



September 2020

Dear Principal,

As you are aware, the Department of Education and Skills issued the Revised Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools in December 2017 underpinned by the revised guidelines ‘*Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017*’.

Due to demand, the PDST have developed a suite of online presentations and accompanying resources in lieu of face-to-face Child Protection seminars which cannot take place at present.

The aim of these presentations is to support you in navigating the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools, in order for you to understand and fulfil your role as Designated Liaison Person (DLP) or Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLp).

This three part series of E-learning Presentations closely follows the structure and content of our Child Protection Seminars which were facilitated by PDST in Spring 2020. They can be accessed openly at a time that suits you, and there is no need to register. We recommend that you engage with all three presentations in sequential order. You can revisit this series of presentations as often as required.

Overview	Summary of topics addressed
<p><b>Presentation #1</b></p> <p><b>Overview and Context of the Child Protection Procedures 2017</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TUSLA: Child Protection and Welfare</li> <li>▪ The Children First Act 2015</li> <li>▪ Children First National Guidance 2017 and DES Procedures for Primary and Post Primary schools</li> <li>▪ Curricular context</li> <li>▪ Types of Child Abuse</li> <li>▪ ‘Harm’ and ‘Threshold of harm’</li> <li>▪ Statutory obligations</li> <li>▪ Mandated Persons</li> <li>▪ Legal Framework</li> <li>▪ Confidentiality</li> </ul>

<p><b>Presentation #2</b></p> <p><b>The role of the DLP and DDLP</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The role of the DLP and DDLP</li><li>▪ Actions to be taken by the DLP when reporting concerns</li><li>▪ Informing parents</li><li>▪ Dealing with disclosures from children</li><li>▪ Consequences of non-reporting</li><li>▪ Seeking Advice from Tusla</li><li>▪ Allegations or Suspicions of Child Abuse regarding School Employees</li></ul>
<p><b>Presentation #3</b></p> <p><b>Oversight and Record Keeping</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Record keeping</li><li>▪ Areas of compliance</li><li>▪ Oversight groups</li><li>▪ Child Protection Oversight Report</li><li>▪ Oversight role of BoM</li><li>▪ Oversight role of Patron</li><li>▪ Oversight role of DES and others</li></ul>

Please ensure that you have a copy of the Child Protection Procedures to hand, along with the accompanying Participant Handbook which supports the full series of presentations. We have also prepared Slide Notes for each presentation. You can download and print all of these documents, and access the E-learning Presentations and other support materials, by clicking on this link:

[www.pdst.ie/child-protection-e-learning](http://www.pdst.ie/child-protection-e-learning)

It is intended that in advance of engaging with these presentations, the DLP and DDLP will have engaged with both of PDST's E-Learning Programmes (2018):

1. Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 - eLearning Programme for **DLPs and DDLPs** (duration 1.5 hours)
2. Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 - eLearning Programme for **All School Personnel** (duration 1.5 hours)

We also recommend that you might engage with the Tusla Universal E-learning programme. All of these programmes are available at [www.pdst.ie/ChildProtection](http://www.pdst.ie/ChildProtection).

Yours sincerely,



Ciara O'Donnell, National Director, PDST