



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

<p><b>Written Assessment of Risk of Sandpitt N.S.</b>          In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirement of Chapter 8 of the Child and Protection Procedures for Primary and <i>Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i>, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Sandpitt N.S.</p>			
<b>List of School Activities</b>	<b>Risk Level</b>		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 Mr Reilly &amp; Ms Butterly will attend PDST training in the upcoming year.</p> <p>BOM records all records of staff and board training.</p> <p>All staff members trained with BÍ Cinealta procedures.</p> <p>All staff members will attend in service training this academic year 2025/26</p>
One to one teaching	Medium	Harm to school personnel	<p>School has policy in place for one to one teaching</p> <p>Open doors</p> <p>- Learning support in prefab only for group lessons</p> <p>- 1 to 1 teaching done in main building</p> <p>- Glass in window</p>



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Online Teaching & Learning Remotely	Medium	Harm from possible dangers online	The children are taught in SPHE about dangers they may encounter online and how to keep themselves safe online. The school has an ICT Policy in place in respect of usage of ICT by children.
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Care of Children with special needs including intimate care needs	High	Harm by school personnel	-SNA Policy was formulated by Sandpitt NS and is guided by the relevant legislation such as the Education Welfare Act 2000 and the EPSEN Act 2004 and relevant DES Circulars. Children's care needs are agreed with parents at the beginning of the year. If an SNA needs extra help a second SNA will help out.
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe	Medium	Non-teaching of same	Mr Reilly takes responsibility for ensuring these lessons are taught in accordance with the school's SPHE plan. Stay safe is taught every 2 years. The school implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full



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<p>Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants</li> <li>- Members of the Traveller Community</li> <li>- LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT</li> <li>- Pupils of minority religious faiths</li> <li>- Children in Care</li> </ul>	<p>Low - Med</p>	<p>Bullying</p>	<p>Anti-Bullying Policy applies for all children, the school adopt a reform not blame policy and actively manage reports of bullying</p> <p>An anti-bullying week is held annually</p> <p>Code of Behaviour is equality based and respects all children regardless of gender or sexual orientation or membership of religious community</p> <p>Staff are reminded regularly at staff meetings to be award of vulnerable children including those from disadvantaged backgrounds</p> <p>Staff liaise with parents and/or care agencies where necessary</p>
<p>Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Harm from older pupils, unknown adults on the playground</p>	<p>Arrival and dismissal of pupils is supervised by teachers. There is 1 teacher and 3 SNAs rostered on</p>

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			<p>for before school supervision from 8.45-9.00am and class teachers escort pupils to the door at hometime. Unknown adults who enter the playground will be approached immediately.          Upon enrolment parents must inform the school in writing who has permission to drop and collect their child especially infants. Parents must notify the school of changes to collection arrangements. If a person who is not on the list is dropping a child to school, they should present themselves at the school office first.          If a child is not collected they are supervised and then their parents are telephoned.</p>
<p>Managing challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Injury to pupils and staff</p>	<p>Individual positive handling plans will be devised for those pupils who are assessed as being at greatest risk of needing restrictive physical interventions. Incidents recorded          See SNA Policy and Code of Behaviour          CPD in this area is funded by the Board and organised when deemed necessary</p>
<p>Sports coaches and sporting activities in and outside school eg. Swimming</p>	<p>Medium-High</p>	<p>Harm to pupils</p>	<p>All coaches must be Garda Vetted and a teacher is always present during coaching games.</p>
<p>Students participating in work experience and student teachers</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Harm by student</p>	<p>Work experience students are not allowed to use their phones and must not be alone with pupils.</p>



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Bringing pupils from ASD class from the classroom to the hall	High	Flight Risk	As a staff we will ensure all external doors are kept closed, however on occasion this may not be always possible. Class teacher and SNA will check the perimeter before letting the hand go of the child in their care.
Children going out on yard from the ASD class	High	Flight Risk	The teacher on morning duty will ensure the side gate is closed and the teacher and Sna's from the ASD class will check the perimeter before letting the child's hand go.

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			Student teachers must present their Garda Vetting to the school Both groups should be made aware of the school policies and procedures for child protection.
Recreation breaks for pupils			Children go the toilet individually and may use the G.P room toilet. Children must ask the class teacher's permission or the teacher on yard duty. First Aid is administered in the GP room in full view by an SNA, if a child needs to check a cut they do so themselves in the toilet cubicle privately or an older sibling may help. If a child needs help with removal of clothes a second adult can be sent for.



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Classroom teaching	Low		Classroom teachers must be aware of and follow all policies and procedures in relation to child protection
School Trips involving overnight stays or foreign trips	Medium-High	Outside School Environment. Other people not belonging to our school. Overnight responsibility. Safety of teachers.	Children staying in groups in Gaeltacht houses. Children supervised by adults at all times. All adults Garda Vetted.
Use of toilet/changing shower areas in school	Low		Supervision policy. Toilets are just off each classroom so easy to supervise coming and going, one child at a time allowed to go. During break, toilets in GP room are used with permission of teacher on yard duty. There are no showers or public changing areas in use in school.

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			At swimming lessons there are both individual and shared cubicles and at least 2 staff attend and supervise jointly.
Annual Sports Day	Medium		Currently the annual sports day is held in the school grounds as part of a regular school day. We start with a beach walk. Many parents attend, but children are under teacher supervision at all times.



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Fundraising Events			Parents will be reminded that at outside the school time events, that they are responsible for the supervision of their own children eg. Bazaar, children are not allowed in the kitchen and parents must be responsible for their children's safety at all times. Volunteer children will be supervised by Vetted Parents Council Members
After School Clubs			Teachers are never alone with individual pupils
School transport arrangements	High	Safety of children on bus	The bus driver & bus escort are Garda Vetted
School tours/trips	High		Teachers always present on buses and pupils are fully supervised on all school trips
Administration of Medicine	Low		All staff are certified in Cardiac First Responder with courses held every 2 years. Parents must follow the administration of medicines policy.
Children with Medical needs	High		SNA's undertake care of children with medical needs. Those with diabetes are treated discretely in class

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			and records are made of all interventions. A written care plan has been agreed upon with the parents. For our child in a wheelchair, all hoisting, changing and flushing of pegs is done with 2 SNAs present.
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Risk of harm due to Racism	Medium		As part of SPHE awareness of the wrongs of racism are addressed in the school
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Medium		Qualified SNAs and teachers who are Garda vetted may be utilised where necessary. Principal will ensure they are aware of school supervision policies and dealing with behaviour. One off visitors do not need to be vetted as teachers will remain in the room if a talk is taking place. Teachers or volunteers coming in regularly must be vetted.
School personnel including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Teachers</li> <li>- SNA's</li> <li>- Caretaker</li> <li>- Secretary</li> <li>- Cleaner</li> <li>- Sports Coaches -  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>External Tutors</li> <li>Guest Speakers</li> <li>Volunteers</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Parents in school activities</li> <li>- Visitors/Contractors present in school during school hours</li> </ul>	Medium	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement, policy and procedures made available to all staff. Staff have viewed Tusla training module and will avail of online training by PDST. Vetting procedures see policy for teachers, sports coaches and external tutors. Regular parent curriculum volunteers and supervisors must be vetted. Once off guest speakers including parent speakers will not need to be vetted as long as teachers are present at all times. Policy on Visitor Contractors- building Contractors will be allowed in communal areas with the

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			<p>permission of the principal eg. Locksmith, glaziers, alarm company, builders to deal with leak etc          Teachers will accompany the children from the classroom where necessary.          Where possible this should be kept to outside of school hours.</p>
Use of school premises by other organisations during the school day	Medium		<p>The board would ensure the person is vetted and has their own public liability insurance.          After school activities are currently carried out by school teachers.</p>
Use of information and communication technology by pupils in school	Low – Med	Bullying	<p>Use of Technology Policy          Anti-Bullying Policy          Code of Behaviour          Pupils are never left alone with laptops/devices All reports of the inappropriate use of technology are investigated and monitored.          The schools Broadband programme provides an integrated set of services to our school which includes broadband connectivity, and hosted services including content filtering, webhosting-blogging and security services including anti-virus control and a centralised firewall.</p>
Use of video/photography other media to record school events	Low		<p>See INTO guidelines, permission is sought upon enrolment for the use of images and for the website.          Where there is no harm to the child parents may record images – see INTO Guidelines Data Protection changes will be factored in and revised accordingly.</p>



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<p>Children with specialized needs including the children in our Autism classes</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Hands on Hands and head only, no deep pressure to any parts of the child's body, unless when requested from children for regulation purposes, deep pressure will only occur on head, arms, lower legs and feet. Parents will have consented to this by agreeing to this procedure in the care plan.          No one to one time with any child unless it is in an open space where everyone is visible.          Toileting, – this is a care need, role of the SNA.          Any time any child is dysregulated (taking clothes off etc. a second adult should be present to help out.          Outside classroom porch area in Orchard room please leave classroom door open so everyone is visible.          Common language to be used by all members of staff when any child displays signs of having an erection: i.e. hands up phrase etc.</p>
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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 (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.

The risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on \_\_\_\_\_. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement at the September meeting.

Signed: *Paul Byrne*

Date: 23rd Feb 26

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed: *Shane Reidy*

Date: 23rd Feb 26

Principal/Secretary to the

Board of Management

Reviewed: February 2026.