**Administration of first Aid of Policy:**

**School Name:** Edmund Rice Secondary School, Carrick-on-Suir.

**School Address:** Mount St. Nicholas, Carrick-on- Suir, Co. Tipperary.

**School Details:** ERSS Carrick-on-Suir is a Voluntary Roman Catholic Secondary School under the trusteeship and the patronage of the Edmund Rice Schools Trust. The School is grant aided by the Department of Education & Skills and is a single sex (boys) school.

**School Management:** The Board of Management of ERSS Carrick-on-Suir is a statutory Board appointed pursuant to the provisions of the Education Act 1998.

**Mission Statement:**

 Inspired by its founder, ERSS Carrick-on-Suir’s mission is to “*To provide a caring Christian community which celebrates effort and talent in an environment of hope and happiness"* , with a vision to *“Learn together, succeed together in a respectful environment.”*

**Ethos**:

As an Edmund Rice School ERSS Carrick-on-Suir seeks to promote the five key elements of an Edmund Rice School as espoused by the ERST Charter:

● Nurturing faith, Christian spirituality and Gospel-based values

● Promoting partnership in the school community

● Excelling in teaching and learning

● Creating a caring school community

● Inspiring transformational leadership

Please Note:

Personal data collected about prospective students/students and their parents/guardians will be retained and used strictly in accordance with the provisions of GDPR legislation as introduced 25th. May 2018. Further details on data protection are set out in the school’s Data Protection Policy.

**Introduction**

This policy re-enforces the elements of the school mission statement which advocates providing a safe and secure learning environment for each child and ensuring a duty of care at all times when the school is in operation.

**Rationale**

This policy should be read in the context of the **ERSS Carrick on Suir, Accident and Incident Policy**. The formulation of this policy enables ERSS Carrick on Suir to effectively:

• Provide for the immediate needs and requirements of students who have sustained either a minor or a serious injury

• Ensure that adequate resources and arrangements are in place to deal with injuries/accidents as they arise

• Ensure lines of communication with parents/guardians are in place if required

• Activate a known plan of action with which all staff are familiar

• Provide guidelines for the administration of medication in the school

**Roles and Responsibilities**

The overall responsibility for the day to day management of school supervision/routines rests with the Principal. The class teacher is responsible for classroom supervision, and teachers on yard duty are directly responsible for the supervision of students at break time. The school’s Health and Safety Officer is the Principal.

**Aims**

• To ensure the physical safety and well-being of all staff and students

• To develop a framework of procedures whereby all injuries are dealt with in a competent and safe manner

• To provide training for staff with the effective use of outside expertise so that children have access to proper interventions

• To comply with all legislation relating to safety and welfare at work

**Procedures**

 The safety of students and staff is a priority for the Board of Management, and robust measures have been put in place to ensure that no students or staff members are put at risk.

• All students are covered 24/7 by Insurance

• A number of staff members are qualified to administer First Aid. A list of qualified personnel is displayed in the front office and staff room.

• Established procedures are in place in the event of accident

s • There are at least three teachers on supervision at any one time

• Class groups who leave the school on trips will, where possible, be accompanied by at least two adults.

• For school tours and sporting events, one of the accompanying teachers will bring a small First Aid kit.

**Typical Injuries**

• Minor Cuts and Bruises

• Sprains

• Faints and Shocks

• Bumps to the head

• Severe Bleeding

• Burns and Scalds

• Unconsciousness

• Stings and Bites

In the event of any of the above situations arising, where possible, a qualified Occupational First Aider (OFA) will administer care. If the OFA is unavailable, the supervising teacher should refer to the First Aid Responder Manual located beside the First Aid Box in the Front Office.

**In the event of a Minor Accident/Injury**

The injured party is initially assessed by the teacher on supervision duty. If deemed necessary, the student will be taken to the main office. No medicines are administered, but cuts are cleaned with gauze and water or anti septic wipes. Bandages/plasters will be applied if deemed appropriate. The use of plastic gloves is advised at all times.

**In the event of a more Serious Accident/Injury**

If considered safe to do so, the injured party will be brought to the main office. Parents/guardians will be immediately informed if there is a suspicion of serious head injury, broken bones or eye injuries. In the event of parents/guardians being unable to take the student to the hospital, contact will be made with the emergency services. In the event of an ambulance being unavailable, two staff members will accompany the student to the hospital. Meanwhile the student will be kept under observation until parents/guardians arrive, while keeping the child as comfortable and as calm as possible.

**In the event of a very Serious Accident/Injury**

In the event of a very serious injury, parents/guardians are immediately contacted. If the considered opinion of the staff is that immediate professional help is required, an ambulance is called. On rare occasions it may be agreed that staff taking the child to Accident & Emergency is a more prudent option, particularly in the case of rapid blood loss. Insofar as possible, parents/guardians are kept informed of the developing situation. At all times, the school endeavours to keep an up to date list of contact phone numbers and regularly remind parents/guardians to inform them of changes to phone numbers.

**Resources**

First Aid boxes are located in the staff room, the PE office and the main office. All staff members are aware of these locations. It is the duty of the post holder in charge of Health & Safety to ensure that these First Aid boxes are adequately stocked at all times. It is also the responsibility of the post holder to complete an annual order to replenish the First Aid supplies in the school.

**Record Keeping**

All accidents/injuries are recorded on the Accident Report Form which is found in the teacher’s handbook. This must be fully completed by the relevant teacher (date and time of accident, witnesses, nature of injuries, a brief description of the circumstances of the accident, procedures followed by staff etc.) On completion of this form it will be stored in the relevant file in the Deputy Principal’s Office.

**Evaluation**

The success of this policy is measured by the following criteria: • Maintaining a relatively accident free school environment • Positive feedback from staff, parents/guardians, children • Continual yard observation of behaviour by all staff engaged in supervision duties • Monitoring and evaluation at staff meetings.

**Approval:**

This policy has been distributed to staff, parents and students for their approval.

Amendments have been made after consultation with these stakeholders.

This policy has been ratified by the Board of Management of ERSS Carrick-on-Suir;

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This policy will be due for review on:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_