



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspection Report

REPORT

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| Ainm na scoile/School name | Newpark Comprehensive School |
| Seoladh na scoile/School address | Newtownpark Avenue Blackrock Co Dublin |
| Uimhir rolla/Roll number | 810011 |
| Dáta na cigireachta/ Date of evaluation | 21 May 2025 |
| Dáta eisiúna na tuairisce/Date of issue of report | 18 September 2025 |

What is a child protection and safeguarding inspection?

A Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspection (CPSI) is a focused inspection of the implementation of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (2023)*. These procedures provide direction and guidance to school authorities and to school personnel in relation to meeting their statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015. They also provide direction and guidance in relation to the continued implementation of the best practice, non-statutory guidance set out in Children First National Guidance 2017. The CPSI inspection model examines the implementation of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (2023)* in schools through undertaking six checks based on the procedures.

The CPSI inspection process consists of a single-day inspection with follow-up activity where full compliance was not achieved. The follow-up activity is carried out in a relatively short timeframe.

What happens during a child protection and safeguarding inspection?

During a CPSI, inspectors:

- Hold meetings with:
 - Designated Liaison Person (DLP) / Deputy DLP
 - Chairperson of board of management
 - A sample of school personnel
- Review the following documents:
 - Board of management minutes
 - Child safeguarding statement and risk assessment
- Review child protection case file records.

How to read this report

The checks conducted during this inspection are based on the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (2023)*.

The first section of the report indicates the extent to which the school was compliant with each of the checks conducted by indicating whether the school was:

- **Compliant**
- **Not yet compliant**
- **Not applicable**

Some of the checks may not be relevant to a particular school, for example a school that has no child protection case files. In such cases, the report indicates that the school has no child protection case files, and the check does not apply.

It should be noted that the term 'school personnel' is used as a generic term to cover all adults who are involved in the operation of the school. It covers employees and voluntary workers and includes parent association members when they are working in the school. These personnel include, for example, teachers, special needs assistants, caretakers, secretaries, cleaners, voluntary workers in the school, paid or voluntary tutors, and parent association members helping with aspects of the work of the school.

Where a school is not compliant with a particular requirement, the report sets out the actions required for the school to achieve compliance.

A *Guide to Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspections* was published on the website of the Department of Education in September 2025 and can be accessed at www.gov.ie. This Guide details how CPSIs are carried out and provides the framework used by inspectors in arriving at judgements about a school's compliance with the aspects of the *Child Protection Procedures 2023* that are checked during the inspection. The board of management was given an

opportunity to comment in writing on the findings and recommendations of the report; a response was not received from the board.

Child protection and safeguarding inspection report

The checks detailed below derive from the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (2023)*. These procedures are designed to ensure that schools provide a safe and secure environment for all our children.

To meet these aims, the procedures set out a number of requirements on schools relating to policy development and review, communicating with members of the school community about child protection matters; training of school personnel and board members in respect of child protection; reporting about child protection to the board of management; and fulfilling certain reporting and record keeping obligations in relation to child protection matters.

Responsibility for ensuring the school is fully compliant with these checks rests with the board of management. The Inspectorate will monitor the board's progress in achieving full compliance.

| Aspects of the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (2025) checked | Fully Compliant Not yet compliant Not applicable |
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| 1. The school had developed and reviewed its child safeguarding statement, which includes the risk assessment, in line with the procedures. | Fully compliant |
| 2. The school had communicated the required aspects of the procedures to relevant stakeholders. | Fully compliant |
| 3. School leaders, school personnel and members of the board of management undertook child protection training, <i>as necessary</i> , and were aware of their responsibilities. | Fully compliant |
| 4. Correct reporting and record keeping practices were implemented in the case files examined. | Fully compliant |
| 5. The board carried out its oversight role according to/in line with/as set out in the procedures. | Fully compliant |
| 6. The principal and chairperson of the board of management reported that they are aware of their responsibilities in relation to the vetting of all school personnel and they discharge these responsibilities. | Fully compliant |