

# Cosaint Leanaí:



Is Naíonra í Naíonra Réalt na Mara a fheidhmíonn faoi scáth bainistíochta Scoil na bhForbacha a chuireann seirbhís réamhscoile luathoideachais ar fáil do pháistí mar thúsphointe ar a dturas saoil oideachais.

De réir na gceanglas san **Acht um Thús Áite do Leanaí 2015, Tús Áite do Leanaí: Treoir Náisiúnta 2017, na Nósanna Imeachta um Chosaint Leanaí do Bhunscoileanna agus Iar-bhunscoileanna 2017, agus Treoir Thusla** maidir le Ráitis maidir le Cumhdach Leanaí a Chur le Chéile, tá toilithe Bainistíocht Naíonra Réalt na Mara leis an Ráiteas maidir le Cumhdach Leanaí atá leagtha amach sa cháipéis seo.

- 1 Tá glactha ag an mBainistíocht le **Nósanna Imeachta um Chosaint Leanaí do Bhunscoileanna agus Iar-bhunscoileanna 2017** na Roinne Oideachais mar threoir deá chleachtais i gcumhdach leanaí agus déanfar iad a chur i bhfeidhm go hiomlán, gan athrú gan leasú mar chuid den Ráiteas foriomlán seo maidir le Cumhdach Leanaí.
- 2 Is é an Duine Idirchaidrimh Ainmnithe (DIA): ná Seán Breathnach Príomhoide Scoil na bhForbacha
- 3 Is é an Leas-Duine Idirchaidrimh Ainmnithe (D/DIA): ná Bairbre Ní Loingsigh Príomh Oideoir.
- 4 Admhálann an Bhainistíocht go bhfuil cúrsaí cosanta agus leasa leanaí fite fuaite le gach gné de shaol sa Naíonra agus nach mór é sin a léiriú i ngach ceann de bheartais, nósanna imeachta, cleachtais agus gníomhaíochtaí na scoile. I ndáil lena beartais, nósanna imeachta, cleachtais agus gníomhaíochtaí, cloífidh an Naíonra leis na prionsabail seo a leanas den dea-chleachtas maidir le cosaint leanaí agus leas leanaí:

Déanfaidh an Naíonra:

- glacadh leis go bhfuil fíorthábhacht le cosaint leanaí agus leas leanaí, gan bheann ar aon cheist eile;
- comhoibriú go hiomlán leis na hoibleagáidí reachtúla faoin **Acht um Thús Áite do Leanaí 2015** agus le reachtaíocht eile a bhaineann le cosaint agus leas leanaí;
- comhoibriú go hiomlán leis na húdaráis reachtúla cuí maidir le cosaint agus leas leanaí;
- gnásanna sábháilte a ghlacadh chuici féin d'fhonn an dóigh go mbainfeadh díobháil nó tionóisc do leanbh a mhaolú oiread agus is féidir agus an lucht oibre a chosaint ó chall dul sa mbaol go gcuirfí drochúsáid nó faillí ina leith;
- gnás ionracais le tuismitheoirí a thabhairt chun cinn agus iad a spreagadh le bheith rannpháirteach in oideachas a gcuid leanaí; agus
- meas iomlán a léiriú ar riachtanais rúndachta agus í ag déileáil le cúrsaí cosanta leanaí.

Cloífidh an Naíonra leis na prionsabail thuas freisin i ndáil le haon pháiste lena mbaineann soghontacht speisialta.

- 5 Tá na nósanna imeachta/bearta seo a leanas ar bun:
  - I gcas baill ar bith den fhoireann is ábhar d'iniúchadh ar bith (cibé caoi a thuairiscítear é) i leith aon ghnímh, neamhghnímh nó cúinse i leith linbh atá ag freastal ar an Naíonra, cloíonn an Naíonra leis na nósanna imeachta cuí atá leagtha amach i gCaibidil 7 de na

**Nósanna Imeachta um Chosaint Leanaí do Bhunscoileanna agus Iar-bhunscoileanna 2017** agus leis na nósanna imeachta ábhartha araíonachta do bhaill foirne scoile atá foilsithe ar shuíomh idirlín na Roinne.

- Maidir le roghnú agus earcú ball foirne agus lena n-oiriúnacht chun oibriú le leanaí, cloíonn an Naíonra le riachtanais reachtúla grinnfhiosrúcháin na nAchtanna um an mBiúró Náisiúnta Grinnfhiosrúcháin (Leanaí agus Daoine Soghonta), 2012 go 2016 agus leis an treoir leathan maidir leis an dualgas cúraim atá leagtha ins na ciorcláin ábhartha de chuid an Gharda a bhaineann le grinnfhiosrúchán agus earcaíocht agus atá arna bhfoilsíú ag an ROE agus le fáil ar shuíomh idirlín na ROE.
  - Maidir le soláthar an eolais agus, áit is gá, an teagaisc agus na hoiliúna do lucht foirne chun a shonrú go bhfuil an díobháil (mar a shainmhínítear í in Acht 2015) tarlaithe rinne an Naíonra na nithe seo a leanas -
    - Cóip de Ráiteas ó Naíonra Réalt na Mara maidir le Cumhdach Leanaí a chur ar fáil do gach ball den fhoireann
    - A chinntiú go gcuirfear cóip de Ráiteas an Naíonra maidir le Cumhdach Leanaí ar fáil do gach ball nua den fhoireann
    - Lucht foirne a spreagadh chun leas a bhaint as oiliúint chuí
    - Comhaltaí den Bhainistíocht a spreagadh chun leas a bhaint as oiliúint chuí
    - Coimeádann an Bhainistíocht taifid de gach oiliúint a chuirtear ar lucht foirne.
  - Maidir le hábhair inní i dtaobh na cosanta leanaí a thuairisciú do Thusla, ní mór do gach ball foirne cloí leis na nósanna imeachta atá leagtha amach insna **Nósanna Imeachta um Chosaint Leanaí do Bhunscoileanna agus Iar-bhunscoileanna 2017** ar a n-áirítear, i gcás múinteoirí cláraithe, iad siúd a bhaineann le tuairisciú sainordaithe faoin Acht um **Thús Áite do Leanaí 2015**.
  - Sa Naíonra seo tá an DIA thuasluaite ceaptha ag Bord Bainistíochta Scoil na bhForbacha mar an “duine cuí” (mar a shainmhínítear sin san **Acht um Thús Áite do Leanaí 2015**) chun bheith mar an gcéad pointe teagmhála i leith an Ráitis maidir le Cumhdach Leanaí.
  - Daoine sainordaithe is ea gach múinteoir cláraithe arna fhostú ag an Naíonra faoin **Acht um Thús Áite do Leanaí 2015**.
  - De réir an **Achta um Thús Áite do Leanaí 2015**, tá measúnacht curtha i gcrích ag an mBord maidir leis an mbaol go mbainfeadh díobháil fhéideartha ar bith do leanbh a bheadh ag freastal ar an Naíonra nó ag glacadh páirte i ngníomhaíochtaí sa Naíonra. Tá measúnacht scríofa leis seo ina leagtar amach na réimsí riosca a sonraíodh agus nósanna imeachta an Naíonra chun na rioscaí sin a bhainistiú mar aguisín leis na nósanna imeachta seo.
  - Is féidir rochtain ar na nósanna imeachta éagsúla dá dtagraítear sa Ráiteas seo trí shuíomh idirlín na scoile, nó trí shuíomh idirlín na ROE nó cuirfidh an scoil ar fáil iad ach iad a iarraidh.
- 6 Tá an ráiteas seo foilsithe ar shuíomh idirlín na scoile agus tá sé tugtha do gach ball de lucht foirne anNaíonra.Tá sé ar fáil go héasca do thuismitheoirí agus caomhnóirí ach é a iarraidh.Cuirfear cóip den Ráiteas seo ar fáil do Thusla agus don Roinn ach ceann a iarraidh.
- 7 Athbhreithneofar an Ráiteas seo maidir le Cumhdach Leanaí gach bliain nó a luaithe is indéanta tar éis d’athrú ábhartha bheith déanta maidir le haon ní dá dtagraíonn an ráiteas seo.

**Glactha thar cheann an Bhord Bainistíochta leis an Ráiteas seo maidir le Cumhdach Leanaí ar 27ú Meán Fómhair 2022**

**Sínithe: Murt Ó Cualáin**

**Cathaoirleach an Bhoird Bhainistíochta Bainistíochta**

**Dáta: 27ú Meán Fómhair 2022**

**Sínithe: Seán Breathnach, Príomhoide/Rúnaí ag an mBord Stiúrthóir Naíonra Réalt na Mara**

**Dáta: 27ú Meán Fómhair 2022**

Agus é ag tabhairt faoin measúnacht riosca seo, tá gach dícheall déanta ag an mBainistíocht chun a shonrú sa mhéid gur féidir é na rioscaí díobhála atá ábhartha don Naíonra agus chun a chinntiú go mbíonn nósanna imeachta leordhóthanacha ar bun chun gach riosca atá sonraithe a bhainistiú. Cé nach féidir gach riosca díobhála a thuar agus a bhaint, tá na nósanna imeachta atá liostaithe sa mheasúnacht riosca seo ar bun ag an Naíonra chun na rioscaí a bhainistiú agus a mhaolú sa mhéid gur féidir é.

**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*

“harm” means, in relation to a child—

(a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health, development or welfare, or

(b) sexual abuse of the child,

whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise;

**This risk assessment has been completed by the Management of Naíonra Réalt na Mara on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022. It shall be reviewed as part of the Naíonra’s annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.**

Naíonra Réalt na Mara is a preschool operating under the the Board of Management of Scoil na bhForbacha and its principal providing early years education to pupils in preparation for their transition to primary 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 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 na bhForbacha has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The Board of Management has agreed, 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 Seán Breathnach Príomhoide**
- 3 **The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP is Bairbre Ní Loingsigh, Lead Educator**
- 4 The Management recognizes that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of life at the Naíonra and must be reflected in all of the Naíonra's policies, procedures, practices and activities.
- 5 In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, the Naíonra will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The Naíonra will:

- recognize 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 minimize 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 Naíonra will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any 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 staff which are published on the 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 Naíonra-
    - 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 Management members to avail of relevant training
    - The Management maintains records of all staff and Board member training
  - In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, all Naíonra 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 Naíonra the Board of Management of Scoil na bhForbacha 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.
- All registered teachers employed by the Naíonra 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 Naíonra'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.

7. This statement has been published on the school/Naíonra's website and has been provided to all members of school personnel. 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 on behalf of the Board of Management**

Signed: Murt Cualáin  
Chairperson of Board of Management  
Date: 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Signed: Seán Breathnach  
Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management  
Service Provider

In undertaking this risk assessment, the board of management has endeavored to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to this Naíonra 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 Naíonra has in place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

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