

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Naomh Lorcan 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 (revised 2023) and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Scoil Naomh Lorcan 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 Rónán Mac Grianna
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Eilish Hanratty
- 4 The Relevant Person is Rónán Mac Grianna
(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 Chapter 7 of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)* and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment of Risk of Scoil Naomh Loran

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 (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Scoil Naomh Loran.

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 –
Child protection Training of School Personnel	<p>(Risks of harm outlined below encompass all potential risks identified across the activities outlined in column 1)</p> <p>Indicators of harm /abuse not being recognised by school personnel</p> <p>Harm / Abuse not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer / parent person while child participating school activities</p> <p>Risk of child being harmed by a member of staff of another organisation or other</p>	<p>The Provision of information and training for all school personnel</p> <p>The BOM –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides all school personnel with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment. Requires that all school personnel sign the 'Acceptance of (insert name of school) Child Protection Safeguarding Statement form and return a signed copy to the DLP Ensures the DES child protection procedures are made available to all school personnel Requires that all school personnel, mandated and non-mandated, adhere to the <i>DES Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017</i> Ensures staff avail of relevant training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the DLP /DDL must avail of training provided by a professional organisation (e.g.

Recruitment of school personnel And Volunteers / Parents in school activities	Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult	leave, career break etc. or is leaving the school to take up employment elsewhere.
	Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school	Garda Vetting and Recruitment of school personnel All school personnel are required to be Garda vetted and the relevant DES circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting are adhered to. Best practice procedures with regard to interviewing and checking references are followed
	Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities	All volunteers / parents regularly involved in school activities are Garda vetted
	Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care	All volunteers / parents involved in school activities are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
	Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour	All volunteers / parents involved in school activities are required to sign the 'Acceptance of (insert name of school) Child Protection Safeguarding Statement form and return a signed copy to the DLP
Curriculum Implementation of SPHE	Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation	Planning for and implementation of the SPHE curriculum and the Stay Safe programme:
Teaching the Stay safe programme as part of the 2 year SPHE cycle	Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in	The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum over a two year cycle as outlined in the school plan for SPHE which can be found in the 'Policies' folder.

<p>One to one teaching</p>		<p>One to One teaching</p> <p>One-to-one teaching may be provided for any pupil where it is deemed by teaching staff and the principal to be in the best interest of the child. In all such situations written parental consent must be given. All one to one teaching sessions should be clearly timetabled and should only be carried out where there are appropriate arrangements in place with regard to the physical environment (e.g. vision panel in door, open door policy, table between teacher and pupil).</p> <p>Toileting 'Accidents'</p> <p>While the needs of pupils with specific toileting needs are addressed in the Intimate Care policy which can be found in the 'Policies' file. The following guide is to address situations where a child has a toileting accident.</p> <p>The school has a supply of clean clothing and toilet wipes available for use in such situations.</p> <p>If the child can tend to themselves they will be offered wipes and clean clothing. The parent or carer will be informed by the teacher of the incident on collection of the pupil - a note will be sent home along with soiled clothing in circumstances where the parent/carers is not collecting the pupil. Teachers must also keep a written record of the incident.</p> <p>In any situation where the child cannot attend to themselves the parents/ carers will be notified by phone of the incident. Parents / carers will be asked if</p>
<p>Toileting Issues</p>		

<p>Collection of Pupils</p>		<p>where personnel other than school personnel are present. The needs of pupils who require assistance will be addressed under the schools Intimate Care policy.</p> <p>Collection of Pupils Prior to the enrolment of a child and on an annual basis thereafter parents/ carers will be asked to supply the school with the names and contact details of any adult that may be collecting a pupil during the course of the year. Outside of normal dismissal times of the school teachers will only release pupils to those nominated by the parent/carer or where advance notice of another adult collecting the pupil is given by the parent / carer. In the event that another person arrives to collect a child the school will endeavour to contact the parent/carer to get their permission. Under no circumstance will staff allow a child to leave the school with another person that does not have permission to collect them. At the normal dismissal time of Infants one of the persons nominated by the parent/ carer must collect the pupil from the school gate / classroom? The school must be notified in advance if someone other than the 'nominated' adult will be collecting a pupil.</p> <p>Managing challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint</p>
<p>Managing challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint</p>		<p>Managing challenging behaviour amongst pupils, including appropriate use of restraint</p>

<p>Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities.</p>		<p><i>and Skills' Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice'</i> a member of the teaching staff will always be present when external personnel are working with students.</p>
<p>Travel to away Sporting Activities</p>		<p>All external coaches will be garda vetted. A copy of the schools' CSS will be provided to all external coaches who shall be required to sign the 'Acceptance of Scoil Naomh Lorcán CSS statement including the Risk Assessment' document and return the signed copy to the DLP. External coaches will be required to report child protection concerns to the DLP.</p>
		<p>A teacher/s will always accompany pupils travelling to sports events.</p>
<p>School tours / trips</p>		<p>School outings and tours All school trips, outings and tours will be sanctioned by the principal – in certain circumstances the principal may have to get the prior approval of the BOM e.g. trips involving an overnight stay. Written parental consent must be given for all outings and tours. Teaching staff must ensure that activity centres / adventure centres where pupils are being brought to have in place their own CSS and that all supervising staff</p>

<p>Use of school premises by other organisation during school day</p>		<p>The school has an intimate care policy/plan in respect of students who require such care. A copy of this policy can be found in the school 'Policies' folder.</p> <p>The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils. A copy of this policy can be found in the school 'Policies' folder.</p> <p>The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid. A copy of this policy can be found in the school 'Policies' folder.</p> <p>The school has in place a code of behaviour for pupils, A copy of this policy can be found in the school 'Policies' folder.</p> <p>The school has in place an ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by pupils, A copy of this policy can be found in the school 'Policies' folder.</p>
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This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management on 23/04/25. It shall be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Review Date: March 2026

Signed *T. Maynard* Date *19/3/2025*

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed *Róisín Mac Giolla* Date *19/3/25*

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Mandatory Template 2: Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement

The *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)* require that the Board of Management must undertake a review of its Child Safeguarding Statement and that the following checklist shall be used for this purpose. **The review must be completed every year or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the Child Safeguarding Statement refers.** Undertaking an annual review will also ensure that a school also meets its statutory obligation under section 11(8) of the Children First Act 2015, to review its Child Safeguarding Statement every two years.

The checklist is designed as an aid to conducting this review and is not intended as an exhaustive list of the issues to be considered. Individual Boards of Management shall include other items in the checklist that are of relevance to the school in question.

As part of the overall review process, Boards of Management should also assess relevant school policies, procedures, practices and activities vis a vis their adherence to the principles of best practice in child protection and welfare as set out in the school's Child Safeguarding Statement, the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First (2019) and the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)*.

	Yes/No
1. Has the Board formally adopted a Child Safeguarding Statement in accordance with the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i> ?	✓
2. Is the Board satisfied that the Child Safeguarding Statement is displayed in a prominent place near the main entrance to the school?	✓
3. As part of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement, has the Board formally adopted, without modification, the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i> ?	✓
4. Does the school's Child Safeguarding Statement include a written assessment of risk as required under the Children First Act 2015? (This includes considering the specific issue of online safety as required by the Addendum to Children First)	✓
5. Has the Board reviewed and updated where necessary the written assessment of risk as part of this overall review?	✓
6. Has the Risk Assessment taken account of the risk of harm relevant to online teaching and learning remotely?	✓
7. Has the DLP attended available child protection training?	✓
8. Has the Deputy DLP attended available child protection training?	✓
9. Have any members of the Board attended child protection training?	✓
10. Has the school appointed a DLP and a Deputy DLP?	✓
11. Are the relevant contact details (Tusla and An Garda Síochána) to hand?	✓
12. Has the Board arrangements in place to communicate the school's Child Safeguarding Statement to new school personnel?	✓
13. Is the Board satisfied that all school personnel have been made aware of their responsibilities under the <i>Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)</i> and the Children First Act 2015?	✓
14. Has the Board received a Principal's Child Protection Oversight Report (CPOR) at each Board meeting held since the last review was undertaken?	✓
15. Since the Board's last review, did each CPOR contain all of the information required under each of the 4 headings set out in sections 9.5 to 9.8 inclusive of the procedures?	✓
16. Since the Board's last review, has the Board been provided with and reviewed all records relevant to the CPOR?	✓
17. Is the Board satisfied that the records provided are anonymised and redacted as necessary to ensure that the identities of children and any other parties, including school personnel, to whom the concern or report relates are not disclosed?	✓

41. Has the Board ensured that any areas for improvement that were identified in any previous review of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement have been adequately addressed?	No
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*In schools where the ETB is the employer, the responsibility for meeting the employer's requirements rests with the ETB concerned. In such cases, this question should be completed following consultation with the ETB.

Signed *J. Martin* Date *19/3/2025*

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed *Ronan Mac Giannna* Date *19/3/25*

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Note: Where a school is undertaking its first review, references in this checklist to the "last review" shall be taken to refer to the date on which the Child Safeguarding Statement was first put in place.