

Mandatory Template 1: Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template

Child Safeguarding Statement

SCOIL MOCHAOMHÓG NAOFA (TWO MLE BORRIS NS) 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 MOCHAOMHÓG NAOFA (TWO MLE BORRIS NS)** 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 **MICHAEL RYAN**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **JACQUELINE DOHERTY**
- 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 **09th March 2018**

This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the Board of Management on **14th December 2022**

Signed: 
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: 
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: **14th December 2022**

Date: **14th December 2022**

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Mochaomhóg Naofa (Two Mile Borris NS)

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 [name of school].

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 -
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff DLP& DDLP to attend PDST face to face training All Staff to view Tusla training module & any other online training offered by PDST BOM records all records of staff and board training
One to one teaching	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel	School has policy in place for one-to-one teaching (in Special Ed. Policy) Open doors Glass in window
Care of Children including intimate care needs	Risk of harm to child while receiving intimate care	Health & Safety Policy Intimate Care Needs Policy
Toilet areas	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel	Supervision policy Code of Behaviour
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Risk of harm to the child due to non-teaching of SPHE, RSE & Stay Safe	School implements SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe in full
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school	Arrival and dismissal supervised by Teachers To be reinforced & children to wait in designated area
Managing of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	Risk of harm to child or staff member due to inadequate...	Individual Behaviour Plans Health & Safety Policy Code Of Behaviour Training for managing challenging behaviour
Sports Coaches	Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer / visitor	Teachers are always present during lessons delivered

	to the school due to inadequate supervision of children in school	by Sports Coaches Policy & Procedures in place PE Policy Garda Vetting of all coaches
Students participating in work experience	Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer or visitor to the school	Work experience Policy Garda Vetting Teacher remains in classroom Child Safeguarding Statement.
Recreation breaks for pupils/Supervision	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school / inadequate code of behaviour	Adequate yard supervision Code of Behaviour Separate play areas Permission
Classroom teaching	Risk of harm due to bullying of child	Anti-bullying Code Of Behaviour
Outdoor teaching activities within school environs	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel	Anti-bullying Policy / Supervision Policy Adequate supervision
Sporting Activities	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel	Avoid One-to-one Adequate Supervision Anti-bullying Policy re Photographs
After-school Clubs	Risk of child being harmed or bullied in the school by a member of school personnel	Garda Vetting Anti-bullying policy
School outings	Risk of child being harmed or bullied by a member of school personnel/ a member of staff of another organisation	Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Supervision
Annual Sports Day	Risk of child being harmed or bullied in the school by a member of school personnel	Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Supervision
Fundraising events involving pupils	Risk of child being harmed or bullied in the school by a member of school personnel	Anti-bullying Policy
Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Risk of child being harmed or bullied in the school by a member of school personnel or by a member of staff of another organisation	Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Supervision
School transport arrangements including use of bus escorts	Risk of child being harmed or bullied by a bus escort inappropriately communicating with pupils/accessing social media, digital device or other manner	Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Supervision Mobile phone policy (Staff)

Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	Risk of child being harmed or bullied in the school by a member of school personnel or by a member of staff of another organisation	Anti-bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Supervision
Administration of Medicine	Risk of harm to child due to inadequate supervision	Supervision Administration of Medicines Procedure
Administration of First Aid	Risk of harm to child due to inadequate training of school personnel	First Aid Policy First Aid Training
Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel, not being reported properly/promptly by school personnel	Anti-bullying Policy
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Risk of harm to child in the school by external personnel	Supervision Garda Vetting
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision	Anti-bullying Policy Supervision Policy Code of Behaviour Bus Escort risk assessment/ Policy in place

Use of school premises by other organisation during school day	Risk of harm to children by a visitor to the school	Sign-in book Procedures for visitors Door security
Students participating in work experience in the school	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of personnel	Students supervised by teacher
Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Risk of child being harmed or bullied in the school by a member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	ICT policy Acceptable Use Policy Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Internet sites blocked Mobile Phone Policy
Recruitment of school personnel including - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel	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 Policy of Parents / Volunteers Policy on Visiting Contractors
Application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour	Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Practice and procedures for 1:1 Distance between staff and pupil Open door
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of personnel	Student supervised by teacher Student made aware of Practice & Procedures file

Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Risk of harm to children or staff by school personnel access/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner	Permission slips from Parents Photograph Consent Forms Mobile Phone Policy
After school use of school premises by other organisations	Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of another organisation	The After School Service has confirmed in writing to the Board of Management that Child Safeguarding procedures are in place.
Online Teaching and Remote Learning	Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of online remote teaching and learning communication platform such as an uninvited person accessing the lesson link, students being left unsupervised for long periods of time in breakout rooms	Use of Zoom guidelines issued to all staff The school has an Acceptable Use Policy in place, to include provision for online teaching and learning remotely, and has communicated this policy to parents

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.