

Kilchreest NS

Stay Safe Policy

Introduction

This policy was devised in line with current recommendations and guidelines [Child Protection Guidelines & Procedures (DES) 2017 and Children First (TUSLA) 2017], relating to child abuse prevention and child protection.

The CAPP (Child Abuse Prevention Programme), more commonly known as Stay Safe, is a primary school based approach to the prevention of child abuse. The aim of the programme is to reduce vulnerability to child abuse and bullying through the provision of a personal safety education programme for children at primary school level.

Aim

The programme aims to give children the skills necessary to enable them to recognise and resist abuse or victimisation, and teaches them that they should always tell an adult that can help, about any situation which they find unsafe, upsetting, threatening, dangerous or abusive.

Format

The Stay Safe programme itself is a personal safety skills programme designed for use with primary school children from Junior Infants through to 6th class. The programme seeks to enhance children's self-protective skills by participation in lessons on safe and unsafe situations, bullying, inappropriate touch, secrets, telling and stranger danger.

The revised Stay Safe programme is presented at four levels in line with the Primary School Curriculum. In Kilchreest NS much of the Stay Safe programme is usually taught in Term 2 every 2nd year, as part of the SPHE (Social Personal and Health Education) curriculum. Children from Junior Infants to Sixth class participate in formal lessons on the Stay Safe Programme. A teacher may decide to revisit topics at other times in the year, if the need arises. Staff will make every effort to ensure that the messages of the programme are reinforced whenever possible.

Collaboration

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 or staysafe.ie for further information. To that end the principal will write to the parent body through the school newsletter in advance of the programme being taught. Parents and Guardians are encouraged to become involved in the programme by discussing each lesson with their child and helping their child to complete worksheets based on the lessons. In the event that a parent wishes to withdraw their child from the Stay Safe Programme a written record of their reasons for doing so will be kept on file.

CPD

Continuing professional development for teachers and other staff members (provided by the PDST), training for Boards of Management (provided by the CPSMA) and information sessions for parents, in the Stay Safe programme, will be facilitated.

Companion Documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Kilchreest NS Child Safeguarding Statement, Risk Assessment & Policy
- KNS RSE Policy
- KNS SPHE Subject Plan
- KNS Anti-Bullying Policy
- KNS Code of Behaviour
- Child Protection Guidelines & Procedures (DES) 2017
- Children First (TUSLA) 2017

Organisation & Planning

The Stay Safe in KNS will be taught in term 2 every second year as part of the Safety & Protection Strand Unit of the S.P.H.E curriculum. *See Appendix 1* for details on specific lessons taught at each class levels.

Implementation, Review and Communication

This policy was fully reviewed, approved and adopted by the Board of Management on **14th December 2021**. The Board of Management will monitor the implementation of all aspects of this policy and amend as required.

The policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier, if necessary.

Next Review Date: December 2023

Signed:

(Principal)

Signed:

(Chairperson B.o.M.)

Appendix 1: Stay Safe

Topics / Lessons taught at each class level

Stay Safe Programme/ Manual	Topic	Lessons	
		Junior Infants	Senior Infants
Junior & Senior Infants	Feeling Safe & Unsafe	All lessons	-
	Friendship & Bullying	Friendship: Lesson: 1	Bullying: Lessons 2-5
	Touches	Mention & Rules	All lessons
	Secrets & Telling	Mention & Rules	All lessons
	Strangers	All lessons	-
		1st Class	2nd Class
1 st & 2 nd Class	Feeling Safe & Unsafe	All lessons	-
	Friendship & Bullying	-	All lessons
	Touches	All lessons	<i>Revision</i>
	Secrets & Telling	All lessons	<i>Revision</i>
	Strangers	-	All lessons
		3rd Class	4th Class
3 rd & 4 th Class	Feeling Safe & Unsafe	All lessons	-
	Friendship & Bullying	-	All lessons
	Touches	-	All lessons
	Secrets & Telling	All lessons	
	Strangers	All lessons	
		5th Class	6th Class
5 th & 6 th Class	Feeling Safe & Unsafe	All lessons	-
	Friendship & Bullying	All lessons	-
	Touches	-	All lessons
	Secrets & Telling	-	All lessons
	Strangers	-	All lessons