



Association of Community
and Comprehensive Schools

*Cumann na Scoileanna Pobail
agus Cuimsitheacha*

22nd September, 2023.

The Secretary,
Board of Management and
School Principal in
each Community and Comprehensive School.

Members of the Executive of ACCS.

ACCS/Info Bulletin 16/23. Re:

1. **Note on the relevant person in the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023) & Template 1 Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template.**
2. **Note from NCCA re links and materials available to support the implementation of the new JC SPHE curriculum.**
3. **Oide, the DE school support service & communications to schools.**
4. **Updated Admission Forms.**

1. **The relevant person in the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023)**

- a. In the revised Child Protection Procedures, the Glossary of Terms highlights that the 'relevant person' in a school setting *shall be* the designated liaison person. The appropriate change has been made to Mandatory Template 1: Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment Template.
- b. Regarding boarding facilities, the relevant procedures are also clear and there is a footnote on page 7 of the **Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for Boarding Facilities associated with Recognised Schools 2023**: *The relevant person is the person who can provide information in respect of how the child safeguarding statement was developed and will be able to provide the statement on request. (S)he may also be the DLP. The relevant person should be explicitly named in the child safeguarding statement.* Therefore, there is no change to Mandatory Template 1 for boarding facilities.

In summary, in a school the DLP must be the relevant person also. In a boarding facility the DLP can be, but doesn't have to be, the relevant person. When schools are conducting their next review, they should download the most recent template and will be guided by the wording on the relevant person which is now consistent with the procedures.

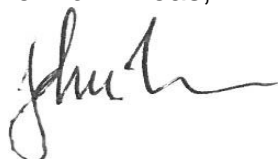
2. **Note from NCCA re links and materials available to support the implementation of the new JC SPHE curriculum.**

Further to recent communication to school leaders and Boards of Management from a number of groups regarding the updated Junior Cycle SPHE curriculum, you might find the attached text helpful in framing a response or in discussing the issues with parents/guardians. (See attached note from NCCA).

3. **Oide, the DE school support service & communications to schools.**
Schools are advised that future Oide communications to schools will issue via email. To ensure the efficient delivery of these communications, Oide has asked the management bodies to remind schools to ensure that **noreply@oide.ie** is added as an approved sender in your school's email administration centre (e.g., Office 365 Admin Centre).

4. **Updated Admission Forms.**
Please see attached updated Admissions Forms for use in your school for the incoming admissions. The (Part 2) form has been updated to reflect the legislation which allows for one parent/guardian alone to sign the admissions form. There is no requirement for two parents/guardians to sign, and this updated form will hopefully avoid any confusion in that regard. Amended wording has been added to the information section at the top of the form, as follows: **"This Admissions form (Part 2) is to be completed by a father/mother/legal guardian of the 6th class student. At least one lawful parent/guardian must sign the form."**

Is mise,
le mór mheas,



John Irwin,
GENERAL SECRETARY.