



General Risk Assessment: AuthenTISM

Organisation: AuthenTISM |

Location: Ballygomartin Baptist Church. Belfast, Antrim, BT13 3QB, Northern Ireland

Assessment Date: 29-06-2026 | **Review Date:** 01-09-2026

Risk Rating Matrix

- **Likelihood:** 1 (Low) to 5 (High)
- **Severity:** 1 (Minor) to 5 (Major/Fatality)
- **Risk Level:** Likelihood x Severity (Score of 10+ requires immediate extra controls)

Hazard / Activity	Potential Harm	Current Control Measures (The "How to Stay Safe")	Risk Score
Abseonding (Running away)	Child leaving the site; road traffic accidents; becoming lost.	High staff-to-child ratios (1:1 if needed). Secure perimeter with "double-gate" or "push-button" exits. Staff carry mobile phones. Attendance registers taken at every transition.	L:2 S:5 (10)
Sensory Overload / Meltdown	Physical injury to self, other children, or staff; distress.	Low-arousal "Quiet Zones" available. Use of "Now/Next" visuals. Sensory kits (ear defenders/fidgets) provided. Staff trained in NI-approved de-escalation.	L:4 S:3 (12)

Choking / Dietary Issues	Allergic reaction; choking on non-food items (Pica).	Medical Forms reviewed by all staff. Nut-free zone policy. Supervised mealtimes. Staff trained in Paediatric First Aid (NI Standard).	L:2 S:5 (10)
Aggressive Behaviour	Kicking, biting, or throwing objects.	Individual PBS plans shared with staff. Removal of "trigger" items. Environment cleared of loose heavy objects. "Last resort" restrictive intervention policy in place.	L:3 S:3 (9)
Transitions (Moving rooms/trips)	High anxiety; unpredictable behavior; panic.	Visual timetables used. Five-minute warnings before moving. Staff positioned at front and rear of the group.	L:4 S:2 (8)
Medication Errors	Under/overdose; wrong medication administered.	Locked medical cabinet. Two-person "Check & Sign" system. Original pharmacy labels only. Medication Log (AM2) maintained.	L:1 S:5 (5)
Intimate Care	Safeguarding allegations; infection; loss of dignity.	Intimate Care Policy followed. Two adults aware of care taking place. Use of PPE (gloves/aprons). Enhanced AccessNI checks for all staff.	L:1 S:4 (4)

Additional Northern Ireland Compliance Controls:

1. **AccessNI:** All staff/volunteers have been vetted via the **Enhanced Disclosure** process.
2. **Ratios:** We maintain a minimum ratio of **[1 staff member to 8 children]** as per DHSSPSNI guidelines for day care/schemes.
3. **Reporting:** All "Red Zone" incidents will be recorded on a **Serious Incident Form** and reported to the **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**.

Sign Off

Assessor Name: _____

Role: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____