



SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE



Templeroan Lawn, Rathfarnham, D16 V389

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

For:	Sancta Maria College
At:	Ballyroan, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16 D16V389

This school is a: (tick appropriate) ☐ primary ☒ post-primary ☐ special school

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the Addendum to Children First (2019) and 2025, Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024), the board of management has adopted the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment set out in this document.

The board of management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the department's Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Name of the Designated Liaison Person (DLP):

Sorcha McManus

Name of the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP/DDLP):

Martin Flynn

In the absence of the DLP, the Deputy DLP shall assume responsibilities of the DLP

Name of Relevant Person

Sorcha McManus

(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:

01 4934887	principal@sanctamariacollege.com
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Under the Children First Act 2015 Relevant Person means a person who is appointed by a provider of a relevant service to be the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement. This person is nominated by the board of management to manage and provide oversight of child protection concerns/allegations of child abuse.

Name of Chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the Chief Executive or their delegate:

P.J. Gannon

Principal: Sorcha McManus – Deputy Principal: Martin Flynn

Tel: +353-1-493 4887 Fax: +353-1-495 0786 Email: info@sanctamariacollege.com

Registered Charity Number: 20145279



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In the event that both DLP and DDLP are absent and unavailable, and where there is no staff member formally acting in their role, the chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the chief executive or their delegate, assumes the role of DLP.

The board of management recognises that child protection and safeguarding permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In all of these, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare. The school will:

- ☒ Recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations.
- ☒ Fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children.
- ☒ Fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters.
- ☒ Adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm happening to children and protect members of school personnel from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of child abuse.
- ☒ Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.
- ☒ Fully respect confidentiality requirements as set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 in dealing with child protection matters.
- ☒ Adhere to the above principles in relation to any vulnerable adult.

Procedures and Measures in Place

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance 2017*, and *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024)*, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

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> Procedure for the Management of Allegations of Abuse or Misconduct against School Personnel Relating to a Child Availing of Our Service

~ Where any member of school personnel is the subject of any investigation in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in relation to a child attending the school, the school is required to adhere to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.

> Procedure for the Safe Recruitment and Selection of School Personnel to Work with Children

~ The school is required to adhere to the requirements of the Vetting Act. The selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, requires the school to adhere to the statutory vetting requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016, and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and Youth and available on the gov.ie website and as outlined in Chapter 10 of the procedures.

~ A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons.

> Procedure for Provision of and Access to Child Safeguarding Training and Information, Including the Identification of the Occurrence of Harm

~ The school provides information and training to members of school personnel in relation to the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) as follows:

~ The school has provided each member of school personnel, including any new members of school personnel, (employees and volunteers, board of management members, student teachers and those on work experience) with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

~ The school ensures that members of school personnel have availed of relevant training and completed child protection training.

~ The school encourages board of management members to avail of any relevant training and complete child protection training.

~ The board of management ensures that records of all staff and board member child protection training are maintained.

> Procedure for the Reporting of Child Protection or Welfare Concerns to Tusla

~ All members of school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, in relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla. Mandated reporting applies to all registered teachers

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and any other mandated person who may be employed by the school, for example a chaplain or nurse. A full list of those people who are mandated persons is set out in Appendix 1 procedures.

> Procedure for Maintaining a List of the Persons (if any) in the Relevant Service Who Are Mandated Persons

~ There is a procedure in place to maintain a list of mandated persons. Schools may on occasion employ additional staff who are mandated by virtue of their profession. This list will include all registered teachers and identify additional employees that are not registered teachers.

> Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person (In schools this person is the DLP) ~

There is a procedure in place for appointing a relevant person.

The various procedures referred to in this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025, and the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, the board of management carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school's procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.

Note: The procedures and measures in place outlined above, are not intended as exhaustive list. Individual boards of management shall also include in this section such other procedures and measures that are of relevance to the school.

This statement has been published on the school's website or will be made available on request by the school. It has been provided to all members of school personnel, the parents' association (if any), the patron and parents. A copy of this statement and risk assessment will be made available to Tusla and the department if requested.

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

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Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1. General Risk	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm by the public accessing students and the premises during arrival and dismissal times, due to permeability by the public through school grounds • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer/visitor/contractor to the school • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel	• The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2025) are made available to all school personnel. School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2025) and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the Addendum to Children First (2019), the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2025) • All staff-teaching and ancillary- staff have participated in in-service training on Child Protection. Verification of CPD including online training is maintained • All members of school personnel are Garda vetted • All teaching and ancillary staff, student teachers, SNAs and Language Assistants are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment • The recognition of risk and reporting of risk properly and promptly is addressed annually at whole-staff meetings • Staff adhere to school policies such as the Code of Behaviour and Bf Cineálta Policy (link here to policies) • School personnel remain present with children and supervise all contact with unvetted visitors/contractors/volunteers

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			- Measures are being developed to mitigate against risks arising from permeability by the public through the school grounds - All staff support and promote the school's Mission Statement.
2.	Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel - Risk of harm by the public accessing students and the premises during arrival and dismissal times, due to permeability by the public through school grounds - Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- See point 1 above - Parents/guardians are reminded that responsibility for students rests with families outside of school operating times - Staff supervision provided in school and on school grounds - Clear procedures for entry/exit and movement around the school - Students instructed to use safe routes and follow staff directions - Close monitoring of students who require additional support - All visitors must present themselves immediately to Reception where they sign in and wear a Visitor badge/lanyard - A volunteer/visitor policy is under development - CCTV in operation throughout the building and outside. - Following afterschool study, supervisors wait to ensure safe exit of students.
3.	Recreation breaks for students	- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel - Risk of harm by the public accessing students and the premises during	- See point 1 above - Supervision provided under the S&S Scheme - Students required to remain in designated supervised areas only

List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
	- recreation breaks due to permeability by the public through school grounds - Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel - Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised or restricted areas	- Reception manned during both breaks - CCTV in operation throughout the building and outside. - Supervising staff monitor movement and respond promptly to concerns.
4. Classroom teaching	- Risk of harm by a member of school personnel - Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school - Risk of harm due to students left unsupervised - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- See point 1 above - There is an expectation that teachers are punctual to class and present for their supervision and substitution cover - Supervision and substitution roster is regularly monitored and checked by the Principal and Deputy Principal in an effort to minimise risks to students. - CCTV in operation throughout the buildings and outside - There is a formal Induction Programme for all staff, which includes training on Child Protection. - A Staff Handbook is provided to new staff annually.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
5.	One-to-one teaching	• Risk of harm by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • One-to-one sessions take place in visible, accessible rooms (glass panels / doors open where appropriate) • Students not left alone in secluded areas • Other staff are aware of student location and timetable • Clear professional boundaries maintained at all times • Record kept of session times where appropriate.
6.	Small Group Learning Support (known as Special Education Teaching SET)	• Risk of harm by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • SET sessions held in visible (e.g. doors with glass panels), accessible rooms or areas with appropriate supervision.
7.	One-to-one counselling	• Risk of harm by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Sessions take place in rooms that are private but maintain visibility (e.g. doors with glass panels) • Clear professional boundaries maintained • Appointments scheduled and known to relevant staff • Appropriate record-keeping and communication with relevant support staff where required.
8.	Outdoor teaching activities	• Risk of harm by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm by the public accessing students and the premises due to	• See point 1 above • Outdoor activities planned with clear supervision and use of designated areas only

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		- permeability by the public through school grounds - Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer or visitor to the school - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- PE and other outdoor lessons follow safety guidelines and risk assessments - Staff avoid moving lessons outdoors solely because the weather is pleasant; decisions are based on educational need and safety.
9.	Online teaching and learning remotely	- Risk of harm by members of school personnel communicating digitally with students in an inappropriate manner - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- See point 1 above - Remote teaching only used when directed by the Department of Education or in exceptional circumstances such as severe weather or temporary building closure - Students and staff follow the school's Acceptable Use Policy(link here to policies) - Use of school-approved platforms only; staff maintain professional boundaries at all times - Clear expectations for behaviour, attendance and engagement communicated to students and families.
10.	Sports activities	- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel - Risk of harm by the public accessing students and the premises due to permeability by the public through school grounds - Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school	- See point 1 above - Activities supervised by staff; external coaches approved, vetted where required, and made aware of school procedures - All visitors must present themselves to Reception where they sign in and wear a Visitor badge/lanyard - Students use designated areas only - Updates or communication with teams follow the Acceptable Use policy.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas • Risk of harm by the public when travelling to/attending sports activities off site	• Clear procedures for off-site training, matches, and travel when applicable.
11.	School outings	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by members of the public • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas	• See point 1 above • Outings planned and approved in line with the School Tours Policy and the Health and Safety Statement (link here to policies) • Appropriate staff–student ratios determined by management; supervision maintained at all times • Students remain in designated areas and in groups; clear meeting points established • Clear communication with parents/guardians, including arrangements for drop-off and collection when trips extend beyond school hours • Transport arranged with approved providers and contact details retained as required in the policy.
12.	School trips involving overnights	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by members of the public	• See point 1 above • Trips planned and approved in line with the School Tours Policy and the Health & Safety Statement (link here to policies)

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas	• Clear staff–student ratios established; staff present and available at all times, including overnight • Students supervised in accommodation; room lists approved; no student permitted to move areas without permission • Staff follow the School Tours Policy, Code of Behaviour, Bí Cineálta Policy and other school policies throughout the entire trip (link here to policies) • Parents/guardians fully briefed; consent forms completed as required in the policy • Activities, curfews and expectations clearly communicated to students before and during the trip • Contact details for accommodation and transport providers recorded and retained as required by policy.
13.	School trips involving foreign travel	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by members of the public • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas • Risk of harm due to language or communication barriers	• See point 1 above • Trips approved and conducted in line with the School Tours Policy and Health & Safety Statement, including full planning, documentation and parental consent requirements (link here to policies) • Itinerary planned with Tour company • Clear supervision ratios; staff available at all times, including overnight • Meeting held with parents and students in advance of trip where details/itinerary clearly explained to all stakeholders by Co-ordinator(s) • Students briefed on safety, behaviour expectations, curfews and emergency procedures • Passports and documents stored securely in accordance with the policy; roll calls and headcounts conducted regularly

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			• Itinerary, accommodation details and emergency contacts communicated to parents/guardians as required • Students reminded never to go anywhere alone; designated meeting points and buddy systems used.
14.	Use of toilet/ changing/ shower areas in school	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas	• See point 1 above • Regular supervision and monitoring of these areas • Students reminded of expected behaviour under the Code of Behaviour, Bí Cineálta Policy and other school policies (link here to policies) • Mobile phones or devices not permitted in these areas • Students wear PE uniform on the day they are timetabled for PE – therefore they are not required to change • CCTV in operation throughout the buildings and outside.
15.	Annual Sports Day	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm by the public accessing students and the premises due to permeability by the public through school grounds • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel	• See point 1 above • Supervision provided at all stations and during movement to/from the venue • Students remain in designated areas • Access monitored to prevent entry by unauthorised individuals

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas • Risk of harm by the public when travelling to/attending sports activities off site	
16.	Fundraising events using students	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas • Risk of harm by the public when travelling to/attending fundraising activities	• See point 1 above • All fundraising activities sanctioned/agreed by the BOM in advance, in-line with the Financial Support Services Unit. • Parental/guardian consent sought where appropriate • Clear instructions and safety procedures explained beforehand • Adherence to Code of Behaviour which includes school mobile phone policy and parental image consent (link here to policies) • Adequate teacher-student supervision ratios maintained • Photographs and videos of students only taken with parental consent • Risk assessment completed for offsite locations, if relevant. • Additional support available where required (SNA etc.)
17.	Use of off-site facilities for school activities.	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Adequate teacher-student supervision ratios maintained

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas • Risk of harm by the public when travelling to/attending fundraising activities	• Facilities and providers approved in advance and used only with management permission • Clear instructions given to students; designated areas identified • Transport arranged with approved providers and procedures followed.
18.	School transport arrangements including the use of bus escorts.	Note: At present no SMC student uses a bus escort • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas • Risk of harm by the public when travelling to/from school	• See point 1 above • Transport arranged only with approved providers; clear procedures followed for pick-up and drop-off • Students expected to follow the Code of Behaviour, Bí Cineálta Policy and other school policies while travelling for school purposes (link here to policies) • Teachers/members of staff travel on each bus. • Adequate teacher/student ratio maintained • If students are travelling with parents to an event, permission is sought from the parents of students being transported in advance • Parents/guardians informed of their responsibility for ensuring safe travel when transport is privately arranged • Clear communication with families regarding times, locations and expectations.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
19.	Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas • Risk of harm by the public when travelling to/attending offsite events	• See point 1 above • All staff follow the school's Whole School Inclusion policy. • Relevant staff trained appropriately • Respect for student dignity and privacy at all times • Clear documentation and communication with parents/guardians • Staff awareness of individual care plans and medical needs • VSware and Microsoft Office to include relevant information • All classes take place in visible, accessible rooms (doors with glass panels / doors open where appropriate).
20.	Care of any vulnerable adults, students including intimate care where needed.	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas • Risk of harm by the public when travelling to/attending offsite events	• See point 1 above • All staff follow the school's Whole School Inclusion policy. • Relevant staff trained appropriately • Respect for student dignity and privacy at all times • Clear documentation and communication with parents/guardians • Staff awareness of individual care plans and medical needs • VSware and Microsoft Office to include relevant information • All classes take place in visible, accessible rooms (doors with glass panels / doors open where appropriate).

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
21.	Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required.	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • De-escalation strategies used wherever possible • Use of restraint only as a last resort and by trained staff • Staff aware of individual behaviour plans • Incidents recorded and communicated appropriately.
22.	Management of provision of food and drink.	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to students entering unsupervised areas	• See point 1 above
23.	Administration of medicine.	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel	• See point 1 above • Administration of medicines carried out strictly in line with the school's Health and Safety Statement (link here to policies) • Written parental/guardian consent required for all medication • All relevant staff receive necessary training for individual medical needs (e.g., EpiPen).

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	
24.	Administration of first aid.	- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel - Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- See point 1 above - First aid administered in line with the school's Health & Safety Statement (link here to policies) - Students who are unwell are not left alone; office informed promptly - Designated First Aiders contacted as required - Staff record all accidents and first aid incidents in the accident book - Medication not administered without parental/guardian consent.
25.	Curricular provision in respect of SPHE and RSE	- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel - Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- See point 1 above - SPHE/RSE delivered in line with the school's RSE Policy, including agreed class rules, confidentiality limits, and mandated-reporting procedures - Teachers assigned to SPHE/RSE are supported and trained as outlined in the RSE Policy - Use of external facilitators follows Circular 0043/2018 and school procedures (teacher remains present) - Lessons taught in accordance with the SPHE curriculum, promoting respectful behaviour in line with the Code of Behaviour - Any concerns about bullying, online behaviour, or peer relationships managed in line with the <i>Bí Cineálta</i> Policy

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			Sensitive disclosures handled according to Child Protection Procedures.
26.	Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel - Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- See point 1 above - Procedures for prevention, intervention, reporting, responding and monitoring are set out in the school's Bf Cineálta Policy (link here to policies).
27.	Training of school personnel in child protection matters	- Risk of staff being unclear on child protection procedures - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- See point 1 above - All staff complete the <i>Children First</i> eLearning Programme - All staff complete the Whole School Professional Learning Experience (PLE) - Key staff undertake additional training as required (e.g., DLP/Deputy DLP) - Policies and procedures communicated clearly and reviewed regularly - Staff aware of reporting procedures and responsibilities under Children First.
28.	Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	- Risk of child being harmed by external personnel - Risk of harm not being recognised by	- See point 1 above - External personnel vetted where appropriate and approved by school management.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		school personnel Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- Compliance with relevant Department of Education guidance (incl. Circular 0043/2018 regarding external facilitators, as referenced in the RSE Policy) - External personnel briefed on relevant school policies i.e. Child Protection, Code of Behaviour, SPHE/RSE, Health and Safety, etc where applicable. (link here to policies) - Programmes/activities agreed with the school in advance.
29.	Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities	- Risk of child being harmed by external personnel - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- See point 1 above - External personnel vetted where appropriate and approved by school management. - External personnel informed of relevant school policies e.g., Child Protection, Code of Behaviour, Health and Safety. (link here to policies) - Content reviewed and agreed in advance - No one-to-one unsupervised contact with students.
30.	Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs	- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel - Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer - Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel - Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	- See point 1 above - All staff follow the school's Whole School Inclusion policy. - Respect for student dignity and privacy at all times - Clear documentation and communication with parents/guardians - Staff awareness of individual care plans and medical needs - VSware and Microsoft Office to include relevant information

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			• All classes take place in visible, accessible rooms (doors with glass panels / doors open where appropriate) • Additional supports provided where needed (SNA, guidance, pastoral care).
31.	Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel • Risk of harm due to language barriers	• See point 1 above • Inclusive school practices and anti-bullying/Bi Cinealta policies implemented • Appropriate use of language supports (e.g. translation tools where appropriate) • Appropriate use of language supports provided by the Department of Education and Youth (e.g., EAL provision, SET Provision), • Staff awareness of cultural sensitivities • Promotion of respectful behaviour and diversity through SPHE and whole-school initiatives • Clear communication with parents/guardians using accessible formats.
32.	Members of the Traveller community	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Staff awareness of cultural diversity • Inclusive practices promoted across the school community • Support from guidance and pastoral teams as appropriate • Clear, respectful communication with parents/guardians • Monitoring to ensure all students and staff feel safe,

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			respected and included.
33.	Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBTQ+) students	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Promotion of an inclusive, respectful school environment • Staff awareness and sensitivity to the needs of LGBTQ+ students • Pastoral, guidance and wellbeing supports available as required • Monitoring of school climate to ensure all students feel safe and included • Stand UP Week • SPHE lessons.
34.	Students perceived to be LGBTQ+	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school	• See point 1 above • Promotion of an inclusive, respectful school environment • Staff awareness of sensitivities around perceived identity • Pastoral, guidance and wellbeing supports available • Ongoing monitoring to ensure all students feel safe and respected.
35.	Students of minority religious faiths and other beliefs	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer	• See point 1 above • Respect for students of all faiths and other beliefs in line with the Religious Education Policy, which states RE is inclusive of all students and exposes them to

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• many worldviews • Clear procedures for withdrawing from RE where requested, as outlined in policy and supported by the Admissions Policy opt-out clause • Staff awareness of cultural and religious sensitivities • Clear communication with parents/guardians about RE content, retreat days, and liturgical events.
36.	Children in care	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Promotion of an inclusive, respectful school environment • Awareness among staff of this group's potential additional needs and vulnerabilities.
37.	Children on Tusla's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Promotion of an inclusive, respectful school environment • Awareness among staff of this group's potential additional needs and vulnerabilities • Inclusive school environment i.e. Bí Cineálta Policy and Code of Behaviour policies applied to ensure students in care feel safe, accepted and supported (link here to policies).

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
38.	Children with medical needs	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Promotion of an inclusive, respectful school environment • Management of medical needs carried out in line with the school's Health & Safety Statement (link here to policies) • Clear communication with parents/guardians regarding medical conditions and updates • Training for staff where needed (e.g., EpiPen, diabetes awareness).
39.	Recruitment of school personnel including teachers, SNAs, caretakers, secretaries, cleaners and sport coaches	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • All recruitment processes follow DES procedures and all required documentation is stored securely (e.g., Garda Vetting, Teaching Council registration, references, medical fitness, Statutory Declaration, Form of Undertaking, Children First eLearning certificate) • Child Protection–focused questioning included in interviews for all roles.
40.	External Tutors/Guest Speakers	• Risk of child being harmed by external Tutors/Guests • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Compliance with Department of Education Circular 0043/2018 regarding external facilitators, as referenced in the school's RSE Policy (link here to policies) • Content and materials reviewed and approved in advance • External personnel briefed on relevant school policies • Engagement only with approved and reputable

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
			external individuals/organisations.
41.	Volunteers/Parents in school activities	• Risk of child being harmed by volunteers/Parents • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Garda Vetting completed where required and volunteers are approved by school management • Volunteers/parents informed of safeguarding responsibilities and relevant school policies i.e. Child Protection, Code of Behaviour, Supervision requirements (link here to policies) • Clear role descriptions and expectations communicated in advance • All visitors must present themselves to Reception where they sign in and wear a Visitor badge/lanyard.
42.	Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours	• Risk of child being harmed by visitors • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • All visitors/contractors sign in at Reception and are monitored while on site • Contractors work in designated areas away from students where possible.
43.	Visitors/contractors present during after-school activities	• Risk of child being harmed by visitors • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • All visitors/contractors sign in and are monitored while on site • Contractors work in designated areas away from students where possible • Staff ensure no unsupervised contact between students and visitors/contractors.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
44.	Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media	• Risk of harm by members of school personnel communicating digitally with students in an inappropriate manner	• See point 1 above • Use of ICT governed by the Acceptable Use policy and the Positive Code of Behaviour. Link here to policies • Content filtering, monitoring, and school supervision of digital activity on school devices • Clear rules prohibiting inappropriate use, image-sharing, social media access, and misuse of school accounts • Internet and device use for educational purposes only • Students receive guidance on safe and responsible online behaviour through SPHE/Wellbeing.
45.	Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Detention sessions take place in rooms that maintain visibility (e.g. door with glass panels) • Sanctions applied in line with the School's Code of Behaviour and relevant policies (link here to policies) • Staff follow clear procedures for detention • Students are always supervised during detention • Confiscated phones/devices stored securely and returned at the end of the school day in accordance with the Positive Code of Behaviour • Records kept where appropriate; communication with parents/guardians when required • Consistency promoted through regular review of Positive Code of Behaviour.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
46.	Students participating in work experience	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed by external personnel • Risk of harm not being recognised by school/external personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school/external personnel	• See point 1 above • Normally, students do not participate in work experience in Sancta Maria College. In exceptional circumstances, a student may be facilitated by the school • Parents/Guardians must approve work experience in the first instance • Work experience carried out in line with the school's Health & Safety Statement and Child Safeguarding Statement (link here to policies) • Clear guidance given to students on permitted tasks and personal safety • Staff supervising students aware of their responsibilities and safeguarding obligations.
47.	Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school/external personnel	• See point 1 above • Student teachers receive induction on relevant policies, including Child Protection, Code of Behaviour, and classroom procedures. • Induction for new teachers and student teachers • Fully qualified cooperating teacher remains responsible for the class and supervises student teachers as required • Cooperating teachers support, guide and monitor student teachers during placement • Clear communication with HEIs regarding expectations and responsibilities.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
48.	Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	• Risk of harm by members of school personnel communicating digitally with students in an inappropriate manner • Risk of harm by child's video/photography being accessed • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school/external personnel	• See point 1 above • Use of photography, video and other media involving students, including online sharing, requires parental/guardian consent (link here to policies) • Staff follow school guidelines on appropriate recording, storage, and use of images • Only school-approved personnel may take official photographs or recordings • Students' privacy, dignity, and safeguarding needs always prioritised.
49.	After-school use of school premises by other organisations	• Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • External organisations must have a formal Licence Agreement with the Board of Management, outlining responsibilities, permitted areas, times and activities • Groups must maintain appropriate insurance and provide proof of cover on request • Organisations are responsible for their own child protection compliance, supervision, and adherence to relevant legislation and guidance • The Board of Management may request a copy of the organisation's Child Safeguarding Statement • Use of premises must not conflict with the Catholic ethos of SMC and CEIST values • School management may vary times/locations and may terminate the agreement with notice • Clear communication required regarding access times, areas used and on-site procedures.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
50.	Use of school premises by other organisations during school day	• Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • All visitors/members of the organisation must present themselves immediately to Reception where they sign in and wear a Visitor badge/lanyard. • A volunteer/visitor policy is under development • CCTV in operation throughout the building and outside. • Such access is exceptional and requires prior approval from school management • No unsupervised contact with students; access restricted to approved areas only • The Board of Management may request a copy of the organisation's Child Safeguarding Statement.
51.	Breakfast club	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Breakfast Club staffed and supervised by designated staff • Clear start/finish times communicated; students only admitted when supervision is in place
52.	Afterschool Study	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm by the public accessing students and the premises during arrival and dismissal times, due to permeability by the public through school grounds • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school	• See point 1 above • Afterschool Study supervised by designated staff • Clear attendance lists, sign-in/out procedures and agreed finish times • Students remain in approved areas only; no unsupervised access to wider school • Staff aware of medical or pastoral needs as appropriate

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
		• Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	
53.	Detention (after school)	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Supervised by designated staff • Sessions take place in rooms that maintain visibility (e.g. doors with glass panels) • Clear attendance lists and agreed arrival and finish times • Students remain in approved, supervised areas only; no unsupervised access to the wider school
54.	Musical (rehearsals in school)	• Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel	• See point 1 above • Musical rehearsals supervised at all times by designated school staff or external musical director who are vetted • Clear rehearsal schedules, attendance lists and agreed start and finish times communicated to students and parents/guardians • Students remain in approved, supervised areas only, including backstage and changing areas • Appropriate staff–student supervision maintained during school-based • Behaviour expectations aligned with the school's Code of Behaviour, Bí Cineálta Policy and other relevant school policies (link here to policies).

Examples of Activities, Risks and Procedures

The examples listed in this document are provided to assist schools in undertaking their risk assessment under the Children First Act, 2015. Schools should note that this list of examples is not intended to be exhaustive, and that the inclusion of an example of a policy or procedure on these lists does not make it mandatory. It is the responsibility of each school to ensure, as far as possible, that any other risks and procedures that are relevant to its own particular circumstances are identified and specified in the written risk assessment and that adequate procedures are in place to address all risks identified.

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:

- > Identify, as required under the Children First Act, 2015, any risks of harm that may exist in respect of the school's activities.
- > Identify and assess the adequacy of the various procedures already in place to manage those risks of harm.
- > Identify and put in place any such additional procedures as are considered necessary to manage any risk identified.

Online Safety

The *Addendum to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017* 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 and Risk Assessment.

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.

Risk in the context of this Child Safeguarding Statement and 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 the Children First Act 2015: 'harm' means, in relation to a child— (a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child's health, development or welfare, or (b) sexual abuse of the child, whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise.

Examples of School Activities which schools may draw from, as appropriate

1. Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
2. Recreation breaks for pupils
3. Classroom teaching
4. One-to-one teaching
5. One-to-one learning support
6. One-to-one counselling
7. Outdoor teaching activities
8. Online teaching and learning remotely
9. Sporting activities
10. School outings
11. School trips involving overnight stay
12. School trips involving foreign travel
13. Use of toilet/changing/shower areas in schools
14. Provision of residential facilities for boarders
15. Annual Sports Day
16. Fundraising events involving pupils
17. Use of off-site facilities for school activities
18. School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
19. Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed
20. Care of any vulnerable adult students, including intimate care where needed
21. Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required

22. Management of provision of food and drink
23. Administration of medicine
24. Administration of First Aid
25. Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe
26. Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
27. Training of school personnel in child protection matters
28. Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
29. Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities
30. Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs
31. Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants
32. Members of the Traveller community
33. Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children
34. Pupils perceived to be LGBT
35. Pupils of minority religious faiths
36. Children in care
37. Children on Tusla's Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)
38. Children with medical needs
39. Recruitment of school personnel including teachers/SNAs, caretakers/secretaries/cleaners and sport coaches
40. External Tutors/Guest Speakers
41. Volunteers/Parents in school activities
42. Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours
43. Visitors/contractors present during after-school activities

44. Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
45. Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media
46. Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.
47. Students participating in work experience in the school
48. Students from the school participating in work experience elsewhere
49. Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
50. Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
51. After-school use of school premises by other organisations
52. Use of school premises by other organisations during school day
53. Breakfast club
54. Homework club/evening study
55. Children attending boarding schools or living away from home

Examples of Risks of Harm

1. Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel
2. Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by members of school personnel
3. Risk of harm where members of school personnel have not received appropriate training
4. Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel
5. Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child
6. Risk of child being harmed in the school by a volunteer or visitor to the school
7. Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while a child is participating in out-of-school activities, e.g. school trip, swimming lessons

8. 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
9. Risk of harm due to bullying of a child
10. Risk of harm due to racism
11. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school
12. Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out-of-school activities
13. Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between a child and another child or adult
14. Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
15. Risk of harm to children with special educational needs who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities
16. Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care
17. Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
18. Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situations
19. Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device, or other manner
20. Risk of harm caused by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
21. Risks where children are living away from home or attending boarding facilities

These are examples of policies and procedures that may be used to address Risks of Harm

1. All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment
2. The Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 are made available to all school personnel
3. School personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 as well as supporting the continued implementation of the best practice guidance set out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and its addenda, including the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025

4. A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons
5. The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme
6. The school implements in full the Social, Personal, and Health Education (SPHE) curriculum
7. The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle
8. School authorities have a code of behaviour and an anti-bullying policy in place in accordance with the department's 'Bí Cineálta' procedures to prevent and address bullying in schools and as outlined in Circular 55/2024
9. The school has complied with the Understanding Behaviours of Concern and Responding to Crisis Situations developed by the Department of Education and Youth to address uncertainty for staff on how to respond when facing crisis situations where there are concerns regarding physical safety
10. The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives
11. 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.
12. The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings
13. The school has a health and safety policy
14. The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation
15. The school adheres to the relevant Department of Education and Youth circulars in respect of recruitment
16. The school has a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff)
17. The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff
18. The school has a special educational needs policy
19. The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care
20. The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils
21. The school has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

22. The school ensures all new personnel are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment 23. The school encourages personnel to avail of relevant training
24. The school encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training
25. The school maintains records of all personnel and board member training
26. The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid
27. The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils
28. The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents
29. The school has in place a policy governing the use of smartphones and tablet devices in the school by pupils as per Circular 38/2018 and the national guidelines
30. The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
31. The school has in place a Home School Liaison policy and related procedures
32. The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum
33. The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches
34. The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities
35. The school has in place a policy and procedures for one-to-one counselling
36. The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements
37. The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils undertaking work experience in the school
38. The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils of the school undertaking work experience in external organisations
39. The school has in place a policy in relation to assisting members of school personnel in respect of disclosures of retrospective abuse
40. The school has considered the questions in Appendix 1 of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities
- Associated with Recognised Schools 2023 and implemented the necessary risk mitigation measures

In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 9 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025, the following is the written Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

In undertaking this Child Safeguarding Statement and 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 Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was reviewed by the board of management on

Signed:*	P. J. Ganush	Date:	09/09/2026
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Chairperson of the board of management

Signed:*	Sorcha McManus	Date:	09/09/2026
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Principal/Secretary to the board of management

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on

08/09/26

(expected review date)

* Document to be printed and signed with original signatures

Appendix - Location of copies of the Child Protection Procedures and Children First Guidance

This may be in the form of specifying the online location for the procedures (Department of Education and Youth website www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools and/or the school website), providing a link to the Children First National Guidance 2017 [Children First National Guidance 2017.pdf](#), and stating the number and location of hard copies of these procedures available in the school.

Copies of the Child Protection Procedures 2025 are available on the Department of Education and Youth website www.gov.ie/childprotectionschools and/or the school website <https://sanctamariacollege.ie/our-school/policies-2/>

The Children First National Guidance 2017 is available at [Children First National Guidance 2017.pdf](#)

Hard copies of the Child Protection Procedures 2025 are available in the school upon request.