Scoil Mhuire, Gabhrán

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Mhuire, Gowran.

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 Gowran National School.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment
(of any potential harm)

1.List of School Activities	2. The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	3.The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
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 or properly or promptly reported Harm by school personnel	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Harm not recognised or reported promptly Non training of staff	The school : • Has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment • Ensures all new staff and substitute teachers are provided with a copy of the school's Safeguarding Statement • Copies of DES procedures and Children First

		made available to all staff • Teaching staff to avail of relevant online training on PDST website training • Ancillary staff to view Tusla online training module • Encourages BOM members to avail of relevant training • Maintains records of all staff and board member training DLP& DDLP to attend PDST and other relevant face to face training
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel	Open doors Glass panel in door
One-to-one counselling/assessment	Harm by a member of staff of another organisation Harm by school personnel	Same procedures for one-to-one teaching Open doors Glass panel in door
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm caused by personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material Harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities Harm by member of staff of another organisation Inadequate supervision Harm not being reported properly and promptly	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 Code of Conduct

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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
Classroom teaching	Harm not being reported properly and promptly Harm by school personnel Harm by another child	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 2017* are made available to 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* The school adheres to the teaching council Professional Codes of Conduct for teachers
Remote Teaching and Learning Since the COVID19 pandemic, children are engaging in live distance learning, known as synchronous learning. This involves children using digital devices to engage with the school	Harm not recognised or reported promptly Increased barriers to children reporting concerns Harm due to inadequate supervision Children exposed to inappropriate behaviour or abuse in the virtual learning environment	As above: The school, in general, takes the same position on online interactions as it does on offline interactions. If something occurs online that is a child protection concern, it will be treated in the same manner. It is impossible to predict all the risks; however, the following is recommended for all parties: • Children should not be alone with any device. A parent or other caregiver should be in the same room as the child if he/she is engaging in a synchronous online class. • A staff member should never arrange to speak to a single pupil in an online forum • The parent/guardian will be sent the link to join an online meeting, not the pupil directly. The invitation must not be shared with anybody

		• All meetings will be password protected and use a waiting room • All screens must be visible. • The child's real name must be used unless asked otherwise. • All users must be dressed appropriately and age-appropriately. • The background, whether real or virtual, must be appropriate. • Sessions must never be recorded and photos must not be taken. • Pupil behaviour must be in-line with our Code of Behaviour.
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground	Children are supervised from 9.20am. A letter is sent to parents informing them that children are not supervised if dropped early to school. They are asked to designate someone to escort children to cars/buses if needed at 3pm. Older pupils are separated from younger pupils on the yard before school.
Pupils leaving during the school day	Harm by adults	The school has in place a procedure for early departures. Parent calls to school office to sign out pupil and give reason why. Adults other than parent identify themselves to school secretary who collects pupil from classroom. GDPR compliant pupil sign out book in use.

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Recreation breaks for pupils	Harm by another child Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour 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, changing rooms etc.
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Escalation of bullying leading to Child Protection issues Harm in counselling	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* One-to-one procedures
Outdoor teaching activities	Harm to pupils	Health and Safety Policy Codes of Behaviour
Sporting Activities	Harm by another child Harm not being reported properly and promptly Harm by school personnel Harm due to inadequate supervision	Code of Conduct Code of Behaviour Supervision Policy Health & Safety Policy

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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
Active Week / Sports Day	Inappropriate behaviour Harm by another child Harm not being recognised by school personnel Harm by a visitor to the school	Health & Safety policy Code of Behaviour SEN Policy Supervision Policy Sports day procedures
School outings	Harm not being recognised by school personnel Harm by school personnel/non-school personnel Harm by another child Inappropriate behaviour	The school has clear procedures in respect of school outings
Use of toilet/changing areas in school	Harm by school personnel/non-school personnel Bullying Harm by another child Inappropriate behaviour	Code of Behaviour Supervision Policy Usage procedures: sign out sheets in senior classes
Use of off-site facilities for school activities e.g. Swimming lessons School matches	Harm not being recognised by school personnel Inadequate supervision Harm by another adult/child	Clear procedures in respect of school outings Request for help in supervision of boys' changing rooms by male lifeguards Health & Safety Policy Code of Behaviour In the case of away matches, transport is organised by parents of pupils involved
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	Harm not being recognised by school personnel Harm by a member of school personnel Harm by a volunteer or visitor to the school	The school has in place a policy and procedures for the Administration of Medication to pupils Teachers have a list of vulnerable pupils in their Child Protection folder. List also in the office with

	Harm due to inadequate supervision Harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care	medication and instructions. Photographs of pupils in danger of anaphylactic shock on display in staffroom
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	The school has a Special Educational Needs Policy
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as • 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	Harm not being recognised by school personnel Harm by school personnel Harm by another child Inappropriate behaviour Bullying Harm not being reported properly and promptly	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 Special Educational Needs policy
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Injury to pupils and staff	Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour CPD for staff
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Bullying Harm by pupils/school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, digital service or other manner Harm by school personnel communicating with pupils in inappropriate manner Harm due to pupils inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while	ICT policy Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Acceptable User Agreement for ICT Equipment Children sign ICT contract at beginning of each year

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
	at school	
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour Harm by member of school personnel Harm not reported properly and promptly	The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils
Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction associated with the school	Inappropriate behaviour Harm not reported properly and promptly Harm by volunteer or other personnel	The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
Students studying teaching / child care undertaking training placement in school	Inappropriate behaviour Harm not reported properly and promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement 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 in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements
Transition year students participating in work experience	Harm by student Inappropriate behaviour	Work Experience Policy Child Safeguarding Statement. The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school. Students sign agreement. 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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Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Bullying Harm by pupils/school personnel /parents and relatives accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, digital service or other manner	The school has in place an ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by pupils The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of mobile phones by pupils Anti-Bullying Policy Parents of new infants sign consent form not to publish photographs etc. on social media without consent from parents of other children involved.

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 *[insert date]*. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed _____ Date _____

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed _____ Date _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management