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Section 1: Personal details

This information will be used to join together Part 1 and Part 3 of your application forms.

Name

Gordon Mcarthur

Date of birth

Day Month Year

The next section asks you to write your statement of abuse.

Section 2: Your statement of abuse

Please refer to page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance when filling in this form.

Please make sure that whatever way you provide your statement, you include all the information Redress Scotland needs to make a decision. You can find out more on page 35 of “Help to apply”.

You may find that writing this brings up feelings or memories. If you need support you can speak to a case worker who can refer you to further help:

- **Telephone:** 0808 175 0808 (freephone)
- **International:** +44 131 297 6500
Lines are open Monday to Thursday, from 10am to 4pm (except Scottish public holidays)
- **Email:** apply@redress-scheme.scot

Providing your statement of abuse

In Part 1, you will have provided information about any relevant care settings you were abused in.

In Part 3, you need to provide a statement about your abuse. You can choose how you want to provide your statement. You can complete Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4. Or you can:

- submit a previous statement (for example, a copy of a statement given to the police)
- write your statement in another format that is better suited to you

How to complete this section

You may have been abused in one relevant care setting, or in several different ones.

For this part of the application form, please provide a statement about each care setting you were abused in.

For example, if you were abused in 3 relevant care settings, please provide 3 statements.

You can do this in any order that makes sense to you.

There are pages for 4 care settings included in this form. If you need more copies, you can:

- contact a case worker
- make a copy yourself
- print additional pages from mygov.scot/redress

Please remember:

- **there are no wrong answers - if Redress Scotland needs more or different information, your case worker will get in touch with you and let you know**
- **do not worry about your spelling**
- **use as much or as little space as you need to give your information - you can continue on additional pages if you want to**

Your statement for Care setting 1

Please read page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance before you begin.

In Part 1, you will have already provided information about the care settings you were abused in. By providing this information here, your case worker can join together the name of the care setting with your statement of abuse.

Q1 | What is the name or location of the relevant care setting you were abused in?

(For example, the name of the care home, or the city or region where you lived in foster care or while boarded out).

Kerelaw school in stevenson scotland

Do not worry if you are uncertain about dates or time. Please provide your best estimate.

Q2 | When were you abused?

For example: a single date, an age, or an approximate time or time range.

1970

You do not have to provide names, if you cannot remember or do not feel comfortable doing so. If you do provide a name it will be passed to Police Scotland.

Q3 | Who was involved in your abuse?

For example: a member of staff, a peer or someone outside the care setting.

The staff and Children

The information you provide will be used by Redress Scotland to make a decision about your application. Redress Scotland will use the “Assessment framework” to help them do this, available on gov.scot. Please be aware that it contains graphic descriptions of abuse.

Q4 | On the next page, please provide as much information as you can about:

- the abuse you experienced while living in this care setting
- what life was like for you during this time
- how the people responsible for your care and welfare failed to carry out that duty (within or beyond your care setting)

You can continue on additional pages if you need to.

Please read page 36 of “Help to apply” to find out more about what information you may want to include.

See Attached

Your statement for Care setting 2

Please read page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance before you begin.

In Part 1, you will have already provided information about the care settings you were abused in. By providing this information here, your case worker can join together the name of the care setting with your statement of abuse.

Q1 | What is the name or location of the relevant care setting you were abused in?

(For example, the name of the care home, or the city or region where you lived in foster care or while boarded out).

Do not worry if you are uncertain about dates or time. Please provide your best estimate.

Q2 | When were you abused?
For example: a single date, an age, or an approximate time or time range.

You do not have to provide names, if you cannot remember or do not feel comfortable doing so. If you do provide a name it will be passed to Police Scotland.

Q3 | Who was involved in your abuse?
For example: a member of staff, a peer or someone outside the care setting.

The information you provide will be used by Redress Scotland to make a decision about your application. Redress Scotland will use the “Assessment framework” to help them do this, available on [gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot). Please be aware that it contains graphic descriptions of abuse.

Q4 | On the next page, please provide as much information as you can about:

- the abuse you experienced while living in this care setting
- what life was like for you during this time
- how the people responsible for your care and welfare failed to carry out that duty (within or beyond your care setting)

You can continue on additional pages if you need to.

Please read page 36 of “Help to apply” to find out more about what information you may want to include.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for the user to write their statement for Care setting 2. The box occupies most of the page area below the header.

Your statement for Care setting 3

Please read page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance before you begin.

In Part 1, you will have already provided information about the care settings you were abused in. By providing this information here, your case worker can join together the name of the care setting with your statement of abuse.

Q1 | What is the name or location of the relevant care setting you were abused in?

(For example, the name of the care home, or the city or region where you lived in foster care or while boarded out).

Do not worry if you are uncertain about dates or time. Please provide your best estimate.

Q2 | When were you abused?
For example: a single date, an age, or an approximate time or time range.

You do not have to provide names, if you cannot remember or do not feel comfortable doing so. If you do provide a name it will be passed to Police Scotland.

Q3 | Who was involved in your abuse?
For example: a member of staff, a peer or someone outside the care setting.

The information you provide will be used by Redress Scotland to make a decision about your application. Redress Scotland will use the “Assessment framework” to help them do this, available on [gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot). Please be aware that it contains graphic descriptions of abuse.

Q4 | On the next page, please provide as much information as you can about:

- the abuse you experienced while living in this care setting
- what life was like for you during this time
- how the people responsible for your care and welfare failed to carry out that duty (within or beyond your care setting)

You can continue on additional pages if you need to.

Please read page 36 of “Help to apply” to find out more about what information you may want to include.

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Your statement for Care setting 4

Please read page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance before you begin.

In Part 1, you will have already provided information about the care settings you were abused in. By providing this information here, your case worker can join together the name of the care setting with your statement of abuse.

Q1 | What is the name or location of the relevant care setting you were abused in?

(For example, the name of the care home, or the city or region where you lived in foster care or while boarded out).

Do not worry if you are uncertain about dates or time. Please provide your best estimate.

Q2 | When were you abused?
For example: a single date, an age, or an approximate time or time range.

You do not have to provide names, if you cannot remember or do not feel comfortable doing so. If you do provide a name it will be passed to Police Scotland.

Q3 | Who was involved in your abuse?
For example: a member of staff, a peer or someone outside the care setting.

The information you provide will be used by Redress Scotland to make a decision about your application. Redress Scotland will use the “Assessment framework” to help them do this, available on [gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot). Please be aware that it contains graphic descriptions of abuse.

Q4 | On the next page, please provide as much information as you can about:

- the abuse you experienced while living in this care setting
- what life was like for you during this time
- how the people responsible for your care and welfare failed to carry out that duty (within or beyond your care setting)

You can continue on additional pages if you need to.

Please read page 36 of “Help to apply” to find out more about what information you may want to include.



Do you want help
with this section?

If you want help before sending in the form, you can:

- read page 32 of the “Help to apply” guidance
- contact a case worker

The next section has questions about your supporting documents.

Section 3: Supporting documents

Please provide any supporting documents you have related to your abuse in care.

You can find out more about these types of documents on page 33 of the “Help to apply” guidance.

In some cases, it may be difficult to find supporting documents. To help with this part of the application, you can:

- include supporting documents when you send this part of the form, if you already have them
- send in your form without any supporting documents – your case worker will get in touch with you and have a conversation about what you can provide

Please tick which option you have chosen:

- I am including supporting documents with my form
- I am not including supporting documents
(if you tick this, a case worker will contact you)
- I am collecting my documents and will submit them a later date

Do you want help
with this section?

If you want help before sending in the form, you can:

- read page 33 of the “Help to apply” guidance
- contact a case worker

The next section has a declaration you must sign and details about how your information is kept and shared.

Section 4: Declaration and privacy notice

In this section, you must sign your form.

For information about how Scotland's Redress Scheme will record and protect your personal information, please read the Privacy Notice for Scotland's Redress Scheme. You can find this on mygov.scot/redress.

Before you send your application you must agree to these statements:

I confirm that the details and information I have given in this application form are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I understand that I must notify Scotland's Redress Scheme of changes in my circumstances that may affect my application.

I confirm that if any of the information I gave in Part 1, Section 8 (related to previous payments and convictions) changes, I must let my case worker know.

I confirm that any documents I have provided in support of my application are genuine and any copy is a true copy of the original. I understand that if I provide a document which is not genuine, I may be subject to court proceedings.

I understand that if I give false or misleading information in support of my application or make a fraudulent application I may:

- be subject to court proceedings
- have to re-pay any money I was not entitled to

I confirm I have read and understood the Privacy Notice for Scotland's Redress Scheme which explains how the information I provide will be lawfully used and stored.

Your signature

Date

Next steps

This is the end of Part 3. You do not need to submit your forms all at once. Once you are ready, you can submit your forms by email.

Afterwards, a case worker will contact you to confirm:

- they have received your application
- if they have any follow up questions
- next steps

By email

Please submit your application and any relevant documents to:

[**apply@redress-scheme.scot**](mailto:apply@redress-scheme.scot)

If you would like to contact a case worker

Please use these details to contact a case worker:

- **Telephone:** 0808 175 0808 (freephone)
- **International:** +44 131 297 6500
Lines are open Monday to Thursday, from 10am to 4pm
(except Scottish public holidays)
- **Email:** [**apply@redress-scheme.scot**](mailto:apply@redress-scheme.scot)

Statement Addendum

Client Name: Gordon Mcarthur
Date of Birth: 02/07/1956
Care Setting: Kerelaw school in stevenson scotland
Dates: 1970
Persons Involved: The staff and Children

Full Statement

I was around fourteen years old in 1970 when my life changed in a way I could never have imagined. I was taken away from my parents by the courts. At the time I didn't understand why it was happening. No one explained anything to me. I remember feeling confused, frightened and completely powerless as I was removed from my family. I had done nothing that I understood to deserve being taken away from the people and home I knew.

I was then placed in Kierlaw School in Stevenston, Ayrshire. From the moment I arrived there, it became the worst place I have ever experienced in my life. Instead of being welcomed or cared for, I was met with harsh voices from the staff shouting at me. They were aggressive and intimidating from the very beginning. I remember being pushed and spoken to like I was nothing. I was only a child, scared and alone, yet there was no kindness, no reassurance, and no explanation for why I had been brought there.

Very quickly the environment started to affect me mentally. I felt constantly frustrated, confused and distressed. I had no support and no one to turn to for comfort or understanding. Instead of being helped, I was often isolated. I was regularly locked away in a room on my own for long periods of time. Sometimes it felt like most of my time there was spent in isolation. Being shut away like that as a young boy was terrifying and deeply upsetting. It made me feel forgotten and worthless.

Physical punishment was common and happened regularly. Staff would beat us with a belt as punishment. I remember being hit across my backside and hands repeatedly until the pain was unbearable and I was crying. The skin would sting and feel red raw afterwards. These beatings were not rare events — they were used often and seemed to be a normal way for the staff to control us. Sometimes they would also push us around or restrain us in ways that were painful and frightening.

The atmosphere in the place was one of constant fear. The staff behaved as if they owned us and controlled every part of our lives. They bullied us and intimidated us daily. Many times when they walked past they would push or prod us for no reason, just to remind us that they had power over us.

The showers were another deeply humiliating experience. They were always supervised by staff, which made it extremely embarrassing for us as children. I remember feeling ashamed and uncomfortable being watched like that. On some occasions staff would try to wash me themselves, saying they had to do it. I refused because it made me feel so uncomfortable and humiliated. When I refused, I was punished for it. Food was also used as punishment. There were times when I was sent to bed hungry because they

withheld meals from me. Instead of being properly cared for, food was treated like something they could take away whenever they wanted to punish us. Going to bed hungry as a child, already frightened and alone, made everything feel even worse.

I also struggled with bedwetting at that age, something many children deal with. Instead of helping me or showing understanding, the staff used it as another way to humiliate me. They embarrassed me whenever they had the chance, making me feel ashamed for something I couldn't control.

The way the staff spoke to us was cruel and degrading. They shouted constantly and sometimes hit us across the face. Another form of punishment was forcing us to stand alone in cold, dark hallways for hours at a time. I remember standing there in the darkness, scared and wondering why this was happening to me. While I was in Kierlaw School, I was never allowed any visits from my family. Not once. Being cut off from my parents meant I had no way to tell anyone what was happening to me or ask for help. It made me feel completely abandoned and trapped.

Although we were allowed to make friends with other children, the staff would often try to turn us against each other. They created conflict between the children and sometimes even forced us to fight each other. I also witnessed other children being beaten by staff members, which made the environment even more frightening. Seeing other boys being hurt made me realise that none of us were safe.

There were two elderly men and a younger man among the staff who were particularly cruel. I cannot remember their names now, but I will never forget their faces or the way they treated us. They were responsible for much of the abuse I experienced there.

The time I spent in that place had a deep and lasting effect on my life. Even many years later, the memories remain very painful. Talking about it is extremely difficult for me because it brings everything back. It has affected my mental health in many ways. I suffer from anxiety and have struggled with symptoms that feel like post-traumatic stress. I find it very difficult to trust people, and this has affected my relationships throughout my life.

The trauma I experienced also affected my relationship with my daughter's mother. The damage from those early years made it hard for me to understand how to deal with emotions or trust others. In the end it contributed to the breakdown of that relationship, something that has been very painful for me to accept. For many years I tried to cope with the memories and the anxiety by turning to alcohol. It became a way to try and block out the pain and the memories of what happened to me. At my lowest point, I even attempted to take my own life because the weight of everything felt too much to carry.

Thankfully, I have since managed to turn things around in that respect. I have now been clean from alcohol for seven years. That is something I am proud of, but the damage caused by what happened to me as a child in care has never fully gone away. The memories, the anxiety and the loss of trust in people are things I still live with today.

Looking back, I believe I was badly failed as a child. Instead of being protected and supported, I was placed in an environment where I was physically and mentally abused, humiliated and neglected. I was only a young boy who needed care and understanding, but instead I was treated with cruelty and punishment. Those experiences have shaped my life in ways that are still affecting me decades later.