

Written Assessment of Risk of Comeragh College

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 Comeragh College.

	 General Arrival Early Departure Departure Empty school at the beginning or end of the school day. 	 List of school activities Arrivals and Departures Early Arrival
 Risk of student being harmed in the school by another student Risk of bullying due to inadequate supervision of student in school 	between child and other child or adult Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel Risk of student being harmed by a member of school personnel	 The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities – Risk of harm to inappropriate relationship/communications
 Breakfast Club opens at 8.15 - students to access breakfast club only. Canteen and open area outside the canteen are only areas that are accessible until 8.40. Students can only go to lockers at 8.40. The school building opens at 8:15am every morning. Per Code of Behaviour students may only sign out with a parent during the school day (unless over 18) 	 The school ensures appropriate supervision of students for daily arrival and dismissal as per the allocation provided under the Supervision & Substitution Scheme of the Department of Education and Skills. The school communicates annually by letter with parents/guardians regarding the school's position outside of the times covered by the allocation provided under the Supervision & Substitution Scheme of the Department of 	 The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment - The school has in place an Attendance Policy / Strategy

							students	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of	school premises	the school building	finds themselves first/last in
adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools	 year in relation to <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017</i> The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully 	Schools 2017 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children's First Act 2015 Toochers shall all the start of the control of the c		The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-	All staff have been provided with the Child Safeguarding	students.All staff are Garda Vetted	The school has in place a Positive Code of Behaviour for	8.15-8.50a.m., morning break, lunchtime and 15 mins after school each day (no lunchtime Friday)	 time - parents are contacted and Gardaí are contacted. School supervision is provided at the following time. 	If a student leaves without permission during timetabled	If student being sent home must be released into care of parent

- Use of toilet facilities staff
- Use of toilet facilities LGBT Use of toilet facilities visitors

students

physical needs students with additional Use of toilet facilities –

Transport

School transport

*

emergency, HSCL, SC Use of staff cars- medical

CT

- purposes Use of student images for PR
- Use of technology in areas other than the classroom

of school personnel

communicating with students in

Risk of harm caused by member

Risk of breach of GDPR

- Risk of harm due to bullying of student

- a medical condition]

Use of phones is prohibited in school building

Class register is taken every 40mins

class time

Student must carry lanyard/hall pass using toilets during

Students' toilet use is monitored

Toilets suitable for students with physical needs available

- phones
- student [including bullying]. relationship/communications mappropriate
- Risk of recording or sharing of media content inappropriate/offensive socia

- student/adult in the school by another Risk of student being harmed
- Risk of student becoming unwell [especially those with
- Risk of inappropriate use of
- between a student and another Risk of harm due to
- *

- Gender neutral toilets available Designated toilets for visitors Toilets are designated to students by year group
- Risk of self- harm

- All bus drivers are Garda vetted. The school shall receive confirmation from the service provider that their staff are suitably Garda vetted
- As per Positive Code of Behaviour and AUP phone use is forbidden (school activities)
- * Students will not be permitted to board or remain on the bus without teacher supervision
- Teachers only use cars when necessary in line with best time in a car. practice- no teacher is on their own with a student at any-
- Opt-in / out question for parents/guardians to indicate preferences re video recording/student images

•

Students name not to be displayed with image without consent.

- media to record and communicate school news video/photography/other
- Use of Information and Communication Technology
- other manner media, texting, digital device or an appropriate manner via social
- Risk of harm not being recognised by school
- reported properly and promptly by school personnel
- *
- personnel
- Risk of harm not being

Risk of harm due to bullying Risk of harm/injury due to

between students including but not Unstructured times and Interaction

Congregation in locker/social

Toilets

boisterous behaviour

•;•

- schoolbags not stored Risk of injury due to correctly
- * Risk of injury due to misuse of school equipment
- *** * Risk of inappropriate behaviour in changing rooms
- supervised class unaccounted for during Risk of student being

Use of PE changing

Outdoor teaching activities

classrooms

access to and from

Movement between classes,

students

Recreation breaks for Dismissal of Class

* Risk of injury when large number of students using

- Opt-in / out question for parents/guardians to indicate preferences re student images each time if an image of their child is proposed being used.
- * Protection Policies in respect of use of computers, The school has in place Acceptable Use and Data internet, social media and other technology
- Refer to AUP with regards guidelines in exceptional circumstances ie.Covid-19
- *** Students are under constant supervision while accessing ICT in the school building
- Where there is a concern of inappropriate use of social and requested to investigate. Gardai and/or Tusla may be media/online bullying, parents are immediately contacted intormed
- The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff.
- A comprehensive Positive Code of Behaviour policy is in place and reviewed annually
- As part of the code of behaviour a "report" system is in
- ... Camera surveillance can be used to assist in investigation of breach of the code of behaviour
- Bag store area allocated for student school bags
- Students are requested to walk on the left side of the corridor/stairway
- Students are made aware of and are expected to comply with lining up for class procedures

 Work Experience Students participating in work experience in the school Students participating in work experience outside of the school 	 Positive Code of Behaviour Application of sanctions under the school's Positive Code of Behaviour 		timetable classes
 Risk of harm while carrying out work experience Risk of student being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other person while student participating in work experience Risk of student being harmed by a customer/member of the public 	Risk of harm due to inadequate enforcement Positive Code of Behaviour		stairways during transition between classes
 The school has in place a policy and procedures in respect of students undertaking work experience. All school staff members are Garda vetted and Mandated persons The student is insured during school hours to be on work placement. 	 Staff are obliged to consistently apply the Positive Code of Behaviour for students The Positive Code of Behaviour is taught to students and is reviewed annually 	 Refer to attendance policy/strategy for dealing with late arrivals Changing rooms are carefully monitored Classrooms are locked between classes and at breaktimes 	

Non-teaching/admin/school staff Non-curricular related visitor Non-curricular related contractors present in school during school hours Canteen staff – external company Deliveries for BAM/Canteen Reporting	
Risk of student being harmed by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of student being harmed in the school by a visitor/contractor to the school	❖ Risk of injury to student
 The school has in place as part of the SPHE policy, procedures for the use of external persons to supplement delivery of the curriculum Contractors on site are Garda Vetted Regular contractors such as electricians/ICT Support team/photocopying personnel are Garda vetted All non-curricular visitors wear a badge so that they are identifiable to staff and students and must sign in/out at front office and are accompanied by a member of staff when they do not have garda vetted. All curricular related visitors are also required to sign in and sign out and wear a badge to identify themselves and are accompanied by a member of staff at all times. Deliveries to arrive before student's arrive to the building where possible Delivery entrance to be used and personnel to be accompanied by a member of the canteen staff buzzer system in place to notify canteen staff when deliveries come to the front office. 	 Students are briefed and prepared for work experience and receive a pack to support them. Personal Safety and Respectful Communication is covered in SPHE. Manual handling/First Aid/RSA courses are completed in Transition Year/LCA.

where possible the teacher will leave the door open. The student will always sit in view of the open door/glass pane (One-to-one teaching)		
 procedures for teaching staff School Management endeavours that all classrooms, meeting rooms have a glass panel in the door and that. 		
the Teaching Council The school complies with the agreed disciplinary	one teaching	
The school requires its teachers to comply with the Professional Code of Conduct for Teachers as cutting a burning	classroom Risk of harm in one-to-	
vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting	Risk of harm due to bullying of student in	
The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda		
Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015	reported properly and promptly by school	
	personnel	
NEEDER CO.	or students in classroom ❖ Risk of harm not being	 One-to-one teaching
 school's Child Safeguarding Statement The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post- 	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision	Outdoor teaching activitiesSporting Activities
 for the duration of their timetabled lessons All school personnel are provided with a copy of the 		Homework club/evening study
Teachers informed that they are responsible for students	Risk of student being	to: Classroom teaching
		Interactions between teachers and
		Activities
		Teaching and Learning

Curriculum

- Curricular content and/or presentation in SPHE / RSE/ Wellbeing
- Participation by students in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school
- Risk that curriculum is not covered or covered correctly
 Risk of students missing
- Risk of students missing curriculum content due to high levels of absenteeism

- New teachers/Student Teachers
- Use of substitute teachers in the case of absenteeism or other school related business
- Student teachers undertaking training placement in school
- Risk of student being harmed in the school by a student teacher
- Risk of student being harmed in the classroom by teacher or substitute teacher

- The school implements in full SPHE and RSE as part of the Wellbeing Programme at Junior Cycle, and SPHE and RSE at Senior Cycle.
- SPHE coordinator in place
- SPHE/RSE teachers fully trained
- Parents/Students have an option to opt-out of RSE
- The school has a Whole School Guidance Plan
- The school has appointed qualified Guidance Counsellors
- The school has a RE Policy to cater for the inclusion of all students
- Students have the option to opt-out of religious instruction and ceremonies on the request of their parents/guardians.
- Supervision is arranged in such instances
- Class teacher to remain available in the school building and contactable during class periods
- Relevant documents made available to staff on the school platform.
- All new staff are Garda vetted
- All new staff are given a copy of the Positive Code of Behaviour and are supported by subject teacher.
- Student teachers/new staff are briefed on VSware and reporting procedures during induction meeting with management/ subject teachers.
- Droichead teachers act as a support to NQT staff

Use of technology within the classroom

* Risk of harm due to children while at school devices / technologies media, phones and other using computers, social inappropriately accessing /

* personnel accessing,

ICT--- Staff

social media, texting, digital Risk of harm caused by school device or any other means confidential material via circulating inappropriate /

• Special Needs for the needs of students with personnel not differentiating Risk of harm caused by

Students with additional Needs

 Management of challenging behaviour amongst students

- Opt-in / out question for parents/guardians to indicate an image of their child is proposed being used. preferences re video recording/student images each time if
- Students name not to be displayed with image without consent.
- The school has in place Acceptable Use and Data Protection Policies in respect of use of computers, internet, social media and other technology
- Refer to AUP with regards guidelines in exceptional circumstances ie. Covid-19
- Students are under constant supervision while accessing
- * Where there is a concern of inappropriate use of social contacted and requested to investigate. media/online bullying, parents/guardians are immediately
- procedures for staff The school complies with the agreed disciplinary
- Mobile phone use by staff is not permitted whilst carrying necessary out their professional duties unless it's deemed to be
- The school has a Special Educational Needs Policy
- graduate studies for existing staff in this area The school has recruited teachers with Special Education Needs training and qualifications and facilitated post
- The school appoints qualified SNAs where deemed necessary and funded by the DES

needs	Care of Students with <i>additional</i>	į.	Counselling and one to one support	Student Support	
 Risk of harm to student while a student is receiving emotional support 	one support	situations Risk of harm to a child while a child is engaging with one to	Risk of harm in one-to-one		including appropriate use of restraint where required Risk of harm to students with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities Risk of distress on part of student
A Student Support policy is in place in the school in line with the School's Mission Statement & Ethos.	 pane. All teachers are garda vetted and as members of the teaching council are governed by their code of ethics. 	meeting rooms have a glass panel in the door and that, where possible the teacher will leave the door open. The student will always sit in view of the open door/glass	School Management endeavours that all classrooms.		 Vsware platform – SEN data and resources available to appropriate staff to allow for differentiation etc. An adequate SNA timetable is in place and is adapted where necessary, to ensure adequate supervision of and care of students with SEN. Regular meetings with the SEN Coordinator and School Management. Entrance to the Comeragh suite has extra security in place ie. Mag-lock. Limited access to Comeragh Suite passes are issued to designated members of staff F08 support room is available to SEN students[and students] to access lockers/breaktimes/SEN classes. All correspondence regarding SEN students is carried out on approved Teams school platform. BFL teacher on site to support students with behavioural difficulties Support rooms available-including Comeragh Suitedesignated ASD placements, F-08 and the Student Hub (Library)

Care of students with specific emotional or care needs

• Training of school personnel in child protection of students with specific vulnerabilities / needs such as:- - Students from ethnic minorities/migrants - Members of the Traveller community - Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) students - Students perceived to be LGBT - Students of minority religious faiths - Students in care

Behaviour

- Care of students with challenging behaviour
- Prevention of and dealing with alleged bullying amongst students
- Care and supporting students involved in misuse of social media

- Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel
- Risk of harm to students through lack of understanding of specific needs, including sexual identity, religious and ethnic background

•

- A Student Support Team is in place and meets on a weekly basis or as required.
- Staff are given the opportunity to engage in online CPD
- Training information is shared on Teams Staff Communication about CPD
- Student information is shared on a need to know basis on Teams to allow teachers to support students and be sensitive to their needs.

Risk of mishandling of students with challenging behaviour

*

- Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel
- Risk of harm caused by one student to another via inappropriate social media contact, texting, digital device or other

•;•

Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship / communications between

- BFL teacher on site to support students with behavioural difficulties
- Staff are trained to deal with conflict situations
- Restorative practice is encouraged in the school
- Positive behaviour checklist and strategies available for students/teachers
- Student information is shared on a need to know basis on Teams to allow teachers to support students and be sensitive to their needs.
- Student support plan and Student report card to manage risks with regards to student behaviour
- Positive Code of Behaviour is consistently applied by all staff

Media	involved in misuse of Social	Sanctioning students

- Care of students who are Care of students presenting
- Care of students returning from residential treatment for mental health issues

with suicidal ideation

Care of students with care needs and no allocated SNA

child and another child or

- * sanctions for bullying/misuse Risk of harm to students using of social media inappropriate or over-harsh
- * of specific needs through lack of understanding Risk of harm to students
- * agencies. Risk of harm to students due from parents/outside to lack of shared information
- * child and another child or communications between Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship,

medical concerns serious mental health, code or legal guardian where there are Risk of not being able to contact a

- in relation to their use of Social Media school. It also refer to the standards expected of students Internet Acceptable Usage Policy is in place in the school, which governs the use of electronic devices in the
- and parents. Anti-Bullying/SEN/SST policies are available to all staff
- Anti-Bullying procedures are adhered to in light of any alleged bullying incidents.

- are concerns for a student's well-being or safety. Mental Health policy and school procedures are available to staff and parents in the case where there
- son/daughter's learning needs. The school outlines it's expectations, in the Positive with regards to sharing of important information by parents/guardians that could prove crucial to their Code of Behaviour and also at induction meetings,

- Care of students where they are living with family but not their parents/guardians
- unwell during the school day.
- Care of students when parents/guardians cannot be contacted during the school day for medical or code related issues.
- Care of students who present with symptoms of substance misuse
- Students attending external agencies and school is not aware of these interventions.
- Students who were attending external agencies and no longer but school has not been made aware of same.

Medical

- Administration of medicine
- Administration of first aid

Risk of the student harming themselves or others.
Risk of exposing other students to challenging behaviours and causing anxiety etc.

Risk of students engaging in school support that may conflict with the work being done by an external agency.

Risk of students not being in receipt of appropriate school support because the school thought they were still engaged in an external service

- Risk of harm while they are receiving medicines
- Risk of harm while receiving First Aid

- School requires immediate notification to a change in living arrangements/medical conditions.
- School requests a 3rd party contact be available in case of emergency and both parents/guardians are uncontactable
- The school has Student Support Teams with particular understanding of the needs of the students in its care, including their background.
- The school will contact Tusla/Gardai where they cannot make contact with parent/guardians in the vital interest of the child.
- School has a Substance Misuse Policy
- School has a Positive Code of Behaviour

Parents/Guardians to make the school aware when students are/were engaging or disengaging with external services

		room and a detailed log kept of all First Aid incidents that occur. Staff are regularly trained and upskilled in First Aid The school has a set of procedures in relation to the administration of medicines. The school has in place a policy for the administration of medication to students Details of students with medical conditions are available subject to consent to relevant staff and school Management
		 The school has procedures for the administration of First Aid (Post of Responsibility) A number of Staff are trained in Occupational First Aid A number of staff are trained on how to use the Defibrillator Automate External Defibrillator
Recruitment		
Staff Recruitment is a function of TETB	 Risk of harm to students by recruitment of inappropriately qualified personnel Risk of harm to students from personnel who have a history of unacceptable practices in previous employment Risk of harm to students from a member of personnel with a history of abuse 	 The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting TETB provides an Induction programme for new staff When appointing, detailed references are sought The school has a rigorous interview process All new staff are on a probationary period. TETB employment guidelines

	member of personnel	
	expected standards of the	
	school Risk of harm due to	
	inappropriate relationship /	
	child and another child or	
	adult	
Sporting and Extra-		
Curricular Activities	Syc	
Travel Travelling to / from matches /	Risk of harm while student participating in out of school	Tring and extra courioular Secution Assisting Balting
competitions / expos / events etc		clear procedures in respect of same.
10:10:10	* Kisk of harm due to	* It is part of the current ETB tender that the company who
 Use of toilet / changing / shower 	students while attending out	employees are Garda vetted. This is part of the process of
in other locations	Risk of harm to students	 All staff and volunteers are Garda vetted
,	through bullying when away from home on school trips	All staff have been provided with the Child Safeguarding Statement and have had appropriate training
	Risk of a student being	School sports personnel are required to adhere to the
	school personnel / a member	Schools 2017 and also are required to adhere to the
	of staff of another	Children First Act 2015
	organisation or other person	The school implements in full the Wellbeing Programme
	wille participating in sporting	
	activities	Policies in relation to the use of digital media
	Use of off-site facilities	The school has a PE Policy in respect of changing rooms

Charity and Fundraisers

Fundraising events

Trips

- School trips involving overnight stay
- School outings

Medical

 Administration of first aid following a sports injury

Non -school staff

Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities

- Sports coaches
- Volunteers/Parents in sports activities

- Risk of harm to student while student is receiving first aid treatment
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching situations
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship, communications between child and another child or adult

- Covid-19 guidelines
- Prior to the use of off-site facilities teachers will check suitability.
- The school requires insurance and child protection details to be in place by the visiting organisations for students.
- Safeguarding service level agreement in place prior to school being used.
- The school has provided each external organisation/staff with a copy of the school's Student Safeguarding
- Statement and procedures
- The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 are made available to all such personnel
- External 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*.
- A minimum of two members of staff attend all school related activities [internal/external].
- SNAs available to accompany students with additional needs.
- A member of staff is present for any external coaches visiting the school
- All staff are mandated persons and are obliged to report any knowledge of inappropriate relationships/communications.
- All classrooms, meeting rooms have a glass panel in the door and that, where possible the teacher will leave the

CT

- to record and report on extra- Use of social media and technology curricular activities and events
- * or a student circulating inappropriate material in member of school personnel via social media, texting, adult communicating with Risk of harm caused by an digital device or other manner pupils in appropriate manner Risk of harm caused by

•

- digital device or other manner via social media, texting, relation to sporting activities
- * Risk of student being harmed the school in the school by a visitor to

Other organisations

After school use of school

organisations premises by other

other organisations during Use of school premises by

school day

- door/glass pane. door open. The student will always sit in view of the open
- Opt-in / out question for parents/guardians to indicate preferences re video recording/student images
- Students name not to be displayed with image without consent.

*

- The school has in place Acceptable Use and Data Protection Policies in respect of use of computers, internet, social media and other technology
- Refer to AUP with regards guidelines in exceptional circumstances ie. Covid-19
- * Students are under constant supervision while accessing
- * Where there is a concern of inappropriate use of social contacted and requested to investigate media/online bullying, parents/guardians are immediately
- procedures for teaching staff The school complies with the agreed disciplinary
- CCTV system in operation
- All visitors to the school adhere to sign in system
- All visitors are accompanied by BAM member of staff
- BAM staff remain in school until the school building closes.

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 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

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. 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

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on 27th May 2020. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding

Signed . Policy Reviewed

Chairperson, Board of Management

10 27/5/202

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management