

DESIGN RISK ASSESSMENT



DERMOT F GEOGHEGAN
ARCHITECTS

Project Title:	Rath Dara Community College – Summer Works-Construction & Engineering Room Refurb		
Project Ref:	26-103	Client:	DDLETB
		PSDP:	Dermot F Geoghegan Architects
Project Stage:	Concept ☐	Consultant/Designer:	Dermot F Geoghegan Architects
	Design ☐	Completed by:	EK
	Tender ☒	Date:	June 2026
1. Risks Present in your design (at this stage) For each risk present indicate level of risk e.g. high / medium / low (H/M/L)			
Burial under earth fall Y/N H / M L	Engulfment in swampland Y/N H / M / L	Falling from a height Y/N H / M L	
Unstable Ground Y/N H / M / L	Underground services Y/N H / M / L	Undermining existing foundations Y/N H / M / L	
Work on or near existing boundaries or structures Y/N H / M L	Work on or near fragile roof Y/N H / M / L	Installation of scaffolding Y/N H / M L	
Collective protection needed Y/N H / M L	Chemicals Y/N H / M / L	Confined Spaces Y/N H / M / L	
Asbestos Y/N H / M / L	Demolition Y/N H / M L	Lead Y/N H / M / L	
Ionising Radiation Y/N H / M / L	Biological Y/N H / M / L	Overhead lines Y/N H / M / L	
Drowning Y/N H / M / L	Underground works Y/N H / M / L	Explosives Y/N H / M / L	
Compressed Air systems / Divers Y/N H / M / L	Heavy Steel Structures Y/N H / M / L	Precast concrete frame Y/N H / M / L	
Heavy prefabricated plant Y/N H / M / L	After build maintenance Y/N H / M / L	Roof access Y/N H / M / L	
Window cleaning Y/N H / M / L	General cleaning Y/N H / M L	Statutory Inspections Y/N H / M L	
Plant Maintenance Y/N H / M / L	Traffic control Y/N H / M L	Other (detail) Y/N H / M / L	
Other (detail) Y/N H / M / L	Other (detail) Y/N H / M / L	Other (detail) Y/N H / M / L	

2. Who will be affected (at this stage)

Public	Construction workers	Maintenance Personnel	Client / End Users	Others
Y / ☒ N	☒ Y / N	☒ Y / N	☒ Y / N	Y / ☒ N

Detail

- School Staff /Students - Works will be started during school holiday period, but will overlap into the first school term.
- M&E specialists carrying out appropriate assessment of above services.

3. Particular Risks (at this stage)

The following information comprises our opinion in regard to such information as is known or reasonably foreseeable concerning (a) items 1 and 2 of the Second Schedule of the Regulations where the existence of such risks would not be evident and reasonably deducible from drawings or other supporting documentation to a competent Project Supervisor Construction Stage and (b) items 3 to 10 of the Second Schedule of the Regulations:

- Safe Site Separation – “Live Site” Environment.
- High-Risk Machinery Removal & Decommissioning
- Stripping out Electrical works.

4. Other Residual Risks (at this stage)

Having taken account of the “Principles of Prevention” as recommended in “Designing for Safety in Construction” published by ACEI/IEI/RIAI, we set out below all residual hazards (other than ‘Particular Risks’ as set out above) identified by us which in our opinion (i) are significant and unusual and (ii) could not otherwise reasonably be known or deduced by a competent contractor. This information is provided to the extent appropriate in our opinion to enable reliable performance by a competent contractor. It should be read in conjunction with the contract documents where appropriate.

- Working from a Height – painting ceilings

5. Design action you have taken to reduce the specific risks (at this stage)

- Co-ordination with project management team to ensure a project programme is put in place. The project will be started during the summer which is when the school will be closed/no students or staff present which will allow for a focus on the specific works to be carried out. However, the project will over run into the school term creating a “Live Site” environment, which will require safe separation of construction workers from teachers and students.
- The Engineering Room introduces a designated “Hot Area” containing a welder, welding bench, blazing hearth, and an electric kiln. This introduces severe, permanent risks of fire, burns, and toxic fume inhalation during school operations - the design details adequate fire separation, localized fire suppression/extinguishers, and specialized heat-resistant flooring (specified as Granolithic or Terrazzo).
- Ensuring the standard joinery specifications explicitly state that these units cannot be free-standing; they must be mechanically anchored to the building's structural blockwork/concrete walls using heavy-duty expansion anchors to prevent tipping hazards if students climb or overload them

6. Risks that the client has taken responsibility for (at this stage)

- School Management systems during course of works.
- On-site personnel – traffic set down management during course of works.
- Management of occupants during times of which the road infrastructure is de-commissioned

7. Risks that contractor is to be made aware of (Inclusion in Prelim H&S Plan)

Live school site – separation of construction works from school activities – protection of school users from construction works.

Works are adjacent to other classrooms.

Refer to engineers' recommendation on working with existing services.

8. Construction Methods

The detailed, comprehensive identification of hazards and control of risks on site is the responsibility of the contractor(s). The Regulations do not require designers to dictate construction methods generally, or to evaluate contractors' proposals. However, where specific construction methods or sequences are envisaged by us during design which in our opinion are not reasonably discernible from the contract documents or are outside the normal scope of a competent contractor in the context of the proposed work, these are set out below. This information should be read in conjunction with the contract documents where appropriate.

Notes:

A new design risk assessment form must be completed for each stage of the project (Concept / Design / Tender).

Section 1: Circle either Y or N for each risk. If unsure, circle Y. Risks should be assumed until proven otherwise. For each risk circled Y, indicate level of risk by circling H / M / L.

Section 2: Circle either Y or N for each group who will be affected by any of the risks which are present in the design.

Section 3: List the steps you have taken to eliminate, reduce, evaluate, adapt etc. the risks present identified in Section 1. Refer to the 'General Principles of Prevention'.

Section 4: List any risks identified in Section 1 that the client has agreed to take responsibility for at this stage. Acceptance by client must be in writing and accompany this document.

Section 5: List any risks identified in Section 1 that are to be passed to the Contractor for consideration at tender and construction stage.

The completed document should be filed in the relevant project file.

THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF PREVENTION

- (1) The avoidance of risk.
- (2) The evaluation of unavoidable risks.
- (3) The combating of risks at source.
- (4) The adaptation of work to the individual, especially as regards the design of places of work, the choice of work equipment and the choice of systems of work, with a view, in particular, to alleviating monotonous work and work at a predetermined work rate and to reducing their effect on health.
- (5) The adaptation of the place of work to technical progress.

- (6) The replacement of dangerous articles, substances or systems of work by non-dangerous or less dangerous articles, substances or systems of work.
- (7) The development of an adequate prevention policy in relation to safety, health and welfare at work, which takes account of technology, organisation of work, working conditions, social factors and the influence of factors related to the working environment.
- (8) The giving to collective protective measures priority over individual protective measures.
- (9) The giving of appropriate training and instructions to employees.