

Warning after two failed child snatches

By KATE CHAMBRE

PARENTS have been warned to be vigilant after a spate of child abduction attempts in a village.

Fears were first raised when a man in a maroon Ford Fiesta tried to entice a young boy in to his car in Newtoncunningham, Co Donegal, on Saturday.

The terrified child ran away and told his parents what happened and they then contacted gardai.

Two days later four boys, aged between nine and 10, were approached by a man in his 30s driving a red Transit van.

He called to the children, who fled and reported the incident.

Gardai yesterday confirmed they are treating the matter with the "utmost seriousness" and urged both parents and children to report any suspicious activity.

Sgt Paul Wallace said: "We are trying to establish if there have been any other incidents of this nature in Donegal.

"We'd advise parents to warn their children that in no circumstance should they talk to or take a lift from strangers.

"We'd also ask children to let their parents know if they've been approached by strangers and get the make, colour and registration of the vehicle."

Anyone who may have been driving either car and approached the children for genuine reasons is asked to contact gardai so they can be eliminated from inquiries.