



John Scottus Pre-School

Outings Policy

This policy will be available to view and examine by all members of the school community: Parents, Staff, Board of Management and Trustees. They will be available for inspection in the Pre-school classroom in Old Conna, Ferndale Rd, Rathmichael Co Dublin and on our School website.

Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 (Síolta Standard 3: Parents/guardians and Families, Síolta Standard 7: Curriculum, Síolta Standard 9: Health and Welfare, Síolta Standard 8: Planning and Evaluation) (National Standard 1: Information, National Standard 3: Working in Partnership with Parents or Guardians, National Standard 5: Organisation and Management, National Standard 8: Care, Play and Learning, National Standard 9: Nurture and Well-Being)

Statement of Intent:

We understand the educational benefit of outings. However, we also understand that some children prefer the feeling of safety and security of remaining within the Pre-School setting. We also acknowledge the many richness and advantages of our beautiful and natural Pre-School setting which to some extent limits the need to bring children on outings.

Procedure:

1. Risk/Benefit assessment should be carried out before an outing takes place, which considers the mode of transport and the venue for the outing.
2. Arrangements must be in place to ensure that children are safely escorted on any outing.
3. Ratios must be adhered to on all outings.

4. Specific supervision needs of children e.g. additional needs must be catered for
5. Outings can be an opportunity to extend the curriculum and be a response to children's interests.
6. Information about proposed outings should be given to the parent/guardian/carers.
7. Parent/guardian/carers should be encouraged to take an active part in the outings.
8. Signed permission must be obtained from parent/guardian/carers for each outing.
9. Garda Vetting is not required for parents going on outings - Parents on outings working in a supportive role to staff do not require vetting on condition that they do not have unsupervised access to other people's children. However the minimum ratios as outlined in the regulations must be maintained by paid staff.
10. Children will be introduced in smaller groups to local community businesses and activities (for example, library, shoemaker, greengrocer, cafe, Gardaí).
11. The Outing Checklist should be completed before any outing.