

SCOIL NAOMH BUITHE (TENURE)

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Naomh Buithe (Tenure) 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 Naomh Buithe 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 **Jonathan Lyons**
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP) is **Peter Woods**
4. The Relevant Person is **Jonathan Lyons**
(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 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 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 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.

7. 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.

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 **19th November 2018**.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was most recently reviewed by the Board of Management on **10th April 2025**.

Signed: 

Louise McGovern
(Chairperson of Board of Management)

Signed: 

Jonathan Lyons
(Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management)

Date: 10/04/25

Date: 10/04/25

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil Naomh Buithe (Tenure)

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 Scoil Naomh Buithe, Tenure.

| 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 - |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All school personnel are provided with a copy of the school’s Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment • The Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 are made available to all school personnel and a copy is kept in the staff room • School Personnel are required to adhere to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and all registered teaching staff are required to adhere to the Children First Act 2015 and it’s Addendum (2019) • DLP has attended PDST face-to-face training. • DDLP has also attended PDST face-to-face training. • All Staff have completed Túsla on line training module. • Tusla certificates have been collected from all school staff, and are available to BOM. • Staff in 2017/18 also completed online training offered by PDST and this will be repeated in 2022. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom teaching /Special Education teaching | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching/coaching situation | <p>The school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Statement. Ensures all new staff members are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Statement. Encourages staff to avail of relevant training. Encourages BOM members to avail of relevant training. Maintains records of staff and BOM member training. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care of children with special needs One to one teaching Movement breaks with SNAs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities | <p>All of above plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has a Special Educational Needs (Additional Support) policy. As part of the Additional Support policy the school has in place clear procedures for one-to-one teaching activities. Parents of children involved in one to one teaching will be informed and their permission sought. Glass window in all doors Work carried out by SNAs will be carried out under the direction of the class teacher in an open environment. SNAs will never take only one child away from the classroom on a movement break. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensory room | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCTV is installed in the sensory room and a CCTV policy will be developed by May 2022. The school has a Sensory Room policy. Implementation of the policy will be monitored by the Special Needs Co-ordinator and the principal. A register of staff and children using the sensory room will be kept on a list inside the door. The door of the sensory room will be left slightly ajar at all times. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toileting Accidents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has an intimate Care and Toileting policy in respect of students who require such care following a toileting accident |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduled toileting /intimate care procedures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving intimate care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has an Intimate Care and Toileting policy in place for dealing with children's individual specific toileting/intimate care needs. Two SNAs have been trained by HSE in the use of hoists and toileting apparatus for children with mobility impairments. More SNAs are being trained in turn by these two SNAs and support is sought as needed from HSE personnel. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toilet areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of inappropriate behaviour Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Behaviour Toilets in classroom accessed by one child at a time Segregated toilets in classrooms Adult supervision The school has a Supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, etc. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curricular provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of non-teaching of same | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school implements in full the Stay Safe Programme The school implements in full the SPHE curriculum, including the Department of Education's "Relationships and Sexuality Programme" Personnel from ACCORD visit the school annually and spend one full day or two mornings with the 6th Class pupils. Class teachers will sign a "completion form" annually for Stay Safe or RSE which will be then be presented to the Board of Management upon completion of the programme |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After-School activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garda vetting for adult involved Groups of children, not individual children Other adults in the building Supervised dismissal by the teacher involved The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm from older pupils and/or unknown adults on the playground • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils • The school has a yard/playground supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during assembly and dismissal • Arrival and dismissal supervised by teachers and SNAs • Junior and Senior Infants always handed over to a known adult |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing challenging behaviour amongst pupils | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of injury to pupils and staff • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child • Risk of harm due to inadequate Code of Behaviour | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Safety Policy • The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils ratified by the board on 02/02/2021 following consultation with pupils, parents and staff. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation breaks for pupils | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in school • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has a yard/playground Supervision policy to ensure appropriate supervision of children during breaks and in respect of specific areas such as toilets, etc. • School Supervision policy to be followed by all staff. • The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools • The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid • The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Outings /Sporting Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities e.g. school trip • Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has in place a School Tours and Excursion Policy and clear procedures in respect of school outings. • At least two members of staff will accompany pupils on all outings. • The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils. |

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| | between child and another child or adult | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Sports Day organised by the Parents Council offsite | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School policy/tradition is that parents attend with children. At least one senior member of the school's management team will attend and be available to children. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation by pupils in religious ceremonies /religious preparation external to school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending out of school activities Risk of child being harmed by a member of school personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of school activities Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher/SNA supervision At least two members of staff will accompany pupils to the church and remain with them. Only pairs of children will be allowed to leave the body of the church to use the toilet, etc. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of Medicine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm to children who have particular vulnerabilities, including medical vulnerabilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to pupils |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of First Aid | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid Accident /Injury Policy The school has in place an Accident/Injury policy and procedures to be followed in the event of an accident /injury. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of, and dealing with, bullying amongst pupils | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed in the school by another child Risk of harm due to bullying of child Risk of school personnel not following correct procedure to deal with bullying | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools. Preventative work in SPHE The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum. Use of external personnel to support sport and other extra-curricular activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation of vetting to be provided to the principal Teacher always present No unsupervised access to children. The school has developed a policy and procedures for the use of external persons/agencies to supplement delivery of the curriculum and provide extra-curricular activities (May 2021) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment of school personnel including - Teachers SNAs Caretaker/Secretary / Cleaners Sports coaches External Tutors/Guest Speakers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by school personnel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation and relevant DE circulars in relation to recruitment and Garda vetting All new school personnel are given an induction pack containing the Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment Statement, the Code of Behaviour and the Anti-Bullying policy among others. The school has developed a policy and procedures for the use of external persons/agencies to supplement delivery of the curriculum and provide extra-curricular activities |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors/contractors present in school during school hours • Visitors/contractors present during after school activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has developed a policy and procedures for visitors/contractors present in school during school hours and/or during after-school activities (May 2021) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal meeting with an individual child | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by a member of school personnel • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and adult • Risk of harm in one-to-one situation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal will meet with the child with the knowledge and agreement of the teacher. • School secretary in the adjoining office will be informed of the meeting in advance, and a register of all such meetings will be kept by the secretary. • Office door will be left open while the principal meets with the child. • Parent of the child will be informed of the meeting. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External professional (NEPS psychologist, HSE/CAMHS SLT, etc.) meeting/working with an individual child | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and adult • Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, coaching situation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provisions outlined in the Supervision/Child Protection section of the school's Additional Needs policy will apply. • In addition a register of external professionals meeting/working with individual children will be maintained by the school secretary and parents will be informed each time. • All such meetings will take place in the principal's office or an agreed SET room. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) by pupils in school, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to bullying of child • Risk of access to inappropriate material • Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has an Internet Acceptable Usage policy • The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools • The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils • No unsupervised access to computers/technology |

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| <p>including social media</p> | <p>computers, social media, phones and other devices while at school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net filtering • No mobile phones in school • 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. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online teaching and learning remotely | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of harm not being recognised by school personnel • 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 • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult • Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner • Risk of harm caused by member of school personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers maintain the safe and ethical use of the internet during distance learning. • 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. • School policy/plan assists parents and guardians to be aware of their role also. • Remote Teaching and Learning Policy/Plan informs and guides remote or distance learning activity. • The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools • The school has in place a Code of Behaviour for pupils • The school complies with the agreed disciplinary procedures for teaching staff |

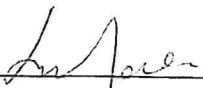
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| | media, texting, digital device or other manner | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students participating in work experience in the school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation of vetting from schools/students No unsupervised access to children The school has developed a policy and procedures in respect of Post-Primary students undertaking work experience in the school |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student teachers undertaking teaching placement in school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation of vetting from colleges/student teachers No unsupervised access to children The school has developed a policy and procedures in respect of student teacher placements |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adults undertaking SNA training placement in school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and adult | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation of vetting from the adult concerned No unsupervised access to children The school has developed a policy and procedures in respect of adults undertaking SNA training placement in the school |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/needs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Risk of harm due to racism ➤ Risk of harm due to gender identity and/or expression ➤ Risk of harm due to sexual orientation or perceived orientation ➤ Risk of harm due to religious beliefs or non-belief | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preventative work in SPHE, as the school implements in full the SPHE curriculum as laid down by the Department of Education. An SPHE Notice Board recognising different cultures, different family structures, a range of religious beliefs, awareness-raising days/weeks etc. was set up in October 2021 and is updated at least monthly. The school also covers relevant units of work on other cultures and faiths as part of the SESE and Religious Education programmes. Zero tolerance of racist, intolerant, discriminatory or offensive language/behaviour. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Risk of harm due to family make up | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the Department's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of video/photography/ other media to record school events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of child being harmed in the school by volunteer or visitor to the school • Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and adult • Risk of misuse of digital content | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation of vetting from video person/photographer • Permission/consent forms signed in advance for all children who will be in video/photographs • No personal photographs, video recording will be allowed during performances/ceremonies. • Opportunities for a group photo will be afforded to parents at the end of the event after children for whom permission has not been received have been removed. • No up loading of photographs/video of other people's children onto social media. • Children will not be named in class blogs on the school website. |

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 was ratified by the Board of Management on 19/11/2018, and most recently reviewed on 10/03/2025. It will be reviewed again in March 2023 as part of the school's next annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Signed: 

Louise McGovern

(Chairperson of Board of Management)

Date: 10/04/25

Signed: 

Jonathan Lyons

(Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management)

Date: 10/04/25