Scoil Mhuire Moycullen 19529C

Updated Risk Assessments to minimise the risk of being exposed to Covid-19 September 2021

The process involved consultation with all school staff.

Methodology used for hazard identification and control

In line with the requirements of Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 (section 19) it is the policy of the Board of Management of Scoil Mhuire to address significant hazards and risks in the workplace, to access the risks to safety, health and welfare and to control these risks as far as is reasonably practicable.

The Board is committed to the ongoing identification of hazards, the assessment of the appropriate risks and the introduction of controls to deal with them. In addition, staff are involved and participate in safety, health and welfare issues within the school and are encouraged to identify and report any potential hazards that may exist and to ensure that a risk assessment is carried out.

This updated Risk Assessment includes all relevant updates and necessary control measures to minimise the risk of staff and others being exposed to Covid-19 and these will be added to the Safety Statement for Scoil Mhuire in line with requirements of section 20 of the 2005 Act.

It is envisaged that additional reviews will be undertaken on a regular basis and in line with Government and public health advice to ensure that all information remains accurate, that controls are appropriate and where necessary risks are reassessed.

Control measures:

A control measure is an applied measure that reduces the level of risk. Control measures can be applied at the planning stage, can comprise physical measures, can be management issues and can include training. Good control measures will require a combination of some or all of these.

Control measure principles:

Schedule 3 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 lists the Principles of Prevention and the Board of Management undertakes to apply these principles (where practicable) in dealing with all risks within the school:

- Avoidance of risks
- Evaluation of unavoidable risks
- Combating of risks at source
- Adaptation of work to the individual
- Adaptation of workplace to technical progress
- Replacement of dangerous articles, substances or systems of work by safe or less dangerous articles, substances or systems of work
- Priority to collective protective measures over individual protective measures
- Development of an adequate prevention policy which takes account of technology, organisation of work, working conditions, social factors and the influence of factors relating to the working environment
- Appropriate training and instructions to employees.

When the safety audit identifies hazards, it is necessary to evaluate and rate them so that they can be controlled in an orderly way. The risks in each case have been identified as HIGH, MEDIUM or LOW.

Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Risk Communication, Education and Training Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff Pupils Visitors Contractors Public	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Inadequate Staff Training and Lack of Information Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with long- term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, Lung disease, diabetes, cancer Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death	The Board of Management will revise the current Covid-19 Response Plan for the prevention and mitigation of Covid-19 following a risk assessment of the school facility. This plan will highlight the measures necessary to protect the health and safety of staff in re-opening and modifying the work arrangementswithin the school. The Lead Worker Representative (LWR) and Assistant Lead Worker Representative (ALWR) will be properly consulted when developing and implementing the action plan for the prevention and mitigation of Covid-19 within the school and all staff will be informed about the measures being introduced, using specific risk communication and staff engagement approaches. The Board of Management will: ✓ Ensure that all staff receive necessary induction training prior to returningto	LOW	Board of Management Principal Staff
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Hygiene	Risk Rating	Action implementation
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Staff Pupils Visitors Contractors Public	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Poor Hygiene Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with long-term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, Lung disease, diabetes, cancer Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death	 ✓ Wash their hands properly and often. Hands should be washed: After coughing or sneezing Before and after eating Before and after using protective gloves When arriving and leaving the school campus After toilet use ✓ Cover their mouths and nose with a tissue or their sleeve when coughing and sneezing. ✓ Put used tissues into a bin and wash their hands ✓ Develop a routine of increased cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched objects and surfaces 	MODERATE	Board of Management Principal Staff Visitors

	Any Staff Member who has tested positive for Covid-19 must not return to work until deemed fit to do so and upon approval of their medical advisor or the HSE. Staff can follow https://www2.hse.ie/ for regular updates or can contact HSE Live for advice 1850 241850	
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Hygiene	Risk Rating	Action implementation
апестей?	identified kisks	Controls	with controls	Action implementation
Staff Pupils Visitors Contractors Public	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Poor Hygiene Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with long-term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, Lung disease, diabetes, cancer Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death	 ✓ Toilet facilities are cleaned regularly ✓ All drinking water facilities are shut down ✓ Equipment sharing is minimised. Staff are encouraged not to share equipment ✓ There is regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and that staff are 		Board of Management Principal Staff Cleaners
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Social Distancing Controls		Action implementation
Staff Pupils Visitors Contractors Public	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Inadequate Social Distancing Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: • Persons over 60 years of age • Persons with longterm medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, • Lung disease, diabetes, cancer • Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: • A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius • A cough • Shortness of breath • Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell • Death	Physical distancing is currently a key control measure in reducing the spread of infection. The Board of Mangement will ensure that: ✓ all persons will adhere to relevant social distancing rules (2 metres) in relation to entering the school, use of facilities and while working in the school ✓ physical spacing for work stations and common spaces, such as entrances/exits, areas, staffroom, stairs, where congregation or queuing of staff, or students of visitors might occur ✓ Break times will continue to be staggered and school supervision procedures must be strictly adhered to ✓ Morning Drop Off and Evening Pick Up systems will remain in place to avoid congregation on/near premises	MODERATE	Board of Management Principal Staff Visitors
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Ventilation	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
taff Pupils Visitors Contractors Public	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Poor Ventilation Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: • Persons over 60 years of age • Persons with long-term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, • Lung disease, diabetes, cancer • Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: • A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius • A cough • Shortness of breath • Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell • Death	CO2 Monitoring The school has been supplied with 9 CO2 monitors. These have been deployed to classrooms and will be rotated between classrooms on a regular basis. Teachers will monitor the levels of CO2 in their classrooms and will take appropriate action to increase ventilation should levels rise beyond acceptable levels. Ventilation Staff and management will ensure that classrooms and communal areas are well ventilated throughout the school day. Windows will remain open throughout the day. Doors will remain open as much as is practically possible. Windows and doors will remain open at breaktimes and for at least 15 minutes after school.	HIGH	Principal Staff

Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Cleaning Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Public	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Inadequate Cleaning Measures Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with longterm medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, Lung disease, diabetes, cancer Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death	All cleaning will be undertaken in line with DES and public health guidance. Staff are responsible for cleaning personal items that have been brought to work and items handled at work or during breaks. Staff advised to clean personal items that they have bring to work (e.g. mobile phones) and to avoid leaving them down on communal surfaces or they will need to clean the surface after the personal item is removed Staff are responsible for cleaning their workspaces/desks, sinks and door-handles of theirclassrooms on a regular basis throughout the day Contract Cleaning Company has been engaged by the school to carry out daily cleaning of the school premises to COVID-19 standards. Contract Cleaning Company has been apprised of cleaning arrangements for the school Sufficient cleaning materials and PPE is available to allow for increased cleaning Cleaning staff wear gloves when cleaning and are aware of the need to wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water, both before and after wearing gloves System in place for the disposable of cleaning cloths and used wipes in a rubbish bag Current HSE guidance recommends waste such as cleaning waste, tissues etc. from a person suspected of having Covid-19 should be double bagged, labelled (case number) and stored in a secure area for 72 hours before being presented for general waste collection System in place to make sure reusable cleaning equipment including mop heads and non-disposable cloths are clean before re-use System in place to ensure that equipment such as buckets are emptied and cleaned witha fresh solution of disinfectant before re-use The area will be cleaned with disinfectant and sanitised after a suspected coronavirus (Covid-19) case. This will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people For cleaning purposes, a face mask and disposable gloves should be worn. Particular attention should be paid to frequently touched areas and surfaces,		Board of Management Principal Staff Contract Cleaners

	removing gloves, aprons and other proving gloves, aprons and other province areas where a symptomatic in minimal time, such as corridors, but where the body fluids will becleaned as normal	ated, such as with visible bodily s (Covid-19) visors and disposable oap and water for 20 seconds and after protection used while cleaning individual has passed through and spent which are not visibly contaminated with
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Use of PPE Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff Pupils Visitors Contractors Public	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Insufficient PPE or Improper Use of PPE Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with long- term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, Lung disease, diabetes, cancer Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death	Staff will are provided with a range of PPE and provided with information and advice in theproper use, cleaning, storage and disposal of PPE. PPE needs to be consistently and properly worn when required. In addition, it must beregularly inspected, cleaned, maintained and replaced as necessary.	MODERATE	Board of Management Principal Staff
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Handling Books and Other Resources during Covid-19	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff (particularly SNAs, school secretaries and school book rental co-ordinator) Pupils	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Handling of Books and Resources Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: • Persons over 60 years of age • Persons with long- term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, • Lung disease, diabetes, cancer • Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: • A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius • A cough • Shortness of breath • Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell • Death	 The Board of Management has to prepare for the return of school books (bookres scheme) and other resource materials (including IT equipment) so that these will available to pupils for the start of the new school year. The following guidelines recommended for staff when receiving or assisting in compiling resource packs: Maintain physical distancing (currently 2 metres) Observe good hygiene (hand washing and respiratory etiquette, do notto your eyes, nose, mouth with unwashed hands, etc.) before and a handling books and other materials returned to the school Follow the agreed school protocols if you are displaying symptoms of Contact 	be are uch iter id- to ing the n a	Board of Management Principal Staff
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Using Hand Tools or Equipment Controls	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Use of Hand Tools or Equipment Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with longterm medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, Lung disease, diabetes, cancer Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death	equipment and machinery as far as is reasonably practicable ✓ Cleaning material will be available so that all tools can be wiped down with disinfectantbetween each use	LOW	Board of Management Principal Staff
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Dealing with a Suspected Case of COVID-19	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff Pupils Visitors Contractors Public	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Improper Procedure in dealing with Suspected Cases of COVID-19 Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: • Persons over 60 years of age • Persons with long-term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, • Lung disease, diabetes, cancer • Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: • A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius • A cough • Shortness of breath • Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell • Death	Controls The Board of Management has: ✓ Appointed Staff Members to be in charge for dealing with suspected cases. ✓ Has identified a designated Covid-19 Isolation Area available on the school premises, to cater for a person displaying signs of Covid-19. The designated area and the route to the designated area is as accessible as is reasonable and practicable. The designated area has the ability to isolate the person behind a closed door and away from other persons		Board of Management Principal Staff

	Contract Cleaners, who will be made symptoms in that room on that day. ✓ The COVID-19 Isolation area will be tho	aware of the presence of a person displaying roughly cleaned and sanitised.	
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Cleaning a Space with a Suspected/Confirmed Case of Covid-19	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
		Controls		
Staff Pupils Visitors Contractors	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Improper Cleaning Procedure re. Suspected Cases of COVID-19	Disposable cloths or paper roll should be used to clean all hard surfaces, floors, chairs, door handles and sanitary fittings, using an approved and recognised	HIGH	Board of Management Principal Staff
	Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are:	detergent and disinfectant in line with the manufacturer's instructions Disinfectants used should be effective against viruses.		
	Persons over 60 years of age	Additionally:		
	Persons with long- term medical	Care should be taken to avoid creating splashes and spray when cleaning.		
	conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure,	Any items that have been heavily contaminated with body fluids and that cannot be cleanedwashing should be disposed of		
	 Lung disease, diabetes, cancer 	Laundry		
	 Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 	Items to be washed at a temperature of 60 degrees celcius. Clean and disinfect anything used for transporting laundry		
	 A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death 	Waste Management Waste should be put in a plastic rubbish bag and tied when full The plastic bag should then be placed in a second bin bag and tied It should be disposed of in the General Waste Bin.		
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Contact with Cleaning Agents/Sanitiser	Risk Rating	Action implementation
affected?		Controls	with controls	Action implementation
Pupils Visitors Contractors Public Proceedings Contractors Contra	Pupils through Contact with Cleaning Agents/Sanitiser Suspected Cases of COVID-19 Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with long-term medical conditions, e.g. heart	Cleaning products used by the Contract Cleaners are stored in the Cleaner's Room, which is secured by a coded locking mechanism and is inaccessible to pupils. Cleaning products used by staff such as disinfectant, antiviral sprays and wipes and kept securely by teachers in their rooms. Wall mounted hand sanitisers have been placed at various locations throughout the school premises. Their use by pupils is, as much as possible, supervised. In situations where their use by pupils cannot be supervised, i.e. toilet blocks, pupils have been instructed in their proper use.	LOW	Board of Management Principal Staff Cleaning staff

Who may be affected?	FIEEHALL STAIL MEHINELS A		Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff Members	Contraction of COVID-19 by Staff Members at Particular Risk of COVID-19 Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: • Persons over 60 years of age • Persons with long-term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, • Lung disease, diabetes, cancer • Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: • A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius • A cough • Shortness of breath • Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell • Death	Controls to be put in place to mitigate/reduce the identified risk(s). Staff member has been offered the opportunity to work in SEN at a safer, more manageable distance from pupils. Staff member will be provided with PPE including KN95 facemasks. Staff member will wear a KN95 facemask at all times apart from while eating/drinking Staff member will make all practicable efforts to maintain a 2m distance from pupils. Staff members will maintain a 2 metre distance from colleagues. Parents will not be permitted to access the school premises apart from in the Halla Mór at Infant Drop Off and Collection. 2 metre distance applies. Meetings with parents will only take place remotely, e.g. via telephone call or Zoom. The school is cleaned to a high COVID-19 standard on a daily basis by a professional contact cleaner. The levels of C02 will be monitored in the classroom. The doors of the main school building will remain open throughout the day. The classroom windows and louvred glass panels above the door will remain open throughout the school day. The classroom will be thoroughly ventilated during breaktimes and after school for 30 minutes each evening. Staffroom has been repurposed. Staff will take lunch in the Halla Mór or outside in the Centre Court. Toilets will be cleaned each day. Staff member will maintain a 2 metre distance from colleagues. Staff member will wear a KN95 facemask at all times apart from while eating/drinking Cleaning products have been approved by the DES.	MODERATE	Board of Management Principal Staff Members

		
	✓	Staff member will only use provided cleaning products.
	✓	Staff member has been provided with a high stool to enable her to sit while
		teaching.
	✓	Staff member has been advised to sit occasionally and to avoid long periods
		standing.
	✓	Staff member has been instructed not to engage in heavy lifting or carrying
		and to request assistance from the Principal/Caretaker.
	✓	Staff member has been instructed not to engage in climbing or high reaching
		and to request assistance from the Principal/Caretaker.
	✓	Staff member will ask for assistance from a colleague.
	✓	Staff member will maintain a 2 metre distance from pupils.
	✓	Staff member will not be required to sweep floors.
	✓	Staff member will only engage in light wiping/cleaning of personal workspace,
		door handles, etc.
	✓	Staff member will be excused from supervision of children in the yard at
		breaktimes.
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Identified Risks	Travel To and From Work		Action implementation
	Controls	with controls	
Spread of Covid-19 Virus	Where a staff member exhibits any signs of Covid-19 or has been exposed to a confirmed case they should not travel to work.	LOW	Staff
of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: • Persons over 60 years of age • Persons with longterm medical	Wherever possible, staff should travel to work alone using their own means of transport – staff should not share transport to or from work. Staff should avoid the use of public transport when travelling to and from work.		Staff
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	Spread of Covid-19 Virus Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: • Persons over 60 years of age • Persons with longterm medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, • Lung disease, diabetes, cancer • Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: • A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius • A cough • Shortness of breath • Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell • Death	Spread of Covid-19 Virus Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with long-term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, Lung disease, diabetes, cancer Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death	Spread of Covid-19 Virus Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with long- term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, Lung disease, diabetes, cancer Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death

Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Reception and Release of Pupils Controls		Action implementation
Staff Pupils Parents Bus Drivers Public	Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with longterm medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, Lung disease, diabetes, cancer Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death	Arrangements for dropping off and picking up pupils from the school facility have been organised to maintain, as far as is reasonably practicable, a safe social distance between drivers/parents/guardians and all school staff. The Board of Management has provided a designated drop off/awaiting area for pupils coming to school by bus that supports social distancing measures. Parents/guardians will be encouraged to park their cars away from the school premises Where SEN pupils with care needs or pupils using wheelchairs are dropped off, the accompanying adult should remain outside the school premises. A designated staff member will come to the car to receive thepupil and will avoid or limit physical contact with the accompanying adult. A similar processwill be followed for pick up.	LOW	Board of Management Principal Staff Bus Drivers
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks	Visitors to school	Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
Staff Pupils Visitors Public	Spread of Covid-19 Virus through Visitors to the School Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: • Persons over 60 years of age • Persons with long-term medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, • Lung disease, diabetes, cancer • Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: • A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius • A cough • Shortness of breath • Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell • Death	Visits to the school will be severely restricted and visitors will be asked to: ✓ Make a prior appointment before visiting the school ✓ Remain at home if they have any Covid-19 symptoms ✓ Follow the agreed Covid-19 protocols for the school ✓ Sanitise before entering the premises ✓ Wear a face mask ✓ Record his/her attendance in the Contact Tracing Log	LOW	Board of Management Principal
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Who may be affected?	Identified Risks Management of Deliveries and Supplies to School Controls		Risk Rating with controls	Action implementation
taff Pupils Privers	Persons deemed most at risk of complications if they contract COVID-19 are: Persons over 60 years of age Persons with longterm medical conditions, e.g. heart disease, high blood pressure, Lung disease, diabetes, cancer Pregnant women Known effects of COVID-19 are: A Fever (temperature over 37.5 celsius A cough Shortness of breath Loss or distortion of sense of taste or smell Death	All drivers to remain outside main school building All deliveries to be made to the front door of the main school building. Deliveries to be authorised in advance.	LOW	Board of Management Principal Staff Delivery Personnel
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