Policy on the Stay Safe Programme

Gaelscoil Inse Chór 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 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 except in 6 Class where the sensitive topics are covered every year.

Children from Junior Infants to Sixth Class participate in formal lessons on the Stay Safe Programme.

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.
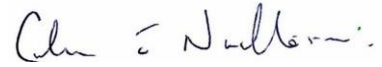
Parents are informed in advance of commencement of teaching the Stay Safe Programme. They are directed to www.pdst.ie/staysafe to see the content of the lessons and for any further information they might need.

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 is required from the parent. This is retained on the child's school file.

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

This plan was ratified by the Board of Management at a meeting on: 16/09/2019

Signed: _____   **Signed:** _____

Chairperson of Board of Management   Principal/Secretary to the Board of Management

Date: 16/09/2019   **Date:** 16/09/2019