructors	Code of Professional Conduct Teaching Council Supervision Policy Ensure tour venue is fit for purpose and instructors are properly trained and vetted

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Use of toilet/changing areas in schools	Harm by school personnel Harm by other children	Policy on Toileting and Intimate Care Needs Supervision Policy
Annual Sports Day	Harm by school personnel Harm by other children	Code of Professional Conduct Teaching Council Supervision Policy
Use of off site facilities for school activities	Harm by school personnel Harm by other users of the facility	Supervision Policy Avoid using Ashfield Pitch/Playground while it is in use by another group. Check changing areas prior to permitting children to enter.
School Transport to Events/Competitions	Harm by school personnel Harm by bus driver	Supervision Policy
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	Harm by School Personnel	Administration of Medicine Policy Accident Injury Policy
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Lack of supervision	Supervision Policy Anti- Bullying Policy/ Bí Cineálta
Training of School Personnel in Child Protection matters	Failure to provide training	Allocate Croke Park time for training Avail of PDST training when required Make documents available to staff in hard and soft copy.
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm by External Personnel	Code of Conduct for External Agencies in the Sports and Arts

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Care of Pupils with Specific Vulnerabilities/Needs such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants</li><li>• Members of the Traveller Community</li><li>• Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or transgender children</li><li>• Pupils perceived to be LGBT</li><li>• Pupils of minority religious faiths</li><li>• Children in care</li><li>• Children on CPNS(Child Protection Notice Scheme)</li></ul>	Harm by school personnel Harm by peers	Anti- Bullying Policy/ Bí Cineálta Supervision Policy
Recruitment of school personnel including- Teachers SNAs 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	Harm not recognised o promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff. Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST Vetting Procedures Code of Conduct for External Agencies for Sports and Arts.

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Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school Online Teaching and Learning	Bullying	ICT Policy Anti Bullying Policy/Bí Cineálta Code of Behaviour Code of Professional Conduct Teaching Council
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc	Harm by school personnel	Supervision Policy
Student Teachers participating in work experience/teaching practice in the school.	Harm by Students on Work Experience/Teacher training	Submission of Garda Vetting Supervision Policy
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Inappropriate use of material	Acceptable Use Policy Reminder to parents prior to attendance of school event about acceptable use policy.
After School use of school premises by other organisations.	Harm by external personnel	Submission of Garda Vetting prior to granting of premises.

**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 the general health & safety risk. The definition of harm is set out in Chapter 4 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post- Primary Schools (revised 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 on 02/10/2025. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: Mr. Laurence Mockler **Mr. Laurence Mockler** 02/10/2025

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed: Ms. Anna Maher Date 02/10/2025

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management **Ms. Anna Maher**