

Holy Faith Secondary School

Clontarf



Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Holy Faith Secondary School, Clontarf

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 8 of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023), the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Holy Faith Secondary School, Clontarf.

1. List of school activities

- Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils
- Recreation breaks for pupils
- Classroom teaching
- One-to-one teaching
- One-to-one counselling
- One-to-one examining/testing
- Online teaching and learning remotely
- Outdoor teaching activities
- Sporting activities
- School outings
- School trips involving overnight stay
- School trips involving foreign travel
- Use of toilet/changing areas in schools
- Annual Sports Day
- School musical/performance
- School retreats
- Fundraising events involving pupils
- Use of off-site facilities for school activities
- Use of off-site facilities for sporting activities
- School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts
- Care of children with special educational needs
- Care of any vulnerable adult students
- Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint where required
- Administration of medicine
- Administration of First Aid

- Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE
- Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils
- Training of school personnel in child protection matters
- 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
 - Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children
 - Pupils perceived to be LGBT
 - Pupils of minority religious faiths
 - Children in care
 - Children on CPNS
 - Children with medical needs
- Recruitment of school personnel
 - Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners
 - Sports coaches
 - External Tutors/Guest Speakers/examiners
 - Volunteers/Parents in school activities
 - Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours
 - Visitors/contractors present during after school activities
 - Teachers/SNA's
- Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school, including social media
- Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.
- Students participating in work experience in the school
- Students from the school participating in work experience elsewhere
- Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
- Students from abroad/other schools attending for short periods
- Use of video/photography/other media to record school events Supervised study
- Use of library/careers room/computer room/prayer room
- Students attending class during holiday periods/weekends
- Students attending supervised study during holiday periods
- Students attending for examination during holiday periods/weekends

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
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised in breakout rooms
- Risk of harm due to bullying of child
- Risk of harm due to racism
- 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 vulnerabilities including medical vulnerabilities
- Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/ using computers/mobile phones/ other devices and social media while in school
- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching, examining, testing situation
- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
- Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting , digital device or other manner

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 2023 are made available to all school personnel
- School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2023 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015

- The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum
- The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle
- 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 yard supervision procedures 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 DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting
- The school has a code of conduct for school personnel (teaching and non-teaching staff)
- The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff
- The school has a Special Educational Needs policy
- The school has procedures for the administration of medication to pupils
- The school
 - has provided each member of school staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training.
- The school has in place procedures for the administration of First Aid
- The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils
- The school has in place an Acceptable Use Policy in place to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents, students and parents
- The school has in place a mobile phone policy in respect of usage of smart phones and tablet devices in the school by pupils as per circular 38/2018
- The school emphasises 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.
- The school has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
- The school has in place a policy and procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum
- The school has in place procedures for the use of external sports coaches
- The school has in place clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities
- The school has in place procedures for one-to-one counselling
- The school has in place procedures in respect of student teacher placements
- The school has in place procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience in the school

- The school has in place procedures in respect of pupils of the school undertaking work experience in external organisations

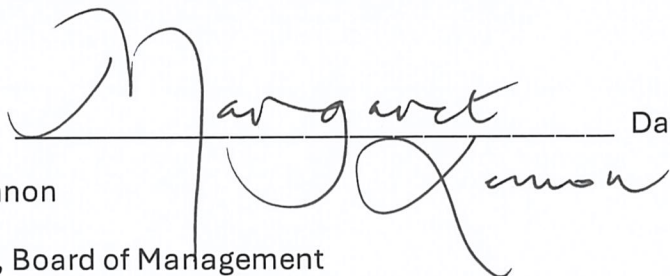
Important Note: It should be noted that risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of 'harm' as defined in the Children First Act 2015 and not general health and safety risk. The definition of harm is set out in Chapter 4 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-primary Schools (revised 2023)*

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 19th February 2018.

It has been reviewed and updated as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement on 23rd September 2025.

Signed:

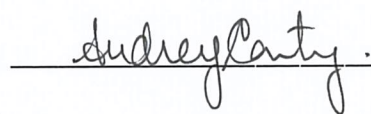


Date: 23rd September 2025

Margaret Lennon

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed:



Date: 23rd September 2025

Audrey Carty

Principal, Secretary to the Board of Management