

Summary of Procedures for Parents/Carers who wish to refer a Safeguarding Concern

The guidance below outlines procedures for parents/
carers when raising a concern.

I have a concern about my or a child's safety.



I can talk to the Form Teacher or Head of Year.



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Designated
Teacher for Child Protection/Acting Principal, Treasa Uí
Dhálaigh



If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairperson
of the Board of Governors, Niall Ó Catháin.



At any time a parent can talk to a Social Worker at
the Gateway Team (Western Trust)
Tel: 028 7131 4090 (Derry)
or the PSNI at the Public Protection Unit
Tel: 999 (Emergency) or 101(Non-Urgent)
Pupils over 18 can contact the Adult Protection Gateway
Team - **Western 028 71611 366 Northern 028 9441 3659**



If I am still concerned I can contact the NI Public Services
Ombudsman
Tel: 0800 343 424

Useful Numbers and Contacts

Gaelcholáiste Dhoire

Caisleán Dhún Geimhin, Dún Geimhin, 145 An
Phríomhshráid, Co. Dhoire BT47 4LF

Tel Number: 02877741015

E-Mail Address: info@gcd.doire.ni.sch.uk

Social Services Gateway Team: 028 71314090

Email – spoe.referrals@northerntrust.hscni.net

PSNI Public Protection Unit: 0845 600 8000

NSPCC 08088005000

Childline – 08001111

**Western Trust Adult Protection Gateway
Team:** Tel. 028 7161 1366

Northern Adult Protection Gateway Team:
028 9441 3659

For further information visit the Safeguarding
Board N.I. website www.safeguardingni.org



Treasa Uí Dhálaigh

Designated Teacher
for Child
Protection



Eveleen Heard

Deputy Designated
Teacher for Child
Protection

Important Information Parents & Pupils

Child Protection Information
2026/27

Aims and Principles

Gaelcholáiste Dhoire aims to establish a caring environment within which the academic, personal, linguistic, social and spiritual potential of each child will be developed. The pastoral dimension permeates all school activities.

We have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the pupils in our charge and we will carry out this duty through our pastoral care policy which aims to provide a caring, supportive and safe environment.

Principles

Our Child Protection Policy is based on the following Principles:

- The child's welfare must always be paramount.
- Children must always have a right to be heard, to be listened to and to be taken seriously.
- Parents/carers have a right to respect but a proper balance must be struck between ensuring this and protecting children.
- Every child has the fundamental right to be safe from harm and have proper care given to their physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

School Safeguarding Team

The Chair of the Board of Governors Niall Ó Catháin

The Designated Governor for Child Protection Sarah-Jane Goldring

The School Principal Treasa Uí Dhálaigh

The Designated Teacher for Child Protection Treasa Uí Dhálaigh

The Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection Eveleen Heard

Members of the team have clear roles and responsibilities in relation to the safeguarding of pupils within the school and these are detailed in our full child protection policy

All staff at Gaelcholáiste Dhoire will ensure that all children are aware of who they can talk to if they are sad, worried, being bullied or have any other concerns.

Categories of Child Abuse

Physical Abuse Is deliberately physically hurting a child. It might take a variety of different forms, including hitting, biting, pinching, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning or suffocating a child.

Sexual Abuse Occurs when others use and exploit children sexually for their own gratification or gain or the gratification of others. Sexual abuse may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape, or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside clothing. It may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in the production of sexual images, forcing children to look at sexual images or watch sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via e-technology). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Neglect Is the failure to provide for a child's basic needs, whether it be adequate food, clothing, hygiene, supervision or shelter that is likely to result in the serious impairment of a child's health or development. Children who are neglected often also suffer from other types of abuse.

Exploitation Is the intentional ill-treatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control over a child or young person; to take selfish or unfair advantage of a child or young person or situation, for personal gain. It may manifest itself in many forms such as child labour, slavery, servitude, engaging in criminal activity, begging, benefit or other financial fraud or child trafficking. It extends to the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of children for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation can be sexual in nature.

Co-operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in Northern Ireland, version 2.0 2017)

Summary of Procedures for a Pupil/Teacher Reporting a Safeguarding Incident

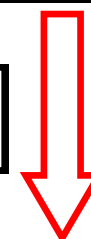
Child makes disclosure or teacher has concerns regarding abuse or neglect.



Matter is referred to Designated Teacher/Acting Principal, Treasa. Plan of action agreed. Referrer advised of plan.



No referral to Social Services/ Parents or Carers informed of concerns.



Referral to Social Services.



School will continue to support and monitor pupil/s as appropriate.
Representative from school will work with other services as part of the safeguarding plan.

This leaflet is intended only as a summary of the main aspects of the School's Child Protection Policy. The full policy document can be obtained from the School Office.