



# **St Nicholas' Parochial School**

Waterside, Galway

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## **Child Safeguarding**

## **Risk Assessment**

**October 2023**

**Principal: Wendy Lynch**

**Deputy Principal: Carol McLoughlin**

**Chairperson of the Board of Management: Provost Lynda Peilow**

**Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment**  
**(of any potential harm)**

List of School Activities	Risk Level	The school has identified the following Risk of Harm	The school has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	High	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement &amp; DES procedures made available to all staff</p> <p>DLP&amp; DDLP to attend PDST face to face training.</p> <p>All Staff to view Tusla training module &amp; any other online training offered by PDST</p> <p>BOM records all records of staff and board training</p> <p>Induction training provided to substitute teachers/SNA's</p>
One to one teaching	High	Harm by school personnel	<p>School has policy/practice in place for one-to-one teaching.</p> <p>Open doors if practicable.</p> <p>Table or appropriate space between teacher and pupil.</p> <p>Glass panel in or around door if possible.</p>
Care of children with special needs, including intimate care needs	High	Harm by school personnel	<p>Policy on intimate care to be developed.</p>
Toilet areas	High	Inappropriate behaviour Risk of adults using children's toilets in public area	<p>Usage and supervision safe practice.</p> <p>Non-staff personnel are never in children's toilets – Clear signage in place.</p> <p>Cleaning Company to clean toilets in public area last.</p> <p>Two school staff must be present when a child needs help with toileting issues.</p> <p>Two school staff must be present when a child needs help to change clothing or to remove clothing after an accident or an injury.</p>
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Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Med	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils.	High	Injury to pupils and staff	Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour SEN policy Cárta Dearg
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Med	Harm from other pupils, unknown adults on the playground Traffic on avenue Inappropriate behaviour	Arrival and dismissal Policy & Procedures Supervision Policy Teachers/SNAs Traffic Management Procedures in place Health & Safety Policy
Recreation breaks for pupils	High	Injury to pupils/Bullying Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Policy & Procedures in place Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour
Classroom teaching	Med	Teachers leaving room/supervision Children split due to teacher absence	Supervision/Diagonal supervision where possible Adherence to school procedures. Records of class split provided to office.
Outdoor teaching activities	Med	Injury to pupils/Bullying Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Adequate supervision Boundaries well communicated Hazards identified
Sporting Activities	Med	Injury to pupils/Bullying Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported Inappropriate behaviour in changing room	Adequate supervision Policy & Procedures in place Cárta Dearg
Choir	Low	Harm from other pupils/unknown adults outside the school grounds	Adequate supervision Policy & Procedures in place
List of School Activities	Risk Level	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
After school clubs	Med	Injury to pupils/Bullying Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Adequate supervision Policy & Procedures in place Garda Vetting in place

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Sports Coaches	Med	Harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place Garda Vetting in place
Students participating in work experience	Low	Harm by student	Garda Vetting in place Child Safeguarding Statement provided Policy and procedures in place Induction by school staff
Educational Trips/Matches	Med	Harm from other pupils/unknown adults outside the school grounds	Adequate supervision Policy and procedures in place
Changing for sport activities	High	Harm from other pupils/unknown adults outside the school grounds. Inappropriate Behaviour	Adequate supervision Policy and procedures in place
Annual Art Exhibition	Low	Risk from unknown adults	Adequate supervision
Annual Science Exhibition	Low	Risk from unknown adults	Adequate supervision
School transport arrangements	Med	Harm to pupils Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported Inappropriate Behaviour	Anti bullying policy Code of behaviour
Volunteers/Parents	Med	Harm to pupils	Vetting Procedures Policy & Procedures for Parents/Volunteers
List of School Activities	Risk Level	The school has identified the following Risk of Harm	The school has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Administration of First Aid	Med	Harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place
Administration of Medicine	Low	Harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	High	Harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place Anti Bullying Policy

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			Code of Behaviour Bí Cineálta policy due in September 2025
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Med	Harm to pupils	Vetting Procedures Policy & Procedures in place Adequate supervision Sign in/Sign out of visitors
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants</li> <li>Children with SEN</li> <li>Members of the Traveller community</li> <li>Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children</li> <li>Pupils perceived to be LGBT</li> <li>Pupils of minority religious faiths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children in care</li> <li>Children on CPNS</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	High	Bullying of pupils  Lack of language ability leading to harm  Cultural differences	Anti bullying policy  Stay Safe/SPHE/RSE  Code of Behaviour  SEN Policy
List of School Activities	Risk Level	The school has identified the following Risk of Harm	The school has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
Children assisting around the school	Low	Harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	High	Bullying Staff not following policies & procedures Access to inappropriate material	ICT policy Internet filtering in place Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour
Student teachers/SNAs undertaking training placement in school	Med	Harm from unknown adults	Garda Vetting in place Child Safeguarding Statement provided Policy and procedures in place Induction by school staff
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Low	Harm from unknown adults	Policy & Procedures in place Garda Vetting to be in place

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**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 *10th December 2024*. It will be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

**Signed: Lynda Peilow**  
**Lynda Peilow**  
**Chairperson, Board of Management**

**Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**Signed: Wendy Lynch**  
**Wendy Lynch**  
**Principal/Secretary Board of Management**

**Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

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