Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Treasa Naofa, Kilflynn (15033W) is a primary school providing primary/post-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 (revised 2023, again 2025) 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 (revised (2023)* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement

2   The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is   Nora Falvey (Principal)

3   The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Maria Cunningham (Deputy Principal)

4   The Relevant Person is   Nora Falvey (Principal/DLP)

(The relevant person is one who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. In a school setting the relevant person shall be the designated liaison person.)

5   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.

6   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 the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2025)* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie 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 gov.ie 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 (revised 2025)*, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.

● 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 gov.ie 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.

7   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.

8   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 _____ [date].

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

Signed: _____ Signed: _____

Chairperson of Board of Management   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 PostPrimary Schools (revised 2025)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Scoil Treasa Naofa, Kilflynn (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 (revised 2025)*

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.

Examples of activities, risks and procedures

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 (revised 2025)*.

Child Safeguarding/Child Protection Risk Assessment

(of any potential harm)

List of School Activities	Risk identified Against Each School Activity	Measures in Place to Mitigate Risk
Training of school personnel in Child Protection Procedures 2025	Harm/abuse recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff

		All staff attended an information session at TEC on 4/11/2025 on the new Child Protection Procedures 2025. DLP & DDLP to attend PDST face to face training All Staff to view Túsla training module & any other online training offered by PDST. Board members to attend new Child Protection Procedures 2025 training. BOM records all records of staff and board training
Curious Minds Breakfast/After-School's Club	Harm by operator personnel	DLP in contact with Curious Minds re school procedures. DLP aware of issues/incidents.
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel	Open doors Glass window of door SEN Policy, Supervision Policy, Class rules, Child Safeguarding statement, Code of Behaviour Teacher collects from the class and walks pupil(s) back to class after lesson. Mostly groups taken/timetabled
Care of Children with special needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	Policy on intimate care
Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour	Supervision policy Classroom management procedures On Yard -encouraged to use the toilet before going outside -in emergency toilet situation SNA takes at least 2 children who need to go to the toilet in their own classroom during yard time. SNA waits in hallway. They enter the building using their designated entrance and exit.
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full Principal checks and signs the CM.

Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from older pupils	Adults are not allowed on school grounds unless permitted and garda vetted. Arrival and dismissal supervised by teachers SNA/teachers to supervise the front door or yard from 8.40 – 9.00 am All teachers to be at school from 8.30 to 8.40. Classroom teachers supervise from 8.40 – 9.00 am Children enter using their designated entrance which is signposted and supervised by adults Front door to be used after 9 am for late arrivals Sign in/Sign out Book-recorded
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint	Injury to pupils and staff Injury to themselves	Procedures written and signed by parents. Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour Care Plan on Aladdin Support Plan on Aladdin Use of time-out Use of CAMHS procedure/protocol Removal from situation, if necessary Removal of other classmates from the situation, if necessary Consultation of child's School support file and Personal Restorative Practice
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	Policies & Procedures in place Vetting of coaches Class teacher to supervise SNA present
Students participating in work experience	Harm by work experience student	Work Experience Policy Child Safeguarding Statement Class teacher supervises

		Vetted by agencies (university/school) (over 16 years of age)
Recreation breaks for pupils	Harm from other pupils, Choking hazard, Inappropriate behaviour	Supervision policy Class rules to be followed when eating and lining up Yard timetable/Yard Split
Movement breaks for pupils, including the use of the sensory room	Injury to student Injury to staff member	Supervision policy Child Safeguarding Statement Child Protection Policy Door remains open Noted in student support file Remain visible on yard at all times Socially distanced
Classroom teaching	Harm by school personnel, Harm by pupils to one another and or staff	Glass in classroom doors, Code of Behaviour, Positive classroom rules, Supervision Policy, Child Safeguarding statement, Child Protection Policy Restorative Practice Training (Oide)
Outdoor teaching activities inc Sports Day	Harm to pupils, Harm to school personnel, Flight risk, Harm from unknown persons	Code of behaviour, Class rules, Supervision Policy, Bí Cineálta Policy, Ensure gates are closed, Use the astro turf area, use of Crotta pitch for sports day/hurling (children are dropped by parents to the pitch)
Sporting Activities	Harm to pupils, Harm to school personnel, Flight risk, Harm from unknown persons	Code of behaviour, Class rules, Supervision Policy, bí Cineálta Policy, First Aid policy, Administration of Medication Policy
After school activities e.g Choir, Drama, Music	Harm to pupils, Inappropriate behaviour COVID -19	School rules, Code of behaviour, A teacher to supervise, Vetting of visiting teachers Postponed
School outings e.g Carol singing, Sport trips, School tours, going to the church	Harm to pupils, Harm to personnel, Flight risk, Transport, inadequate facilities, Harm from parents	Code of behaviour, Supervision Policy, Anti-bullying Policy, Swimming Policy, Mobile phone Policy, Child Protection Policy. Vetting of all staff. Awareness of facilities

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment
		provided (changing rooms etc.), First Aid box, First Aid Training for all staff Aladdin contacts/messages
Administration of Medicine Administration of First Aid	Harm to pupils/personnel	Administration of Medicine Policy First Aid policy incl administration of medicine First Aid Officers Stocked First Aid box that's accessible Cold packs available in the fridge Medication to be kept in the office in a locked cabinet First aid kit available for tours/ sports outings etc. Incidents/accidents to be recorded. Letter/Phonecall if there is a bang on the head.
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm to pupils/ personnel	Vetting procedures, supervision by class teacher Outdoor only
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as ● Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants ● Members of the Traveller community ● Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children ● Pupils perceived to be LGBT ● Pupils of minority religious faiths ● Children in care ● Children on CPNS (child Protection notification system- Tusla)	Harm to Pupils, Harm to personnel, Bullying	Code of behaviour, Bí Cineálta policy, Anti Cyber-bullying policy, Religious education policy, Equal opportunity & gender equity policy, Enrolment policy, Relationships & sexuality education policy, Child Protection Policy, Mission Statement

Recruitment of school personnel including - • Teachers • SNA's • Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners • Sports coaches • External Tutors/Guest Speakers • Volunteers/Parents in school activities • Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours • Visitors/contractors present during after school activities	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST Vetting Procedures Enrolment policy Child Protection Policy Parental involvement procedures Adhering to recruitment procedures Advice from St. Senan's/CPMSA
Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) by pupils in school	Bullying Harm to pupils Harm to staff	Child Protection Policy ICT policy Bí Cineálta Policy Code of Behaviour Anti- Cyber Bullying policy Acceptable Usage policy Teachers to preview You tube clips before showing them Policy on mobile phones and electronic games Teaching of the Stay Safe Programme Teaching of SPHE/RSE Policy School firewall to prevent access to unauthorised websites and social media sites.
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Harm to pupils Harm to personnel Inappropriate behaviour	Policy on mobile phones and electronic games Supervision Policy AUP Policy

		Code of Behaviour/ Restorative Practice communicated to all. Pupils to be visible from the yard or supervised by teaching staff
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Harm to pupils Harm to student teacher Harm to personnel	Code of behaviour Supervision Policy- class teacher always present Vetting College documents College procedures followed
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Bullying, inappropriate use of personal data	Bí Cineálta Policy, Anti-Cyber bullying policy, consent form from parents incl on enrolment form, GDPR policy AUP policy Permission sought on Aladdin/Admission (revised annually)

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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. It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection Policy.

Signed _____ Date _____

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed _____ Date _____

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management