Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa, Urlingford N.S.

Roll Number: 19930D
New Road, Urlingford, Co. Kilkenny, via Thurles. E41 A567

For: **Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa**

At: **New Road, Urlingford, Co. Kilkenny, via Thurles**

This school is a: (tick appropriate)

☒primary ☐ postprimary ☐ special school

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) and 2025, Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed.* (Tusla, 2024), the board of management has adopted the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment 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 Schools 2025* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Name of the Designated Liaison Person (DLP): Mr. Philip Lonergan (Principal)

Name of the Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP/DDLP): Mr. Pat Doyle (Deputy Principal).

In the absence of the DLP, the Deputy DLP shall assume responsibilities of the DLP

Name of Relevant Person: Mr Philip Lonergan (Principal)
(In schools this person is the DLP)

Relevant Person can be contacted on:
056 8831512and urlingfordns2020@gmail.com

Under the Children First Act 2015 Relevant Person means a person who is appointed by a provider of a relevant service to be the first point of contact in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement. This person is nominated by the board of management to manage and provide oversight of child protection concerns/allegations of child abuse.

Name of Chairperson of the board of management: Fr. Eamon O'Gorman
In the event that both DLP and DDLP are absent and unavailable, and where there is no staff member formally acting in their role, the chairperson of the board of management, or in an ETB school the chief executive or their delegate, assumes the role of DLP.

Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa, Urlingford N.S.
Roll Number: 19930D
New Road, Urlingford, Co. Kilkenny, via Thurles. E41 A567

The board of management recognises that child protection and safeguarding permeate all aspects of school life and must be reflected in all of the school's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In all of these, 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 cooperate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters.
- Adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm happening to children and protect members of school personnel from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of child abuse.
- Develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.
- Fully respect confidentiality requirements as set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 in dealing with child protection matters.
- Adhere to the above principles in relation to any vulnerable adult.

Procedures and Measures in Place

Our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, *the Children First: National Guidance 2017, and Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, 2nd ed. (Tusla, 2024), and the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025.* In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- **Procedure for the Management of Allegations of Abuse or Misconduct against School Personnel Relating to a Child Availing of Our Service**
    - Where any member of school personnel is the subject of any investigation in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in relation to a child attending the school, the school is required to adhere to the relevant procedures set out in Chapter 7 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025 and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie website

- **Procedure for the Safe Recruitment and Selection of School Personnel to Work With Children**

- The school is required to adhere to the requirements of the Vetting Act. The selection or recruitment of staff and their suitability to work with children, requires the school to adhere 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 Youth and available on the gov.ie website and as outlined in Chapter 10 of the procedures.
- A written protocol is in place authorising immediate action for cases which require an employee to be immediately absented from school for child safeguarding reasons.

- **Procedure for Provision of and Access to Child Safeguarding Training and Information, Including the Identification of the Occurrence of Harm**
  - The school provides information and training to members of school personnel in relation to the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) as follows:
    - The school has provided each member of school personnel, including any new members of school personnel, (employees and volunteers, board of management members, student teachers and those on work experience) with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.
    - The school ensures that members of school personnel have availed of relevant training and completed child protection training.
    - The school encourages board of management members to avail of any relevant training and complete child protection training.
    - The board of management ensures that records of all staff and board member child protection training are maintained.

- Procedure for the Reporting of Child Protection or Welfare Concerns to Tusla
  - All members of school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025, in relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla. Mandated reporting applies to all registered teachers and any other mandated person who may be employed by the school, for example a chaplain or nurse. A full list of those people who are mandated persons is set out in Appendix 1 procedures.
- Procedure for Maintaining a List of the Persons (if any) in the Relevant Service Who Are Mandated Persons

  - There is a procedure in place to maintain a list of mandated persons. Schools may on occasion employ additional staff who are mandated by virtue of their profession. This list will include all registered teachers and identify additional employees that are not registered teachers.
- Procedure for Appointing a Relevant Person (In schools this person is the DLP)
  - There is a procedure in place for appointing a relevant person.

The various procedures referred to in this Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment can be accessed via the school's website, the gov.ie website or will be made available on request by the school.

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Addendum to Children First 2019 and 2025, and the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025, the board of management 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.

This statement has been published on the school's website or will be made available on request by the school. It has been provided to all members of school personnel, the parents' association (if any), the patron and parents. A copy of this statement and risk assessment will be made available to Tusla and the department if requested. This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

	List of School Activities	Risks Identified Against Each School Activity	Procedures/Measures in place to Mitigate Risk
1	Opening time, closing time, break time	1. Access to pupils by strangers or other	1.Supervision from 8.45am until 2.40pm

	(unstructured time in school)	adults. 2. Risk of harm from other pupils. 3. Wet mornings. 4.Frosty mornings	2. On wet morning's children to be supervised inside. 3. Awareness of steps at back of school. 4.Adequate supervision at breaktimes 5.No access allowed to back yard (during break times) 6.Appropriate signage in place 7.Parents arriving during break time to be accompanied to the office 8.Designated areas to play in 9. Areas of the yard that are not visible or unsafe to be lined off. 10.Paths salted when necessary. 11.Children wait for parents at marked white line in evening. 12.Annual reminder for parents. 13. Particular children are highlighted on yard. Teachers are aware of pupils with challenging behaviours who require extra supervision and observation.
2	Visiting Tutors	1.Tutors behaving inappropriately. 2.Tutors lacking awareness of child safety issues.	1.Visiting tutors from reputable organisations with appropriate vetting. 2.Each tutor receives a copy of the Child Safeguarding

			Statement. 3.Teacher present during all activities. 4.Glass panels in doors.
3	School Tours and Outings (time outside of school (structured and unstructured)	1.Access to pupils by strangers. 2.Inappropriate activity by pupils. 3.Dangers posed by unfamiliar environment.	Adequate supervision as per the schedule in School Tour and Outings Policy. 2.Adequate planning and preparation by staff. 3.School Tour and Outings Policy followed at all times. 4.Children may not bring mobile technology on trips. 5.Appropriate First Aid Kits to be provided for each tour.
4	Access and Egress (the integrity of the school grounds)	1.Access to pupils by strangers or other adults. 2.Flight risk for some pupils.	1.Magnetic locks on doors. 2.All other doors locked during school day.
5	Swimming Lessons and Sports Events	1.Potential for unsupervised times in changing areas. 2.Access to pupils by strangers or other adults. 3.Exiting and entering the bus at swimming pool complex 4.Children being left unattended after school games.	1.Adequate supervision provided. 2.School changing areas used for changing. 3.Extra changing areas may be used in special circumstances with supervision. 4.Trained lifeguards in pool. 5.Good supervision entering and exiting Swimming Pool. 6.Use of buses going to games. 7.Ensure children are

Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa, Urlingford N.S.
Roll Number: 19930D
New Road, Urlingford, Co. Kilkenny, via Thurles. E41 A567

			picked up from away trips before teachers leave.
6	Social Media	1.Potential for bullying. 2.Potential for grooming of pupils	1.Enforcement of Technology and Social Media Policy and the relevant sections of the school Anti-Bullying Policy
7	Photographing Children	1.People accessing children's information. 2.People accessing children's images	1.Families sign up to or opt out of school photographic policy when enrolling to our school.
8	Inclusion summer camp for ASD class pupils	1.Access to pupils by strangers or other adults 2.Risk of harm from other pupils. 3.School excursions	1.All Safeguarding measures used in school time are put in place. 2.Staffing and safeguards are correctly adhered to.
9	Mass Servers	Access to pupils by other adults.	Serves are collected from school by parents/guardians and returned to school by parents/guardians.
10.	Administration of Medicine	Risk of child taking incorrect medicine	Full compliance with School Administration of Medicine Policy by all in our school Community.
11.	Pitch	Possible excessive rough play when using school pitch	Staff members supervise Track & Pitch at break-times. Staff member will confiscate ball if pupils are not playing in a safe, fair manner.

In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015 and with the requirements of Chapter 9 of the Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025, the following is the written Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment.

Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa, Urlingford N.S.

Roll Number: 19930D
New Road, Urlingford, Co. Kilkenny, via Thurles. E41 A567

In undertaking this Child Safeguarding Statement and 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 Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was reviewed by the board of management on 13.10.2026.

Signed:* _____ Date: 13.10.2026.
Chairperson of the board of management

Signed:* Philip Lonergan. Date: 13.10.2026
Principal/Secretary to the board of management

This Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is expected to be reviewed again on Meeting of B.O.M. in Sept 2027.

* Document to be printed and signed with original signatures