



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

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa, Urlingford NS is a Catholic primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class in the Parish of Urlingford and Graine and the surrounding hinterland.

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 (revised 2025) and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the Board of Management of Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa 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 (revised 2025) as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement.
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Mr. Philip Lonergan (Principal).
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person is Mr. Pat Doyle (Deputy Principal).
- 4 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.
- 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;
- 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/employee with a special vulnerability.

- 6 The following procedures/measures are in place:



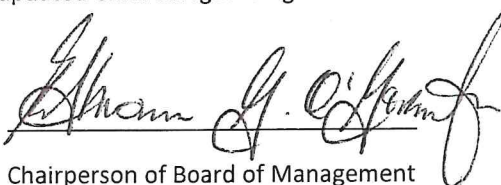
Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa, Urlingford N.S.

- 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 (revised 2023) and to the relevant agreed disciplinary procedures for school staff which are published on the gov.ie 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 gov.ie 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 members 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 Túsia, all school personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023), including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.
 - 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 gov.ie 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 Túsia 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.



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

This revised and updated Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the Board of Management in September 2025.

Signed: 
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: Philip Loneran.
Principal

Date: 17th of September 2025.

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa, Urlingford NS, Co. Kilkenny

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 (revised 2025)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa, Urlingford NS.

1. List of school activities

Areas we have concerns regarding children's safety include

- a. Opening Time, Closing Time, Break Times (unstructured time in school)
- b. Visiting Tutors
- c. School Tours and Outings (time outside of school, structured and unstructured)
- d. Access and Egress (the integrity of the school grounds)
- e. Swimming Lessons and Sports Events
- f. Social Media
- g. Photographing Children



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

h. Inclusion Summer Camp for ASD Class Pupils

2. The school has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -

a.	i. Access to pupils by strangers or other adults. ii. Risk of harm from other pupils iii. Wet Mornings iv. Frosty Mornings
b.	i. Tutors behaving inappropriately. ii. Tutors lacking awareness of child safety issues.
c.	i. Access to pupils by strangers. ii. Inappropriate activity by pupils. iii. Dangers posed by unfamiliar environment
d.	i. Access to pupils by strangers or other adults. ii. Flight risk for some pupils
e.	i. Potential for unsupervised times in changing areas. ii. Access to pupils by strangers or other adults. iii. Exiting and entering the bus at Swimming Pool Complex. iv. Children being left unattended after school games.
f.	i. Potential for bullying. ii. Potential for grooming of pupils
g.	i. People accessing children's information ii. People accessing children's images
h.	i. Access to pupils by strangers or other adults. ii. Risk of harm from other pupils iii. School Excursions

3. The school has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -

a.	i. Supervision from 8.45 a.m. until 2.40 pm ii. On wet mornings children to be supervised inside. iii. Awareness of steps at back of school. iv. Adequate Supervision at break times v. No access allowed to back yard (during break times) vi. Appropriate signage in place
----	---



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

	vii. Parents arriving during break time to be accompanied to office viii. Designated areas to play in. ix. Areas of the yard that are not visible or unsafe to be lined off. x. Paths salted when necessary xi. Children wait for parents at marked white line in evening. xii. Annual reminder for parents.
b.	i. Visiting tutors from reputable organisations with appropriate vetting. ii. Each Tutor receives a copy of Child Safeguarding Statement. iii. Teacher present during all activities. iv. Glass panels in doors.
c.	i. Adequate supervision as per the schedule in School Tour and Outings Policy ii. Adequate planning and preparation by staff. iii. School Tour and Outings Policy followed at all times. iv. Children may not bring mobile technology on trips v. Appropriate First Aid Kits to be provided for each tour
d.	i. Magnetic locks on doors. ii. All other doors locked during school day.
e.	i. Adequate supervision provided. ii. School changing areas used for changing. iii. Extra changing areas may be used in special circumstances with supervision iv. Trained lifeguards in pool v. Full compliance with the Sporting Activities Policy vi. Good supervision entering and exiting Swimming Pool vii. Use of buses going to games. viii. Ensure children are picked up from away trips before teachers leave.
f.	i. Enforcement of the Technology and Social Media Policy and the relevant sections of the school Anti-Bullying Policy.
	i. Photographic Policy is strictly adhered to.
g.	i. All Safeguarding measures used in school time are put in place.
h.	ii. Staffing and safeguards are correctly adhered to.



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

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 (revised 2024)*

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 list may be added to in review at any time.