

# Newtownmountkenedy Primary School

## Child Safeguarding Statement 2022-2023

### Written Assessment of Risk of

### NEWTOWNMOUNTKENEDY PRIMARY SCHOOL

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirement of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Newtownmountkenedy Primary School.

#### 1. List of school activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
- Recreation breaks for pupils
- Classroom teaching
- One-to-one teaching
- Remote Teaching/online learning
- Department of Education Summer Camps
- One-to-one counselling: agencies such as Túsla & Wicklow Child & Family project, ISPC, Barnardos
- Nurture Groups
- PE in Community Centre
- Music Generation in the Community Centre
- Burns By Your Side
- School Completion Activities
- Outdoor teaching activities
- Sporting Activities
- School outings and visits to the school from Alpaca Farm, etc.
- School activities such as baking, ice-cream van, outdoor classroom activities
- School visits to the church
- Use of toilets in school
- Use of changing/shower areas at swimming pool/outdoor education centres
- Annual Sports Day, Bike Day, etc
- Fundraising events involving pupils
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
- Care of children with special educational needs, including intimate care where needed
- Management of behaviours of concern amongst pupils
- Administration of Medicine
- Administration of First Aid
- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in all classes including Autism classes
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils and staff
- Training of school personnel in child protection matters
- Use of Professionals from outside agencies e.g. NEPS, SLT, OT, Psychologists
- Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum
- Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities
- 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 identifying as non-binary
- Pupils of minority religious faiths
- Children in care
- Children on CPNS
- Recruitment of school personnel including –
  - Teachers/SNA's
  - 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
- Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school
- Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including confiscation of phones etc.
- Students participating in work experience in the school
- Students from the school participating in school transfer programmes elsewhere
- Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
- Use of video/photography/other media to record school events
- Participation of pupils in programmes such as Rainbows, Play Therapy Groups
- After school activities on the premises/sports pitches/sports hall run by staff and/or external personnel
- Children from other schools visiting our school e.g. CCA and Irish play.

## **2. The school has identified the following risk 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 child being harmed in the school by another child
- Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school
- 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 bullying of child
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school
- Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities
- Risk of harm to child while the child is receiving intimate care
- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation
- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in appropriate 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 manners
- Risk of harm if child is collected by someone other than those on the collection list

- Risk of harm if children are travelling between the two buildings – new public road, bad parking and strangers, and persons known to them
- Risk of harm on senior school pitch, grassy bank and avenue
- Risk of harm if gloves or other sanitary materials are not disposed of correctly

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

- 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 implements in full the Stay Safe Programme
- The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum
- 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 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.
- The school has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings
- The school has a Health and Safety policy
- 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 codes of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff)
- The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff as per Teaching Council Code of Professional Conduct
- The school has a Special Educational Needs policy
- The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication
- The school –
  - Has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement (Signed and Understood by staff). \*mentioned above
  - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
  - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
  - Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training
  - Maintains records of all staff and board member training
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid
- The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils
- 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
- The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan based on NEPS advice
- The school has in place a Home School Liaison policy and related procedures
- The school has in place procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum: Heritage in School, Music Generation, Festina Lente, K2 Alpacas, Burns By My Side.
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external sports coaches
- The school has in place a policy and clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities

- The school has in place procedures for one-to-one counselling as per Túsła Guidelines- Tusla A Guide for the Reporting of Child Protection and Welfare Concerns (2017).
- The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements
- The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school
- The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of pupils of the school undertaking work experience/school transfer programmes in external organisation

**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 Newtownmountkennedy Primary 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 15-09-22. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: Hugh McDaid 15-09-22  
Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed Deirdre Lennon 15-09-22  
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management