**Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment**

**Written Assessment of Risk of Glenbeg NS**

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 **Glenbeg NS**.

1. **List of school activities:**

|  |
| --- |
| * Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters
* 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
* Students participating in work experience
* Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
* One to one teaching
* Outdoor teaching activities
* Use of external personnel to supplement sport and other extra-curricular activities
* Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum eg RSE, SPHE, Stay Safe
* Teacher and pupils teaching and learning in classroom
* Teacher and pupils teaching and learning remotely
* Care of Children with special needs, including personal hygiene and toileting needs
* Risk of pupils running away from supervising adult / classroom / school grounds
* Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint
* 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 Spraoi
* Children in care
* Children on CPNS (Child Protection Notification System)
* Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
* Recreation breaks for pupils
* Use of Sensory Room in Spraoi
* Use of toilet areas in school:
* Staff/Wheelchair accessible toilet in main building
* Toilets in classroom
* Staff toilet in Spraoi
* Children/Wheelchair accessible toilet in Spraoi
* Use of changing areas in school
* Sporting Activities
* Annual Sports Day
* Active School Flag Week
* Fundraising activities within school involving children
* Administration of Medicine
* Administration of First Aid
* Use of ICT (Information and Communication Technology) by pupils in school
* Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
* Application of sanctions under the school’s Code of Behaviour including detention of

pupils, confiscation of phones etc.* Student Council / Green Schools Meetings involving students, staff and other adults
* Students sent to alternative classrooms when a teacher is absent.
* School transport arrangements:
* To matches, church, tours, swimming, gymnastics, school events etc
* use of bus escorts
* Prevention and dealing with bullying behaviour amongst children
* School Fundraising Activities outside of school involving children
* School outings
* Use of off-site facilities for school activities eg Bushy Park
* After school use of school premises by other organisations
* Swimming lessons
* Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction outside of school
 |

1. **The school has identified the following risks 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 harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school
* Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
* Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
* Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching / coaching situation
* Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another

child or adult* Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child
* Risk of harm due to bullying of child including cyberbullying
* 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 inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school

activities* Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities
* Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving personal hygiene/toileting assistance
* Risk of harm due to teaching and learning remotely
* Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media,

phones and other devices while at school* Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in

an inappropriate 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.* Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning

communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms |

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

|  |
| --- |
| * Child Safeguarding Statement & The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-

Primary Schools 2017 are made available to all staff via email after annual review and at the start of the new school year.* 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 and its Addendum (2019)* Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment are displayed in the hall and on the

school website.* DLP & DDLP to complete PDST online training for the school year 2021/2022
* 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.* Encourages staff to avail of relevant training eg Tusla, PDST
* Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training
* Maintains records of all staff and board member training
* The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant

DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting.* Records of all relevant vetting are kept.
* The school has a code of conduct and Dignity at Work Policy for school personnel (teaching

and non-teaching staff).* The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff. See

Grievance & Complaints Procedures* Visitors/Parents etc cannot enter school without pre-arranging meeting or ringing the

office while outside. This is in-line with covid-19 guidance.* Visitor Sign in/out Log Book. This is part of the contact tracing guidance for Covid-19.
* The school has a(n):
* Acceptable Usage Policy. The AUP has been reviewed to mitigate the potential risks

linked to the use of devices in school and remote teaching and learning and has communicated this policy to parents.* Administration of Medicine and Managing Chronic Health Conditions Policy
* Anti-Bullying\_Cyber Bullying Policy which are fully compliant with

the Department’s *Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools*.* Attendance Policy – sign in/out
* Code of Behaviour
* Covid-19 Policy
* One-to-One Teaching Policy
* Open doors where necessary – this recommended due to Covid-19
* Table between teacher and pupil in SET – Perspex has been used as a divider
* Glass in door
* Personal hygiene and Toileting Policy
* Safety Statement
* School Tour Policy
* Individual Risk Assessment of external location re: toilets/ changing

facilities /suitability prior to visit* Children are paired/partnered
* Separate classrooms for boys & girls when changing
* Children all wait for each other
* Written Parental Permission sought for school trips
* Teacher / SNA assists with seat belts – NOT bus driver
* Special Education Policy
* Supervision Policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during, assembly,

arrival, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets etc* Arrival:

Supervised by 2 staff members and Principal from 8.45 – 9.00am 15mins towards Croke Park. Children line up in their relevant class lines/bubbles/Pods prior to 9amChildren go straight to their classrooms on wet days and are supervised by class Teachers from 8.45am* Dismissal supervised by Principal/Deputy Principal
* Designated class yards
* Children to play with those within similar age/ability range
* 5 staff members on duty for both junior and senior lunch breaks
* Recording of incidents in Incident Book/Class Behaviour Book
* Toilets in the classroom:

Toilets are in the classroomsChildren go one at a time* Toilets at lunchtime:

Children are encouraged to go to the toilet before yardThey return to their own classroom with another child during lunch* Class teacher remains with class at all times when external coaches are used.
* SNA goes with larger groups or with SEN child where required
* Sensory room – glass in the door. One adult with a minimum of 2 children at any one time
* Twitter policy – parental permission
* Work experience Policy
* Critical Incidents Policy. The CIMP has been reviewed and updated in line with

Guidelines on Responding to Covid 19.* The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum and the Stay Safe Programme. See

SPHE Plan for both.* Stay Safe Programme on cyber-bullying - workshops every 2nd year in January by

external facilitator |

It is acknowledged that schools already have in place a range of policies, practices and procedures to mitigate the risk of harm to children while they are participating in the activities of the school and that some school activities will carry low or minimal risks of harm compared to others. In the context of the risk assessment that must be undertaken by schools, the Children First Act, 2015 refers to risk as “any potential for harm”. Therefore, it is important that, as part of its risk assessment process, each school lists and reviews all of its various activities (which shall include identifying those that may carry low risk of harm as well as those that carry higher risks of harm). Doing so will help the school to (1) identify, as required under the Children First Act, 2015, any risks of harm that may exist in respect of the school’s activities, (2) identify and assess the adequacy of the various procedures already in place to manage those risks of harm and (3) identify and put in place any such additional procedures as are considered necessary to manage any risk identified.

The Addendum to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children published in January 2019 clarifies that organisations providing relevant services to children should consider the specific issue of online safety when carrying out their risk assessment and preparing their Child Safeguarding Statement.

The Guidance on Continuity of Schooling for primary and post-primary schools (April 2020) advises of the importance of teachers maintaining the safe and ethical use of the internet during distance learning and assisting parents and guardians to be aware of their role also. Schools should ensure that their Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) informs and guides remote or distance learning activity.

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 BoM and staff have 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 BoM on **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2021**. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Principal Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_