Kiltale,
Dunsany,
Co. Meath,
C15 XF86.

Charity No. 20131357
Roll No: 17742P

(046) 9025619
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principal@kiltalens.ie
www.kiltalens.ie

Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

Child Safeguarding Statement

Scoil Mhuire Naofa, Kiltale (Kiltale NS) is a primary school providing primary education to pupils from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

In accordance with the requirements of the:

- Department of Education and Youth (DoEY) circulars e.g. 0036/2023 *(Publication of Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post- Primary Schools [revised 2023]*)
- Children First Act 2015,
- Children First National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the Addendum to Children First (2019),
- Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 1998 - 2018
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities associated with Recognised Schools 2023
- Teaching Council (Information to be Furnished by Employer in Case of Dismissal or Resignation of Registered Teacher) Regulations 2023
- Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements,

The Board of Management (BoM) of Kiltale NS has agreed to 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 2023)* as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement

2. The **Designated Liaison Person** (DLP) is Colin McElroy, Principal.

3. The **Deputy Designated Liaison Person** (Deputy DLP) is Orla Dunne, Acting Deputy Principal.

4. The **Relevant Person** is Colin McElroy, Principal.

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:

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a. recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;

b. fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;

c. fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters;

d. 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;

e. develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in the education of their children; and

f. 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:

a. 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.

b. 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.

c. 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-

i. Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement

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ii. Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement
iii. Encourages staff to avail of relevant training
iv. Encourages Board of Management members to avail of relevant training
v. The Board of Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training

d. 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 (revised 2023)*, including in the case of registered teachers, those in relation to mandated reporting under the Children First Act 2015.

e. All registered teachers employed by the school are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.

f. 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.

g. 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.

Note: The above is not intended as an exhaustive list.

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 of Education and Youth (DoEY) 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.

9. See Appendix 5 (page 88) containing the changes made to the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017 and included in Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023).

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This Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed and adopted by the Board of Management on:

22/10/2026

Signed: Maura Dineen
Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed: Cáit Ní Mhuiri
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 22/10/2026

Date: 22/10/2026

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Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Written Assessment of Risk of Kiltale 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 (revised 2023)*, the following is the Written Risk Assessment of Kiltale NS.

List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment	Risk Level
Training of school personnel in Child Protection matters	Harm not recognised or reported promptly	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff DLP& DDLP have attended training and to attend PDST training All Staff have viewed Túsla and PDST / OIDE training modules. BOM members to attend CPSMA Seminar on Child Protection BOM records all records of staff and board training	Low
Recruitment of school personnel including - · 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	Harm not recognised or properly or promptly reported	Child Safeguarding Statement & DES procedures made available to all staff Staff have viewed Tusla training module & online training offered by PDST & OIDE DLP AND DDLP have undertaken training Vetting Procedures in place Health and Safety Policy in place	Med

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List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment	Risk Level
Classroom teaching	Harm to pupils	All classrooms will be supervised by staff, in the event of the teacher leaving the room another teacher will be informed and accept supervision.	Low
Recreation breaks for pupils	Harm to pupils	All recreation breaks will be supervised by staff, Supervision & Yard Duty Policy, Code of Behaviour applying to all pupils	Low
Use of external personnel to supplement curriculum	Harm from outside expert curricular personnel.	All presentations or workshops by outside experts will occur only in the presence of the classroom teacher.	Low
Sports Coaches	Harm to pupils	Policy & Procedures in place: Teacher remains present with outside coach/expert.	Med
Outdoor teaching activities	Harm to pupil	At all times during outdoors teaching the child must be within view of the teacher; all activities will be undertaken in groups and no child may leave the group on their own, but must be accompanied by another child.	Low
One to one teaching	Harm by school personnel	School has policy in place for one to one teaching; All doors have glass panels	Low

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List of School Activities	The School has identified the following Risk of Harm	The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment	Risk Level
Daily arrival and dismissal of pupils and outside normal hours	Harm from older pupils; unknown adults on the premises; unauthorised adult collecting a pupil from school	Arrival and dismissal supervised by Teachers as per Health & Safety Policy. School has a sign-in / sign-out book and any adult entering the building must sign the book and wait at the reception area.	Med
Care of Children with additional needs, including intimate care needs	Harm by school personnel	Policy on Intimate Care	Low
Access to the school building by non-staff members	Harm to student	School has maglocks on side doors to prevent unauthorised entry. School has a sign-in / sign-out book and any adult, other than staff, entering the building must enter through the front door and sign the book. Any adult collecting a child during school time must sign the child out and be a person designated by the parent or guardian, as per the Health & Safety Policy. The adult will wait at the reception area and the secretary or teacher will collect the child from their classroom.	Low
Student teachers undertaking training placement in school	Harm to student	The student teacher will be required to read and follow the school policies, adhere to them and be Garda vetted.	Low

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Students participating in work experience	Harm to pupils	Work experience students will work under the supervision of the class teacher or the principal. Garda vetting required. Each student to read the Child Safeguarding Statement and relevant school policies.	Low
Toilet areas / Changing Areas	Inappropriate behaviour	Usage and supervision policy strictly monitored; eg. One child in the bathroom at a time; no older child in the bathroom with a younger child. (Senior students use Senior toilets only)	Low
Administration of First Aid and Medicines	Harm to the pupil	First Aid will be administered in line with our Health and Safety Policy and Administration of Medicines Policy. Staff & pupils have completed First Aid Training (Pupils' training October 2026)	Low
Curricular Provision in respect of SPHE, RSE, Stay safe.	Non-teaching of same	School implements SPHE curriculum including Walk Tall, RSE, Stay Safe programmes in full on a 2 year plan.	Low
LGBT Children/Pupils perceived to be LGBT	Bullying	In line with the new Anti-Bullying Policy- Bí Cineálta & Kiva Anti-bullying lessons ongoing. Regular awareness lessons (monthly) and Code of Behaviour in place.	Low

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School outings	Harm from external personnel to support activities on school tours.	Two members of school staff will travel with any group outing outside the school grounds, taking care that children are supervised adequately at all times.	Med
School Matches/Activities (internal & external)	Harm to pupils from other adults or children at external sporting events	At all times when off campus at a sporting event children must be under the supervision of a member of the school staff. The BOM provides bus transport to matches where possible. In certain circumstances, carpooling will take place for school events. Parental permission will be sought for pupils to travel in advance. Where lifts are provided no child travels alone in a car with an adult other than their parent or guardian. Depending on staff availability, 1-2 members of staff will travel with the team/pupils to any event off the school grounds (school bus).	Med
Fundraising events involving pupils	Harm from outside adults at the venue	Children at all times will be under the supervision of staff.	Med

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Use of off-site facilities for school activities	Harm from staff on adventure or activity centres, etc.	Children at all times will be part of a group and more than one member of staff will travel on all off-site trips or expeditions.	Med
List of School Activities	**The School has identified the following Risk of Harm**	**The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment**	**Risk Level**
After school use of school premises by other organisations	Harm from unknown outsiders accessing information on pupils	Only BOM may grant permission to outside agencies to use the school premises. All confidential information on pupils will be stored securely at all times, and all confidential computer information password protected.	Med
School transport arrangements	Harm from bus driver	Only bus companies with vetted drivers are employed. Children supervised by staff on all bus trips	Med
Management of challenging behaviour amongst pupils	Harm to the pupil	Pupils behaviour will be managed in compliance with our Code of Behaviour and parental Support	Low

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Prevention and dealing with bullying amongst pupils	Harm from other pupils	The school Bí Cineálta Anti-Bullying Policy, Kiva Anti-Bullying Programme, Code of Behaviour, Wellbeing Policy, Child Safeguarding Statement, Child Protection Guidelines will be followed at all times and implemented where necessary.	Low
List of School Activities	**The School has identified the following Risk of Harm**	**The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment**	**Risk Level**
Care of pupils with specific vulnerabilities/ needs such as · Pupils from ethnic minorities/migrants · Pupils with Special Needs · Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children · Pupils perceived to be LGBT · Pupils of minority religious faiths · Children in care · Children on CPNS	Harm not recognised and child's needs not support or met.	Code of Behaviour Anti-Bullying Policy Support Education Teaching (SET) Policy in place	Med
Use of video/photography/other media to record school events	Harm to pupils	School Data protection policy – Media checked before allowing it to be published. No names are published with photographs	Med

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Use of Information and Communication Technology by pupils in school	Harm from inappropriate access to the internet and Cyber-Bullying	ICT policy – As part of policy each child and parents sign a contract on the use of the internet. Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour Data Protection Policy Acceptable Usage Policy	Med
Use of Mobile Phones in school	Cyberbullying	The BOM policy is, strictly no mobile phones in school, with the application of sanctions under the school's Code of Behaviour including detention of pupils, confiscation of phones etc.	Med
List of School Activities	**The School has identified the following Risk of Harm**	**The School has the following Procedures in place to address risk identified in this assessment**	**Risk Level**
Risk of harm from staff using social media, inappropriate Material, e.g. on Facebook, etc	Harm to pupils	Acceptable Usage Policy, Laptop Agreement in place	Low
Major Incident in School	Harm to pupils and Staff	Critical Incidents Policy to be followed	Low

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 2023)*

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.

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This risk assessment has been completed by the Board of Management and staff on:

22/10/2026

It will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed Maura Dineen Date 22/10/2026

Chairperson, Board of Management

Signed Colin T/Elroy Date 22/10/2026

Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management.