



Association of Community  
and Comprehensive Schools

*Cumann na Scoileanna Pobail  
agus Cuimsitheacha*

29<sup>th</sup> August, 2023.

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

**Members of the Executive of ACCS.**

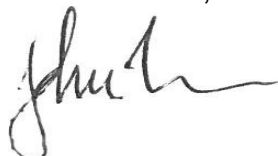
**ACCS/Info Bulletin 15/23. Re: Publication of Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023) Circular 0036/2023.**

1. The revised procedures **replace the 2017 procedures** and apply to all primary and post-primary schools including boarding facilities associated with recognised schools which are attended by children and young people under the age of 18 years.
2. The revised procedures come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 and should be brought to the attention of all school staff and board of management members.
3. The board of management at the first meeting following **the 1st of September 2023** shall formally adopt the 2023 procedures.
4. It is the responsibility of each relevant school authority to put in place the necessary arrangements to ensure full compliance with the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (revised 2023).
5. In particular:
  - a. The Child Safeguarding Statement always includes the Risk Assessment and these form one single document. Boards of management **when next reviewing their Child Safeguarding Statement** must use the most recent mandatory template provided on the gov.ie website.
  - b. Any documents provided as part of the Child Protection Oversight Report must now be **anonymised** to ensure that the identities of any children and any other parties, including **the member of school personnel** to whom the concern or report relates, are not disclosed.
  - c. The **protocol authorising immediate action continues to operate as previously, without anonymisation.**
  - d. Employers must **notify the Teaching Council** once a teacher stands dismissed from 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023 onwards (or resigns following upon the making of a complaint or the invoking of a disciplinary process).
  - e. Note other updated references in the procedures to:
    - i. The recently published Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures for **Boarding Facilities** associated with Recognised Schools 2023
    - ii. The Addendum to Children First (2019)
    - iii. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

6. **Training and Supports:** E learning Modules are provided by Oide for the DLP, DDLP and all school personnel. These modules will be revised to take full account of the updated guidelines (2023) in due course and in-person training is planned for early 2024.
7. **All links** to the revised procedures and supports including the **most up-to-date versions of templates** and the **Tusla secure online reporting portal** are available in the attached [Circular 0036/2023](#).

Is mise,

le mór mheas,



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John Irwin,  
GENERAL SECRETARY.