** Scoil An Spioraid Naoimh.**

**Child Safeguarding Statement.**

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| **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** |
| Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils | Risk of being harmed by another child or adult | Supervision of these times |
| Recreation breaks for pupils | Risk of being harmed by other pupils/ Flight risk | Proper supervision of yard at these times |
| Classroom teaching | Risk of harm from teacher | Visibility to all classrooms/ All teachers vetted |
| One-to-one teaching | Risk of harm by school personnel | Open door policy/ Table between teacher and pupil |
| Outdoor teaching activities | Risk of fall  Risk of flight | Always accompanied by a teacher |
| Sporting activities | Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision | Teachers always supervise sporting activities |
| Use of toilet | Inappropriate behaviour | One child at a time in toilet |
| Annual Sports Day | Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision | All teachers supervise sports day |
| Fundraising events involving pupils |  |  |
| Use of off-site facilities for school activities | Risk of child being harmed by school personnel or a member of staff of another organisation | Teacher supervision at all times |
| School transport arrangements | Risk of harm from employee of transport company | Teacher always present |
| Care of children with special educational needs | Risk of harm from school personnel | Special Needs and SNA Policy |
| Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils. | Risk of harm from and to challenging student | Immediate summoning of Principal. |
| Administration of Medicine and First Aid | Harm from school personnel | Training of staff and administration of medicine policy |
| Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe | Risk of non teaching of same | School implements S.P.H.E, RSE and Stay Safe Programmes. |
| Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils | Risk of harm due to bullying of child | The school has an anti bullying policy which adheres to the requirements of the Dept’s anti-bully procedures for primary schools |
| Training of school personnel in child protection matters | Risk of not receiving adequate training | All staff have Tusla certificate and participated in the in school training |
| Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum | Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communication between child and another adult | All external personnel Garda vetted and teachers present at all times during activities |
| Use of external personnel to support sports and other extra-curricular activities | As above | As above |
| 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 | Risk of harm bullying | Anti bully policy/ code of behaviour |
| Recruitment of school personnel including-  -Teacher’s/SNA’s  -Caretaker/Secretary/Cleaners | Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported | CSS made available to all staff.  All staff to view Tusla training module.  Vetting procedures in place. |
| -Sports coaches | Risk of harm | Coaches Garda vetted  Teachers present during coaching |
| -External Tutors/Guest Speakers | Risk of harm from speakers | Always supervised by teachers |
| -Volunteers/Parents in school activities | Risk of harm from volunteers | Teacher present |
| -Visitors/contractors present in school | Risk of harm from contractors | Cordoned off from school |
| * Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies/religious instruction external to the school |  |  |
| * Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school | Bullying | AUP  Anti Bullying Policy  Code of Behaviour |
| * Students participating in work experience in the school | Harm from students  Risk of harm to students | Teachers present at all times  All school personnel garda vetted  Students made aware of school’s Code of Conduct. |
| * Student teachers undertaking training placement in school | Harm from student teachers | Teachers present at all times |
| * Use of video/photography/other media to record school events | Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other matter | No circulation without school or parental consent |
| * After school use of school premises by other organisations | Risk of harm from tutor | All tutors insured  All tutors Garda vetted |
| Use of school by medical personnel | Risk of harm from personnel | All medical personnel garda vetted.  Where possible open door policy |
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| **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 March 21st. 2018. It was finalised on June 19th 2018. It shall be reviewed as part of the school’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh is a primary school providing education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, 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 an Spioraid Naoimh 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 is Donat Leahy

3. The Deputy DLP is Eileen Stapleton

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;
* Fully respect confidentially 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 (however 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 DES 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 DES and available on the DES website.
* In relation to the provision 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 above named DLP as the “relevant person” (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the 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, 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 attached as an appendix to these procedures.
* The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the school’s website, the DES website or will be made available on request by the school.

**Note:** The above is not intended as an exhaustive list and may be added to as the need arises

6. This statement has been published on the school’s website and has been provided to all members of school personnel, the Parents’ Association 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 March 21st. 2018.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson of Board of Management Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement**

The Child protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 require 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 statuary obligation under section 11(8) of the Children First Act 2015, to review its Child Safeguarding Statement every two years. 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 s 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, Board 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 and the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017.*

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|  |  | **Yes/No** |
| 1. | Has the Board formally adopted a Child Safeguarding Statement in accordance with the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017?’ |  |
| 2. | As part of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement, has the Board formally adopted, without modification, the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017?’ |  |
| 3. | Does the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement include a written assessment of risk as required under the Children First Act 2015? |  |
| 4. | Has the Board reviewed and updated where necessary the written assessment of risk as part of this overall review? |  |
| 5. | Has the DLP attended available child protection training? |  |
| 6. | Has the Deputy DLP attended available child protection training? |  |
| 7. | Have any members of the Board attended child protection training? |  |
| 8. | Are there both a DLP and a Deputy DLP currently appointed? |  |
| 9. | Are the relevant contact details (Tusla and An Garda Síochána) to hand? |  |
| 10. | Has the Board arrangements in place to communicate the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement to new school personnel? |  |
| 11. | Is the Board satisfied that all school personnel have been made aware of their responsibilities under the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017’ and the Children First Act 2015? |  |
| 12. | Has the Board received a Principal’s Child Protection Oversight Report at each Board meeting held since the last review was undertaken? |  |
| 13. | Since the Board’s last review, was the Board informed of any child protection reports made to Tusla/ An Garda Síochána by the DLP? |  |
| 14. | Since the Board’s last review, was the Board informed of any cases where the DLP sought advice from Tusla/ and as a result of this advice, no report to the HSE was made? |  |
| 15. | Since the Board’s last review, was the Board informed of any cases where an allegation of abuse or neglect was made against any member of personnel? |  |
| 16. | Has the Board been provided with and reviewed all documents relevant to the Principal’s Child Protection Oversight Report? |  |
| 17. | Is the BOM satisfied that the child protection procedures in relation to the making of reports to Tusla/ An Garda Síochána were appropriately followed in each case reviewed? |  |
| 18. | Is the Board satisfied that, since the last review, all appropriate actions are being or have been taken in respect of any member of school personnel against whom an allegation of abuse or neglect has been made?\* |  |
| 19. | Were child protection matters reported to the Board appropriately recorded in the Board minutes? |  |
| 20. | Is the Board satisfied that all records relating to child protection are appropriately filed and stored securely? |  |
| 21. | Has the Board been notified by any parent in relation to that parent not receiving the standard notification required under section 5.6 of the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017’ |  |
| 22. | In relation to any cases identified at question 21 above, has the Board ensured that any notifications required section 5.6 of the ‘Child protection procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017’ were subsequently issued by the DLP? |  |
| 23. | Has the Board ensured that the Parents’ Association (if any), has been provided with the school’s child Safeguarding Statement? |  |
| 24. | Has the Board ensured that the patron has been provided with the school’s child Safeguarding Statement? |  |
| 25. | Has the Board ensured that the school’s Child’s Safeguarding Statement is available to parents on request? |  |
| 26. | Has the Board ensured that the Stay Safe Programme is implemented in full in the school? (applies to primary schools) |  |
| 27. | Has the Board ensured that the Wellbeing Programme for Junior Cycle students is implemented in full in the school? (applies to post-primary schools) |  |
| 28. | Has the Board ensured that the SPHE curriculum is implemented in full in the school? |  |
| 29. | Is the Board satisfied that the statutory requirements for Garda Vetting have been met in respect of all school personnel (employees and volunteers)?\* |  |
| 30. | Is the Board satisfied that the Department’s requirements in relation to the provision of a child protection related statutory declaration and associated form of undertaking have been met in respect of persons appointed to teaching and non-teaching positions?\* |  |
| 31. | Is the Board satisfied that, from a child protection perspective, thorough recruitment and selection procedures are applied by the school in relation to all school personnel (employees and volunteers)?\* |  |
| 32. | Has the Board considered and addressed any complaints or suggestions for improvements regarding the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement? |  |
| 33. | Has the Board sought the feedback of parents in relation to the school’s compliance with the requirements of the child safeguarding requirements of the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017’ |  |
| 34. | Has the Board sought the feedback of pupils in relation to the school’s child safeguarding arrangements? |  |
| 35. | Is the Board satisfied that the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017’ are being fully and adequately implemented by the school? |  |
| 36. | Has the Board identified any aspects of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement and/or its implementation that require further improvement? |  |
| 37. | Has the Board put in place an action plan containing appropriate timelines to address those aspects of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement and/or its implementation that have been identified as requiring further improvement? |  |
| 38. | 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? |  |

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

**Notification regarding the Board of Management’s review of the Child Safeguarding Statement**

To: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Board of Management of Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh wishes to inform you that:

* The Board of Management’s annual review of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement was completed at the Board meeting of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_[Date]
* This review was conducted in accordance with the “Checklist for Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement” published on the Department’s website [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

The signed version of these documents are on display in the school.