



Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Treasa Naofa, Kilflynn, Co. Kerry (15033W) 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 Treasa Naofa 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 Mrs. Nora Falvey (Principal)
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Mrs. Maria Cunningham (Deputy Principal)

- 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.

- 1 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 school's 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.

- 2 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.
- 3 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 _____22/11/2021_____ [date].

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on _____22/11/201_____ [most recent review date].

Signed: _____

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: _____

Date: _____

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Treasa Naofa, Kilflynn (15033W)

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 Treasa Naofa (15033W).

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 Principal, Staff and 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.

It is the responsibility of each school to ensure, as far as possible, that any other risks and procedures that are relevant to its own particular circumstances are identified and specified in the written risk assessment and that adequate procedures are in place to address all risks identified.

It is acknowledged that schools already have in place a range of policies, practices and procedures to mitigate the risk of harm to children while they are participating in the activities of the school and that some school activities will carry low or minimal risks of harm compared to others. In the context of the risk assessment that must be undertaken by schools, the Children First Act, 2015 refers to risk as "any potential for harm". Therefore, it is important that, as part of its risk assessment process, each school lists and reviews all of its various activities (which shall include identifying those that may carry low risk of harm as well as those that carry higher risks of harm).

Doing so will help the school to

(1) identify, as required under the Children First Act, 2015, any risks of harm that may exist in respect of the school's activities.

(2) identify and assess the adequacy of the various procedures already in place to manage those risks of harm and

(3) identify and put in place any such additional procedures as are considered necessary to manage any risk identified.

The Addendum to Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children published in January 2019 clarifies that organisations providing relevant services to children should consider the specific issue of online safety when carrying out their risk assessment and preparing their Child Safeguarding Statement.

The Guidance on Continuity of Schooling for primary and post-primary schools (April 2020) advises of the importance of teachers maintaining the safe and ethical use of the internet during distance learning and assisting parents and guardians to be aware of their role also. Schools should ensure that their Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) informs and guides remote or distance learning activity.

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.

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 -
1. Daily Arrival & Dismissal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road safety risk, poor visibility due to traffic. • Children dropped off before 8.40am when staff are not present for supervision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staggered dismissal times for all classes. • Parents informed of safety issues and measures. • Reminders sent to all parents re arrival times and supervision from 8.40am • Road markings/lines • Proposed footpath to be constructed on roadside.

2. Morning Supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children cannot be unsupervised in yard. Staff need to be present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rota drawn up for teachers and SNAs to supervise/Croke Park Hours utilised.
3. Recreation Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children need to be supervised by teachers and SNAs in line with anti-bullying policy, code of behaviour, first-aid policy, supervision policy, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rota in place for teaching staff and SNAs.
4. One to One teaching/Learning Support/SET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils being in presence of adult. • Risk to staff member. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows on all doors. • Group sessions where/when applicable.
5. Online Teaching and Learning/Remote Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils-cyberbullying, viewing of inappropriate content, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour adhered to. • AUP policy • Cyberbullying/Anti-Bullying policy • Parents aware of online content • Online Safety Day • Cyber Talk-outside professional. • Remote Learning Plan
6. Sporting Activities at the school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupil of bullying, assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour adhered to. • Child Safeguarding Statement. • Garda Vetting • Teacher present. • First Aid Policy

7. School Outing/Tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupil of bullying, assault, injury, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Tour/Outing Policy • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Child Safeguarding Statement • First Aid Policy • First Aid Box • Phone in case of emergency
8. Use of toilet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupil of bullying, assault, injury, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toilets situated in all classrooms. • Locks on doors.
9. Annual Sports Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupil of bullying, assault, injury, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Tour/Outing Policy • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Child Safeguarding Statement • First Aid Policy • First Aid Box • Phone in case of emergency
10. Use of off-site facilities (eg. Crotta Pitch)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of bullying, assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Tour/Outing Policy • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Child Safeguarding Statement • First Aid Policy • First Aid Box • Phone in case of emergency
11. Bus Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of bullying, assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Tour/Outing Policy • Code of Behaviour • Anti-Bullying Policy • Child Safeguarding Statement • First Aid Policy

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seatbelts • Transport Authority/ Bus Inspector
12. Care of pupils with intimate care needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of bullying, assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Safeguarding statement • Adequate qualifications and training • Shower/Disability Toilet • Garda Vetting • Care plan • PPP (SNAs)
13. Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of bullying, assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Safeguarding statement • Adequate qualifications and training • Garda Vetting • Care plan • PPP (SNAs) • Code of Behaviour • Consultation with outside bodies such as NEPs, Tusla, St. Senan's, etc.
14. Administration of First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid Box filled on a regular basis • Note sent to parent re incident. • Parents phoned re head injuries or serious injuries. • First Aid policy • Administration of medication policy
15. Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE and Stay Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of assault, injury, bullying, etc. if they are unaware and uninformed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yearly planning-whole school agreement on when to do RSE/Stay Safe. • SPHE taught weekly as part of timetable.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/Guardians informed when doing Stay Safe each year in Jan/Feb • RSE policy • Anti-bullying policy
16. Prevention and Dealing with Bullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of bullying, assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Bullying policy • Code of Behaviour • Report issues to Principal/Parents/guardians • Monitor situation • Mediate • Record in accordance with Anti Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools • Report to mandated person/Tusla • Meeting at Croke Park on Nov 9th, 2021 about 'Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary & Post-Primary Schools • Friendship Week 4th-8th April 2022 • Review of Anti-Bullying policy Nov 2021 • Day of Action-Anti-Bullying Day-TBD • Template for recording incidents on Aladdin-Available to teachers from Dec 2021

<p>17. Training Of School Personnel in Child Protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of bullying, assault, injury, etc. if Staff are not informed or aware of signs of physical, emotional, sexual abuse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tusla Training-Certs (Every 3 years-Certs) • Child Safeguarding Statement • Annual Review-Child Safeguarding Statement
<p>18. Care of Pupils with Specific vulnerabilities/Needs-Minority religious faiths, ethnic minorities, LGBT, transgender,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of bullying, assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code Of Behaviour • Care Plan/PPS • Anti-Bullying Policy • SPHE/RSE policy • Amber Flag Initiative • Inclusive environment • Amend School Ethos to reflect diversity
<p>19. Recruitment of personnel- Teachers, SNAs, Secretary, Caretaker, Cleaner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of bullying, assault, injury, etc. if correct personnel with suitable qualifications or attributes which support the school ethos and learning environment at Scoil Treasa Naofa. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertisements, • Applications • Interviews • Garda Vetting • Employment based on qualifications • Liaise with St. Senans
<p>20. Participation of pupils in religious ceremonies external to school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of bullying, assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/Guardians/Teachers present
<p>21. Visitors to the school Including volunteers for fundraising</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of bullying, assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting • Sign in /Sign Out • CCTV • School Visitor Policy • Door with keypad • Covid Questionnaire

<p>22. Use of Internet/ipads, technology in school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils viewing inappropriate content. • Risk to pupils of cyberbullying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Wifi • Firewalls • Acceptable Usage Policy • Anti-Bullying Policy • ICT Policy • Looked ipad box • Media Education SPHE • GDPR policy
<p>23. Pupils on work Experience from Post Primary School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of assault, bullying, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable Application • Direct contact with school • Garda Vetting over 16s • Completion of forms • Child Safeguarding Statement • Insurance Indemnity from school • Work Experience policy
<p>24. Use of video/photography/other media to record school events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of cyberbullying, inappropriate use of acquired media, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent asked from parents and guardians on Aladdin to allow for videos and photography • GDPR Policy • AUP policy • Data Protection Policy • Teachers to delete photos from their device no later than 2 weeks
<p>25. After School Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk to pupils of assault, bullying, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetted • Permission from Parents • Staff present in building • COVID PLAN

26. Use of school premises by outside bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk if pupils present on premises. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request to BOM Insurance contacted Adhere to guidance from DES
27. Fire Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Injury risk to pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire fighting equipment is currently placed around the school Fire drills are practised All bolt locks are opened in the morning and closed again in the evening Drill done each term Staff and pupils aware of exit route. All emergency exit doors fitted with push bars.
28. Health & Safety Risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk to pupils of assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First -aid box located on each corridor Accident Report forms are located in the School Office Teacher designated to be First Aid Officer Parents contacted immediately by phone if child falls and bumps head or if involved in a serious collision/fall Health & Safety Policy Risk Assessment completed annually
29. Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk to pupils of assault, injury, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Door with lock and front door bell Visitor sign in/out Parents to ring the school and secretary to oversee children are collected

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aladdin App Parent Communication • CCTV installed by sure alarms
30. Storage of Medicines, Cleaning equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of injury, substance use/misuse, medical requirements of children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed new medical cabinet with key in office with details of specific medical needs. • Parents provided relevant medicine • Caretaker/Cleaner room locked
31. COVID RISK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of illness to pupil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLEASE SEE DETAILED COVID 19 PLAN WHICH INCLUDES A COMPREHENSIVE RISK ASSESSMENT, • Health Hub-supervised area until collection of sick pupils.

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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 22nd of November 2021. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement

Signed: _____

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: _____

Date: _____