



Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Naomh Bríd 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 Department of Education and Skills' Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 and Tusla (Child and Family Agency) Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Scoil Naomh Bríd has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

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

The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Delia O'Donnell (Principal)

The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is Breeda Meleady

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;
- continue our 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.

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 Department of Education and Skills (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 the DES and available on the DES 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; and
 - Maintains records of all staff and Board member training on behalf of the BOM
- 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 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, 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.
- 1 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.
 - 2 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.



Scoil Naomh Bríd Risk Assessment

List of School Activities	Risks of Harm Identified	Procedures in place to address risks of harm
1.Training of school personnel in Child Protection Matters.	Harm not recognised and reported promptly	<p>Child Safeguarding Statement and DES Child Protection Procedures 2017 made available to all staff.</p> <p>DLP and DDLP to attend PDST face to face training.</p> <p>All staff have viewed Tusla training module. Teaching Staff have viewed the training module offered by PDST.</p> <p>BOM retains all records of staff and Board Training.</p> <p>Visiting staff and part-time teachers to comply with Garda vetting and to be familiar with Child Safeguarding Statement.</p>
2.One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel	<p>School had a policy in place for one to one teaching.</p> <p>Glass panel in resource room doors. Open door in resource rooms that do not have a glass panel in the door.</p>
3.Care of children with special needs including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	<p>Two adults present for all intimate care needs procedures. This may be SNA's or teachers depending on availability.</p> <p>RSE and SPHE can be differentiated as appropriate</p>
4.Toilet areas	Inappropriate behaviour	<p>Toilet Procedure</p> <p>Code of Behaviour</p>
5.Curriculum provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay Safe Programmes	Non-teaching of same	<p>School implements SPHE (Social Personal and Health Education), RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education), Stay Safe and Weaving Well-Being Programme and facilitates staff training</p>



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		when available.
6. Recruitant of new staff	Lack of knowledge/training in - Children First National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children - The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary School 2017	Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection Procedures (DES) made available to all staff. Staff to view Tusla training module and any other online training offered by PDST (Professional Development Services for Teachers) or provide certificate to prove training has previously been undertaken.
7. Management of challenging behaviour amongst students	Injury to pupils and staff	Health and Safety Policy Code of Behaviour
8. External Sports coaches-including extra-curricular activities coaches /teachers	Harm by said personnel	Garda vetting procedures in place Teachers given a copy of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment
9. Cycle Safety Training	Harm by external personnel	Garda vetting procedures in place Class teacher present during the cycle safety session
10. Students participating in work experience /Transition Year students	Harm by work experience /TY students	All students over 16 years of age Garda vetting. Student under 16 years of age not accommodated School has signed agreement to accept St. Wolstan's Girls Community School as a vetting partner Child Safeguarding Statement
11. Third Level students participating in school placement	Harm by students	All students over 16 years of age Garda vetted



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		Letter of agreement completed with 3 rd Level College Child Safeguarding Statement
12. Volunteers/parent Helpers	Harm by volunteers/parent helpers	Supervised by staff
13. Swimming Lessons	Harm by coaches /parent volunteer helpers/staff	Coaches have completed Garda vetting Teacher providing supervision as appropriate / needed. Staff do not assist with drying/dressing with the exception of children who are assisted by an SNA, in view of the accompanying teacher. No child to be alone with a coach or staff member at any time.
14. Sports Day	Harm by parents/spectators /others attending sports day	Supervision by teachers Children remain with their teacher and class at all times Information letter sent to parents/guardians outlining roles, responsibilities and designated areas etc.
15. Supervision of Children in the morning 9.00-9.10am and at playtimes during the school day.	Harm from other pupils/Bullying	Supervision procedures in place. Rota maintained by the Deputy Principal.
16. Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils	Harm from other pupils, unknown adults in the playground Inappropriate behaviour Traffic on the Avenue	Arrival and dismissal procedures in place Code of Behaviour policy in place Traffic management procedures in place
17. Visits to the Parish Church	Harm from other people using these facilities	Children are always supervised by teachers when using the



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Visits to Celbridge Library	Traffic	church or when visiting the local library
18.Visiting Speakers	Harm by visiting speakers Harm not recognised or properly reported	Teachers remain in class with visiting speakers
19.Use of ICT by pupils or staff	Inappropriate use	ICT and Acceptable Use Policy in place. Internet Content Filtering Level --- provided by the schools' Broadband Service. Internet Safety lessons taught ??
20.Use of mobile phones by pupils	Inappropriate use. Bullying	Mobile phone use covered under our Code of Behaviour Policy. Student mobiles must remain switched off and in their schoolbag during the school day. Not permitted to be used without authorisation
21.Bullying		Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedures in place
22.LGBT pupils, trans -pupil, ethnic minorities etc	Bullying	Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour SPHE Programme
23.Administration of First Aid/ Medicines	Incorrect administration of medicine	Administration of Medicine Policy Training provided on specific conditions as necessary. First Aid kits available
24.School Trips	Harm from unknown adults /children attending the same site Bullying	Fully supervised by teachers. Venues chosen after careful consideration of safety and educational value.



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25.School Access	Harm from unknow or unannounced visitors to the school in particular during arrival and dismissal times as the school gates are open and its easy to gain access.	Teacher supervision Front door access by bell Security cameras around the school Gates locked during the rest of the school day. Access to classrooms during the school day is restricted. Deliveries during the school hours through reception or if by another entrance this is supervised by ancillary staff or a member of staff.
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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.