

# Gaelscoil Raifteirí

Polasaithe

*Risk Assessment for Children*



Risk Assessment			
List of School Events	Level of Risk	The school has recognised the following risks to do with these activities	Practices used by the school to counteract the risks identified in this analysis
Training of members of staff regarding Child Protection	High	Not recognising a harmful risk and/or not dealing with it promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement of the school, and a copy of <i>'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017'</i> to be made available to every staff member. DLP and DDLP attend a day-course with the PDST. All staff complete the online course by Túsla <i>'Introduction to Children First'</i> and the online course <i>'Child Protection'</i> run by the PDST.
Teaching in the class	Low	The risk that a staff member would harm a child	There may be a glass panel in the door. Go through the guidelines of the Teaching Council's <i>Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers</i> .
One-to-one Teaching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning Support</li> <li>• Meetings with the principal</li> <li>• Coaching, training etc</li> </ul>	Medium	The risk that a child may be harmed in these circumstances	There may be a glass panel in the door. A table between the student and the child. A door can be left open.
Recruitment of school staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• SNAs</li> <li>• Caretaker</li> <li>• Secretary</li> <li>• Part-time teacher</li> <li>• Substitute teacher</li> </ul>	High	The risk that a staff member would harm a child  Not recognising a harmful risk and/or not dealing with it promptly	Investigation by Gardaí. Statutory declaration regarding child protection. Normal ratification procedures to be followed, and investigation of relevant gaps in a CV. Child Safeguarding Statement of the school, and a copy of <i>'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017'</i> to be made available to staff. All staff complete the online course by Túsla <i>'Introduction to Children First'</i> and the online course <i>'Child Protection'</i> run by the PDST.

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Students on work placement	Low	The risk that a student would harm a child	Confirm that there has been training regarding protection of children in the training college or school. It is the policy of the school that the teacher is present in the class. The students will be in the care of and monitored by the teacher.
Students on work experience	Low	The risk that a student would harm a child	It is the policy of the school that the teacher is present in the class. The students will be in the care of and monitored by the teacher.
Cuairteoirí sa seomra ranga <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School chaplain</li> <li>• Sports trainers</li> <li>• External teachers</li> <li>• Guest speakers</li> <li>• Voluntary workers</li> </ul>	Low	The risk that a visiting educator would harm a child	It is the policy of the school that the teacher is present in the class. Garda vetting necessary for regular or long-term visitors.
Visitors on the school premises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents</li> <li>• Day visitors</li> <li>• Contracted workers on the school premises during the day</li> <li>• Visitors on the school premises after school hours</li> </ul>	Medium	The risk that a visitor would harm a child	Visitors should sign in or make themselves known at reception. They should provide proof of identification. Access doors of the school are locked electronically. A code needs to be input for entry. Children are under the general care of the teachers. Children are sent in pairs when delivering a message or visiting a different part of the school.
Contract cleaners	High	The risk that a cleaner would harm a child	Cleaners start work after 2.30pm. Garda vetting for contract workers. Teachers are responsible for the welfare and supervision of children who are doing extra-curricular activities.
Care of children with special needs	High	The risk that vulnerable children might be harmed.	The school has a policy for children with special needs.
Care for children with an illness, who might wet themselves, or who have personal needs.	High	The risk that vulnerable children might be harmed, or that their personal needs may not be attended to.	<b>Policy for those with exceptional needs has yet to be drafted.</b>
Toilets	High	The risk of unsuitable behaviour by children	A policy regarding use of toilets

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During schooltime</li> <li>• Breaktime</li> </ul>		<p>The risk that a child might harm another child</p> <p>The risk of harm to a child as a consequence of inadequate supervision</p>	Supervising responsibilities of teachers
<p>Children arriving at and leaving school premises</p> <p><i>Opening time: 8:50am</i></p> <p><i>Closing time: 2:30pm</i></p>	High	Risk of harm to a child by an older child or an adult on the school premises	<p>Assembly: Children are to walk through the schoolyard in an orderly manner to their appropriate access door. There shouldn't be rough play or dangerous climbing in the yard. If there's an accident, a member of staff is informed.</p> <p>Home time: The parents arrange suitable collection points for their children. The school isn't responsible for supervision of children after school hours.</p>
Relevant Curriculum Areas: SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe	Low	The risk that the SPHE course won't be covered	The school covers SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe as part of the curriculum.
Break time and lunch time	High	The risk of harm to a child as a consequence of inadequate supervision	Playground supervision is organised during breaks. Children are supervised in their classroom during breaks when rain prevents access to the yard, and when a teacher may be taking lunch before supervision duty.
Training sessions and matches after school: hurling, camogie, football...	Medium	<p>The risk that a teacher or a parent might harm a child.</p> <p>The risk that a child might misuse social media or a device and be in contact with an unsolicited person while at an event or a match</p>	<p>The children should be supervised by a teacher or staff member. Staff should abide by the Child Safeguarding Statement of the school, and a copy of '<i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017</i>'</p> <p>Parents who assist with training should have Garda vetting.</p>
<p>Activities outside the school grounds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School tours, the library, the Linenhall, the church...</li> <li>• Walks, cycles.</li> <li>• FÍS, Feiseanna, Scór...</li> </ul>	High	<p>The risk of harm for children because of unsuitable contact with people while outside the school or with strangers.</p> <p>The risk of inadequate supervision or protection of the children.</p>	The school has policies regarding requisite supervision of children during school tours or other activities away from Gaelscoil Raifteirí.
Gymnastics classes, GAA training sessions...	Low	The risk of harm by a visiting teacher	<p>The school requires garda vetting for visiting teachers.</p> <p>Child Safeguarding Statement of the school, and a copy of '<i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017</i>'</p>

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		Not recognising or documenting a harmful incident.	to be made available to every staff member. Teachers are present during such sessions and classes.
Swim classes	High	The danger that a school staff member or a pool staff member might interfere with a child at swimming lessons.	The school has appropriate policies and clear directives regarding swimming lessons including supervision, dressing, and behaviour.
School events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports Day</li> <li>• Seachtain na Gaeilge, dramas...</li> <li>• Quizzes</li> <li>• Assembly</li> <li>• Concerts</li> </ul>	Medium	The risk of harm to a child as a consequence of inadequate supervision	The school has appropriate policies and clear directives regarding SnaG, céilithe, sportsday including supervision and behaviour.
Using resources which are not on the school premises	High	The risk of harm to a child as a consequence of inadequate supervision	The school has appropriate policies and clear directives including supervision and behaviour no matter where such activities are taking place.
Care for children with particular vulnerabilities or particular differences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students from ethnic minorities or immigrants</li> <li>• Travellers</li> <li>• Non-Catholic students</li> <li>• Students in the care of the State</li> <li>• Students undergoing child protection</li> </ul>	Low	The risk of a child experiencing negative discrimination	The school anti-bullying policy is implemented. School behaviour code is in effect.
Management of challenging behaviour and the use of relevant sanctions	High	The risk of a staff member injuring a child The risk that children or members of staff might be hurt	Health and Safety policy School Code of Behaviour <b>Policy regarding sanctions to be drafted</b>
Bullying	High	The risk of a child suffering from bullying	The school anti-bullying policy is implemented. School behaviour code is in effect.
Negative experiences of LGBT students	High	The risk of a child experiencing negative discrimination regarding sexuality	The school anti-bullying policy is implemented.

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			School behaviour code is in effect.
Bad behaviour at school fundraising events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walks</li> <li>• Concerts or school fair</li> </ul>	High	The risk of harm to a child as a consequence of inadequate supervision	Teachers and members of the Parents' Committee should supervise children and their behaviour.
Medicine	Low	The risk that a member of staff might neglect the medical needs of a student	Steps regarding the administering of medicine when needed should be followed by school staff.
First Aid	Low	The risk that a member of staff might harm or neglect a student	The school follows a policy regarding the administration of first aid and dealing with injuries.
School photos	Medium	The risk that children might be harmed due to unsuitable contact with another child or an adult through social media, texting or other digital communication.	We follow procedures regarding use of pictures featuring children on the school website, newsletters or social media posts. No personal information is posted. Full names are not listed with a picture. Parents have the opportunity not to grant permission regarding the posting of pictures featuring their children online.
Use of video to record school events	Low	The risk of harm through misuse of recording of school activities. The risk of bullying due to online video.	School policy and procedures regarding recording of school events and posting of material for archive purposes. Anti-bullying and behaviour policies.
Use of devices by children to record events at school	Low	The risk of bullying due to online video.	School policy regarding use of phones and devices. Anti-bullying, AUP and behaviour policies.
Use of technology and digital communication	Low	Risks from misuse of social media, texting or digital equipment.	There are school policies regarding the safe use of ICT.
The use of the school premises for activities outside of normal school times.	Low	The risk of harm to a child on the school premises	The school follows statutory and vetting requirements by an Garda Síochána. Child Safeguarding Statement of the school, and a copy of ' <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017</i> ' to be made available to every staff member.
Use of the school premises for other events during the day, at the weekend,	High	The danger of harm done to a child on the school premises.	The school follows statutory and vetting requirements by an Garda Síochána.

or during holiday time, eg music lessons	Not recognising a harmful risk and/or not dealing with it promptly Not informing the DLP of any harmful incident	Anyone organising such activities should follow their own child protection procedures. The <i>'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017'</i> document to be an intrinsic part of the contract.
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**NB:** The term 'risk' in this document regards the use of the word in the *Children First Act of 2015*. It doesn't refer to general risks to health and safety. The term 'harm' is described in chapter four of *'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017'*.

In carrying out this risk assessment, the Board of Management has endeavoured, as far as possible, to ensure that the risks of harm associated with this school, and to ensure that appropriate procedures are in place to mitigate all risks. While not all injury risks can be predicted and removed, the practices are listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce the risk as far as possible. This Risk Assessment was reviewed by the Board of Management of Gaelscoil Raifteirí in May, 2021. It will be reviewed as part of its Annual Review of the Child Protection Statement.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Secretary of the Board of Management