

Subject:

**Safeguarding and Child Protection –
A Guide for Schools**

Circular Number:

2017/04

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Audience:

- Principals and Boards of Governors of all grant-aided schools;
- Independent Schools;
- Education Authority;
- Council for Catholic Maintained Schools;
- Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta;
- Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education;
- Governing Bodies Association;
- Statutory Pre-School Providers;
- Controlled Schools' Support Council

Summary of Contents:

This circular is to advise you of the publication of the Department's new guidance – "Safeguarding and Child Protection – A Guide for Schools".

Enquiries:

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Status of contents:

Advice and Guidance

Related Documents:

- The Department of Health document; 'Co-Operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in Northern Ireland'

Superseded Documents:

- Circular 1999/10

DE Website:

This Circular and guidance document are available to download from www.education-ni.gov.uk/articles/publications-and-guidance-child-protection-issues-schools

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION – A GUIDE FOR SCHOOLS

1. This Circular is to advise schools, managing authorities and other educational partners, that the Department has published a new document: 'Safeguarding and Child Protection – A Guide for Schools'. The guidance is provided in a user-friendly ring-binder to facilitate schools and others when, in future years, sections are updated and replaced or additional topics are added by the Department.
2. This guidance supersedes Circular 1999/10, replacing the 'Pastoral Care in Schools – Child Protection' document.
3. Whilst primarily aimed at schools, the principles outlined in this document apply equally well to other settings including early years and youth.
4. The guide provides wide-ranging advice and guidance on many aspects of safeguarding and child protection. All Boards of Governors and Principals should consider the contents carefully and it will be of particular relevance to the Designated and Deputy Designated teachers for Child Protection.

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