



Scoil Náisiúnta Baile Chaisleáin an Róistigh

Stay Safe Programme Policy

Reviewed in May 2021 by staff members

Castletownroche N.S 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.

Under Child Protection Guidelines all schools are obliged to teach the Stay Safe programme. The Stay Safe Programme has been updated and from the 2018-2019 school year onwards, the revised Stay Safe Programme will be implemented in its totality in each class in the school.

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 annually. The RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education) programme will be taught every year (alternating classes) except in 6th Class where the sensitive topics are covered every year.

Aims:

- The aims of the Stay Safe programme is to reduce vulnerability to child abuse and bullying. The programme develops children's ability to recognise, resist and report risk situations or abusive encounters.
- The Stay Safe programme teaches children prevention, while preserving their sense of the world around them as a basically safe and secure place. This approach allows children to exercise control, to be assertive, and enables them to seek help for any problem they may encounter.
- The programme teaches simple strategies for dealing with various potentially dangerous situations and children are given the opportunity to practise these strategies in the classroom. Thus, the concepts are translated into skills which become part of the child's repertoire of self-protective behaviour.
- Parallel to the development of safety strategies must be the nurturing of self-esteem, confidence building and help in identification and expression of feelings which are integral elements in the broader SPHE curriculum.

Guidelines

- Help children to identify and express safe and unsafe feelings.
- Teach children safety skills for dealing with common unsafe situations like getting lost.
- Encourage children to value friendship and to teach them skills for making and keeping friends.
- Teach children that it is not acceptable to bully others or to be a by-stander.
- Encourage children to value and enjoy normal affection.

- Teach children how to deal with an unsafe or an inappropriate touch.
- Teach the rule - never to keep secrets about touching.
- Help children to recognise the difference between a good secret and a bad secret.
- Help children identify the adults they could tell if they had a bad secret and to give them the opportunity to practise telling.
- Clarify for the children who strangers are.
- Give children safety strategies for dealing appropriately with strangers

Procedures

- Parents of infant class children or of any newly enrolled pupil are given relevant information regarding the Stay Safe programme. Parents of each newly enrolled child are given a consent form.
- Participation in this programme is mandatory, however in the event that a parent informs the school that they wish to withdraw their child from the Stay Safe Programme, a written record of their reasons for doing so is required from the parent. This is retained on the child's school file.
- 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. Parent signature is encouraged at the end of each lesson.
- Parents are informed in advance of commencement of teaching the Stay Safe Programme. They are directed to www.pdst.ie/staysafe to see the content of the lessons and for any further information they might need.

Staff will be facilitated to attend CPD training on the Stay Safe programme when available and necessary.

Resources

The kit consists of:-

- User's handbook
- 4 Teacher books: Junior and Senior Infants, 1st and 2nd , 3rd and 4th, 5th and 6th .
- Online Teacher resources
- Worksheet templates.

All resources can be accessed online <https://pdst.ie/Stay-Safe-Teachers>

Content

The Stay Safe Programme delivers a developmentally structured series of lessons for each age level under the topic headings: 'Feeling Safe and Unsafe', 'Friendship and Bullying', 'Touches', 'Secrets and Telling' and 'Strangers'. It is the policy of the school that the Stay Safe programme is taught in every class every second year.

Methods

- Role play
- Artwork
- Online resources (video clips)
- Circle time
- Classroom discussion
- Stories/poems
- Games
- Group-work

Ratification of Policy:

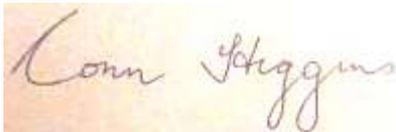
This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on 14th April 2021

Policy review:

In accordance with the systematic review of policies in Castletownroche N.S., this policy will be reviewed every 3 years or immediately following any serious incidences or if a need arises.

Staff will be informed that the review has been completed. The updated policy will be readily accessible to all members of the school community; a policy folder will be available in all classrooms, it will be published on the school website & will also be provided to the Parent's Association. A record of the review and its outcome will be made available, if requested, to the patron and the Department.

Signed:



(Chairperson of Board of Management)

Signed:



(Principal)

Date: 17th April 2021

Date of next review: September 2024

STAY SAFE LANGUAGE - INFANTS - 6TH CLASS

Vocabulary	Infants	1st /2nd	3 rd / 4 th	5th / 6th
Topic 1 Feeling Safe and Unsafe	Excited Happy Scared Upset Sad Angry	Frightened Pleased Annoyed Hurt Sorry Calm	Comfortable Embarrassed Enthusiastic Foolish Guilty Worried Jealous Frustrated Cheerful Stupid	Pity Empathy Sympathy Lonely Depressed Confused Exhilarated Impatient Excluded Delighted
Topic 2 Bullying	Friend / Friendship Sharing Thoughtful Listening Helping Taking turns Being fair Bullying On purpose Hurts Frightens More than once Co-operating Put-downs	Respect Interview Cyberbullying Agreement Deliberately Exclude Include Ignore Threaten Rumour	Courtesy Honest Loyal Unacceptable Outcome Physical Verbal Emotional Identity Mimicking Disability Ethnic Nationality Observance Country of origin Gender Racism Homophobic** Lesbian ** Gay **	Resolve Pathetic Offensive Viral Body language Assertive Tolerate
Topic 3 Touches	Private /Public Personal Penis Vagina Breast * Confusing Surprise Uncomfortable	Facial expression Body language Embarrassed Trust Pranks Blamed Dare	Ungrateful Uncomfortable Genitals*	Sympathy Assertive Dilemma Convince Opponent Strategy Testicles Uncomplicated
Topic 4 Secrets and Telling	Unsure Bribe Threat	By accident Responsible		
Topic 5 Strangers	Stranger Rules Say no/ Get away / Tell	Comments Behave Options Directions Nasty	Steward	Appropriately Wary

