

Scoil Mhuire gan Smál, Cill Choirle

Stay Safe Programme Policy



Introduction

Scoil Mhuire gan Smál teaches the Stay Safe Programme, a teaching package designed for use in Irish primary schools. It was researched and developed by the Child Abuse Prevention Programme. The principal aim of the programme is to prevent both physical and sexual abuse of children.

Rationale:

Under Child Protection Guidelines all schools are obliged to teach the Stay Safe programme.

The Stay Safe Programme has been updated, and from the 2017/2018 school year onwards the new Stay Safe Programme is now being implemented.

Link to School Ethos:

This policy aims to ensure a caring, secure environment. This is a core element of the mission statement of the school.

Aims/Objectives:

The aim of this policy statement is to outline the rationale behind the implementation of the Stay Safe Programme in Scoil Mhuire gan Smal.

Roles and Responsibilities:

All staff, under the direction of the Principal, have a role to play in ensuring the effective implementation of this policy.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to become involved by discussing each lesson with their child and helping their child to complete each worksheet based on the lessons in the programme.

It is considered good practice to inform parents in advance of commencement that the Stay Safe Programme is due to be taught and to direct them to www.pdst.ie/staysafe for any further information.

N.B. In the event that a parent withdraws their child from the Stay Safe Programme, a written record of their reasons for doing so will be kept on file.

Stay Safe Programme:

Stay Safe is taught as part of the SPHE (Social Personal and Health Education) curriculum and as per best practice recommendations it will be taught on a rolling two year cycle in the second term of the year. In alternate years the RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education) programme will be taught.

Children from Junior infants to sixth class participate in formal lessons on the Stay Safe Programme.

Staff will be facilitated to attend CPD training in the revised Stay Safe programme.

This plan was ratified by the Board of Management at a meeting on:

Implementation and Review:

This plan was ratified by the Board of Management at a meeting on:

Date: 28/11/18

Signed: Pauline Kent