

Child Protection – Information for parents

All school staff receive regular training on child protection and are fully aware of the action to be taken if they receive an allegation or have a suspicion that a child may be abused or neglected. This includes receiving disclosures from children. Staff report to our Designated Liaison Person (Róisín) and Deputy Designated Liaison Person, (Deputy Principal, currently - Lisa) and clear procedures are followed.

Our [Child Safeguarding Statement](#) specifies the principles and procedures to be observed in order to keep children safe from harm.

Teachers are *mandated persons* in a school environment. This means they are legally obliged to report harm of children, above a defined threshold, to Tusla and to assist Tusla, if requested, in assessing the concern. However, all staff report any suspicions or allegations, to the DLP.

The school DLP has responsibility for ensuring that the standard reporting procedure is followed, so that suspected child protection concerns are referred promptly to the designated person in the Tusla Child and Family Agency.

If you wish to report a child protection concern that occurred in school, you should speak to the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) in your school and that person will be responsible for making the report.

Any members of public, if they have any concerns about the welfare of a child, can contact the Tusla Child and Family Agency Child Protection Social Work Services. Contact details for local social work duty teams are available on the [Tusla website](#). If you are concerned about an immediate risk to a child, you can also contact An Garda Síochána.

Parenting Supports

There are many times when parents may require support. Tusla provide wrap around support for parents including the provision of parenting programmes and intervention at an early stage to prevent situations getting worse. For more information see:

[Tusla Prevention and Partnership](#)

[Tusla Online Parenting Supports 'Parenting 24seven'](#)

For some information, please look at take a look here: [Child Protection in schools - information for parents and guardians](#)

What is SPHE?

Social, personal and health education provides opportunities to foster the personal development, health and well-being of the child and to help him/her to create and maintain supportive relationships and become an active and responsible citizen in society.

SPHE Resources

The following core Resources are used in the delivery of the SPHE curriculum :

- Walk Tall Manuals
- Stay Safe Programme
- The Relationships and Sexuality Manuals

Other programs are used by teachers, as appropriate, alongside these to teach specific strands & strand units.

Aims of Walk Tall:

- To avert or at least delay experimentation with substances
- To reduce the demand for legal and illegal drugs
- To give primary school children the confidence, skills and knowledge to make healthy choices.

Overview of Stay Safe

Aims of Stay Safe:

- To prevent child abuse by giving children the skills and strategies necessary to enable them to respond safely to any dangerous, upsetting, or abusive situation.
- To teach children how to deal with unsafe or inappropriate touch and never to keep touch a secret.
- To teach children the importance of telling.
- To give children safety strategies to deal with strangers.

Content:

The lessons cover the following areas:

- Feeling safe and unsafe
- Friendship and bullying
- Touches
- Secrets and telling
- Strangers

Overview of RSE

Aims of RSE:

- To promote an understanding of and a healthy attitude to sexuality and relationships
- To promote knowledge of and respect for reproduction
- To promote a sense of wonder and awe at the process of birth and new life

- To enable the child to feel comfortable with his or her sexuality and that of others.

***More information for parents about SPHE [here](#)**