Springdale National School
Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment (of any potential harm)

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 Springdale National School.

1. **List of school activities and level of risk**

- Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters- High
- Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe- Low
- Care of children with special educational needs and one to one teaching- Medium
- Classroom teaching- Low
- Attending to toileting and intimate care needs- High
- Use of communal toilet areas- High
- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils -Medium
- Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils- Medium
- Cover provided by substitute teachers/SNAs- Medium
- Students participating in work experience- Low
- Student teachers/SNAs undertaking a training placement in school- Low
- Recreation breaks for pupils - Low
- Outdoor teaching activities- High
- School Outings/Sporting Activities- Medium
- Swimming – High
- Annual Sports Day- High
- Administration of First Aid- Medium
- Administration of medicine- Low
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils- Medium
- Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum, including- Medium
  - Teachers/SNA's
  - Caretaker/secretary/Cleaners
  - Sports coaches
  - External coaches
  - External Tutors/Guest Speakers
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities- High
- Use of volunteers/parents to help with supervision during school trips and/or delivery of the curriculum- Medium
- Visitors/contractors present during after school hours- Low (currently restricted)
- 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   Medium
  - Pupils perceived to be LGBT
  - Pupils of minority religious faiths
  - Children in care
  - Children with medical needs
- Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school (including use of mobile phones)- High
- Use of video/photography/other media to record school events- Low
- Online teaching and learning remotely- High
- Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies- Low
- Transport of pupils by car- Low
- Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour (detention of pupils) -Low

- Fundraising events involving pupils:
  - ➢ Halloween Walk- Medium
  - ➢ Coffee Mornings- Medium

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 harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation
- Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel
- Risk of child being harmed by volunteer or visitor to the school
- Risk of child being harmed while in receipt of intimate care
- Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities
- 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 by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while participating in out of school activities
- Risk of harm due to non-teaching of the SPHE, RSE & Stay safe programmes
- Risk of child being harmed by another pupil
- Risk of harm by unknown adults on the playground
- Risk of harm to students by substitute SNA/teacher
- Risk of harm to students by student on work experience (currently on hold)
- Risk of harm to students by student teachers
- Risk of harm to students by trainee SNAs
- Risk of harm due to bullying
- Risk of harm due to cyber bullying
- Risk of harm due to racism
- Risk of harm by unknown adults
- Risk of harm by parents/guardians involved in school activities
- Risk of staff not following policies & procedures
- Risk of pupils taking and sharing photos of others
- Risk of harm caused by a child communicating with other children in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
- Risk of harm caused by a pupil accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device
- 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
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of recorded material
- 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

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

- Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff
- 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)
- DLP has attended PDST face to face training
- DDLP has attended face to face training
- All Staff have viewed the Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST
- School maintains records of all staff and board training
- The school has a Health & Safety Policy
- The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
- There is adequate supervision in classrooms
- The school has a policy on toileting and intimate care in place
- The school has a supervision policy to cover communal toilet areas in place
- The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum
- The school implements in full the RSE & Stay Safe Programmes
- Parents have been reminded that our school Anti-Bullying and SPHE Policies are available on our school website.
- There are clear procedures in place regarding arrival and dismissal of pupils
- There is a Health and Safety Policy in place
- The school has a Special Educational Needs policy
- The school has a policy and procedures in place for the administration of medication to pupils
- A number of staff have completed in-depth training in Restorative Practice
- The school has a Code of Behaviour in place and available online
- There are procedures in place in respect of students undertaking work experience
- The school's Child Safeguarding Statement is made available to student teachers
- There is a Visitors' Policy in place which includes procedures in place for student teachers/ SNAs undertaking a training placement in the school, external sports coaches & persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum
- There is a Supervision Policy in place to ensure appropriate supervision of children during assembly, dismissal and breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, corridors, etc.
- An Anti-Bullying Policy is in place which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools
- The school undertakes anti-racism awareness initiatives, e.g., *'Show Racism the Red Card'*
- There is a Supervision Policy in place which covers supervision in respect of school outings (including bus journeys), field trips and sporting activities
- There is a Supervision Policy in place to ensure appropriate supervision of children during swimming
- There are clear procedures in place regarding our Annual Sports Day
- Doors are kept open while administering first aid
- The school has an ICT Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents
- Parents of children preparing for Confirmation and Communion in lessons external to the school deal directly with the relevant church and arrange transport for their own children to and from lessons, masses, practices, etc.
- Public transport will be used when possible
- Mini buses/coaches will be hired to transport students to events such as Santry Sports
- Alternative arrangements will be made when inclement weather prevents children from walking to All Saints Church for various services
- There is glass in all classroom doors
- When teaching one-one, doors are kept open

- A blanket permission slip is signed by all parents of children in Junior Infants which includes parental consent on the use of children's images on the school website
- There are clear procedures in place regarding parents photographing/recording school events
- There are clear procedures in place regarding storage of videos/photographs of children
- The school has a Critical Incident Management Plan in place

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 was reviewed by the Board of Management on 13/09/2022. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.