

Scoil Naomh Eoin

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Principal: Stephen Donovan

Deputy Principal: Anne T. Hillery

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Naomh Eoin is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

In accordance with the requirements of the [Children First Act 2015](#), [Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017](#), [the Addendum to Children First \(2019\)](#), the [Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017](#) and [Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements](#), the Board of Management of Scoil Naomh Eoin has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The Board of Management has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is **Mr. Stephen Donovan**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Ms. Anne T.Hillery**
- 4 The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, the school will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The school will:

- recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;

- fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;
- fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters;
- adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

The school will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adult pupil with a special vulnerability.

5 The following procedures/measures are in place:

- In relation to any member of staff who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child attending the school, the school adheres to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the DE website.
- In relation to the selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, the school adheres to the statutory vetting requirements of the [National Vetting Bureau \(Children and Vulnerable Persons\) Acts 2012 to 2016](#) and to the wider duty of care guidance set out in relevant Garda vetting and recruitment circulars published by the Department of Education and available on the DE website.
- In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to staff in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) the school-
 - Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
 - Encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training
 - The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training
- In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, all school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.

- In this school the Board has appointed the abovenamed DLP as the “relevant person” (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the schools child safeguarding statement.
- All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.
- In accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and the Addendum to Children First (2019), the Board has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the school or participating in school activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the school’s procedures for managing those risks is included with the Child Safeguarding Statement.
- The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school’s website, the DE website or will be made available on request by the school.

Note: The above is not intended as an exhaustive list. Individual Boards of Management shall also include in this section such other procedures/measures that are of relevance to the school in question.

- 6 This statement has been published on the school’s website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents’ Association (if any) and the patron. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and the Department if requested.
- 7 This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management on 8/9/21[date].

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on 8/9/21 [most recent review date].

Signed: Deirdre Doyle
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: Stephen Donovan
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 8/9/21

Date: 8/9/21

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Naomh Eoin

In accordance with section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirement of Chapter 8 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Scoil Naomh Eoin.

1. List of school activities	2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities –	3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -
Opening/Closing Times and Break Times.	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults. Risk of harm from other pupils.	Supervision by Principal & SNA's from 9am. Supervision by Post Holders from 9.10am. Adequate Supervision at break times.
Visitors/Visiting Tutors/Coaches.	Visitors/Tutors/Coaches behaving inappropriately. Visitors/Tutors/Coaches lacking awareness of child safety issues.	Statutory vetting requirements in place. No unsupervised access to pupils. Glass panels in doors.
One-to-one tuition.	Teachers behaving inappropriately.	Statutory vetting requirements in place. Glass panels in doors. Parents/guardians of children attending SET team are informed and permission is sought. Child Safeguarding Statement. Whole staff Child Protection training.
SNA's & intimate Care Needs	SNA behaving inappropriately.	Two SNA's at all times caring for child. Child Safeguarding Statement. Whole staff Child Protection training.
School Tours/Outings	Access to pupils by strangers. Inappropriate activity by pupils.	Adequate supervision Adequate planning and preparation by staff. School Tour policy followed

	Dangers posed by unfamiliar environment.	
Access/Egress	Access to pupils by strangers or other adults. Flight risk for some pupils.	Magnetic locks on front and back exits. Code for entry.
Swimming Lessons/Sports Events	Potential for unsupervised times in changing areas. Access to pupils by strangers or other adults	Adequate supervision provided. Trained lifeguards in pool. Statutory vetting requirements in place. Safe Guarding statement. Adherence to policies & procedures in place at said venue.
Bullying Social Media	Potential for bullying. Potential for grooming of pupils	No mobile phones or electronic devices permitted. Anti-Bullying Policy and Code of Behaviour. Staff supervision of pupils throughout school day. Promotion of culture of care and kindness in school and a culture of reporting unkind behaviour. Teaching of SPHE including Stay Safe Programme
Covid-19 Isolation	Risk of harm Risk of symptoms worsening requiring medical attention Flight Risk	Escorted and supervised by a member staff-Principal, Deputy Principal or member of SET team Appendix 7 Checklist for dealing with a suspected case of COVID-19 Covid-19 Response Plan Covid-19 Risk Assessment
Administration of First Aid	Inappropriate behaviour/harm by school personnel /peers/unknown persons	First Aid administered only by staff. Staff training in Basic First Aid. Parental consent sought on enrolment. Statutory vetting requirements in place.
Staff communication with pupils via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	Risk of harm due to inappropriate contact, provision of inappropriate material	Sanction of principal for all school communication No staff contact with pupils through social media other than that approved by school and parents. All communications outside of school through parents/guardians All communications via school email addresses or school information management systems. Staff awareness of personal online identity which

		may be accessed by pupils.
Online learning	Risk of harm due to inappropriate contact, provision of inappropriate material. Risk of harm or bullying by other pupils	Only school approved online learning platforms are acceptable. Currently Seesaw & Zoom. Parents to have access to all communication and approve same. Parents & children to be informed and comply with online norms eg. Name showing, Mute on entry, no recording, dressed appropriately, follow teacher instructions as per normal classroom. Links only to be shared with parents/guardians. Teaching content viewed in advance of sharing with classes. Parental consent sought through Aladdin.

Important Note: It should be noted that risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of “harm” as defined in the Children First Act 2015 and not general health and safety risk. The definition of harm is set out in Chapter 4 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post- Primary Schools 2017*

In undertaking this risk assessment, the board of management has endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to this school and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified. While it is not possible to foresee and remove all risk of harm, the school has in place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on 8/9/21 and most recently reviewed & updated on 8/9/21. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: Deirdre Doyle Date: 8/9/21

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed: Stephen Donovan Date: 8/9/21

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

