



Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017

Update on Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

Support Arrangements - February 2018

Schools will be aware that new “Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017” have been developed and published – DES Circular 0081/2017 refers.

Further detail in relation to the purpose, structure and content of the new procedures is available on the Department’s website at www.education.ie

1. Update on Support for Schools

1.1 E-Learning Programmes

1.1.1 As a first step, schools may access the universal e-Learning programme developed by Túsla which is currently available to schools on www.pdst.ie/childprotection (duration 1.5 hours).

1.1.2 Two further e-Learning programmes will become available to schools **on or before 26 February, 2018**. These programmes are designed by the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST) and comprise the following:-

a) Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 - eLearning Programme for All School Personnel (duration 1.5 hours)

This webinar for all school personnel will look at:

- *Legislation*
- *The role of Mandated Persons*
- *The role of Designated Liaison Person (DLP)*
- *Reporting and recording, and*
- *Handling a disclosure.*

and

b) Risk Assessment and the Development of Child Safeguarding Statement (duration 1 hour).

This webinar is focused explicitly on supporting Designated Liaison Persons (DLPs) and Deputy Designated Liaison Persons (DDLPs) with a view to preparing a Risk Assessment and Child Safeguarding Statement by 11 March, 2018 and using the templates provided by the DES.

1.2 Face-to-Face Seminars (one-day)

- 1.2.1 PDST will begin to roll out nationwide one-day seminars for all schools from mid-March, 2018. You will receive notice from your local Education Centre of the dates which you can choose from.
- 1.2.2 These seminars are for DLPs and DDLPs and will run for both primary and post-primary schools from mid-March to the end of the 2017/18 school-year. Additional seminar dates from September to December, 2018 will be targeted at primary schools only.
- 1.2.3 The seminars will focus on the role and responsibilities of the DLP including liaising with external agencies, supporting staff, reporting to Túsla, communication with parents and the Board of Management, curriculum implementation and oversight arrangements.
- 1.2.4 **Substitution cover for attendance at seminars, where required, will be provided.**

2. Queries

- 2.1 Any queries relating to the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary schools 2017’ should be raised in the first instance with the Designated Liaison Person or board of management of the school as appropriate.
- 2.2 General queries in relation to the ‘Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary schools 2017’ should be e-mailed to the Department at:
schoolgovernance@education.gov.ie
- 2.3 General queries in relation to child protection CPD should be addressed to the Department’s Teacher Education Section at:
TES@education.gov.ie
- 2.4 Details of the range of child protection CPD supports available to schools can be accessed on the PDST website at www.pdst.ie/childprotection

Eddie Ward
Principal Officer
Teacher Education Section
February 2018