



*Tuam Educate  
Together N.S.*

**Tuam Educate Together National School**

## **Stay Safe Policy**

Stay Safe Policy

Jan 2020

Tuam Educate Together National School 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 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 this overview plan should be read in conjunction with the SPHE policy of Tuam Educate Together National School. As per best practice recommendations it will be covered as follows: The Stay Safe programme will be taught in entirety in Senior Infants, 2<sup>nd</sup> class, 4<sup>th</sup> class and 6<sup>th</sup> class. Mini lessons will take place in all other years. (Appendix 1: Stay Safe Vocabulary). Children from Junior Infants to Sixth Class participate in formal lessons on the Stay Safe Programme.

Parents/carers 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](http://www.pdst.ie/staysafe) to see the content of the lessons and for any further information they might need. They may also meet with their child's class teacher to review the material being taught.

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.

## **Implementation**

### **a. Roles and Responsibilities**

The Principal, Deputy Principal and APII (overseen by the BOM) are responsible for overseeing and supporting the implementation of the Stay Safe aspect of the S.P.H.E. Programme.

Class teachers are responsible for the implementation of Stay Safe Programme in their classes, including the distribution of relevant information and notes to parents/carers.

### **b. Timeframe**

This whole-school policy will be implemented from 2020-2021 school year.

## Review

Prior to the launch of this Stay Safe policy, a draft policy was reviewed by staff members and by the Parent Teacher Association.

This policy will be reviewed during the 2022-2023 school year, when we have completed a full school cycle of Junior Infants - Sixth Class.

The policy will be reviewed before then, should a need arise.

## Ratification and Communication

The attention of all newly appointed staff will be drawn to this whole-school plan upon their appointment to the school by the NQT mentor.

This policy will be published on the school website, and a copy of it will be provided to the Parent Teacher Association. A copy of this policy will be made available to the Department of Education and Skills and the Patron, if requested. Hard copies of this, and all school policies, are available at the school upon request.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020.

Signed: Katy Kearney (Chairperson, BOM)

Signed: Mala Bowler (Principal)

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020

Date of next review: March 2023

**Appendix 1: Stay Safe Key Vocabulary**

**Topic 1: Feeling Safe and Unsafe**

<b>Infants</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup></b>
Excited	Frightened	Comfortable	Pity
Happy	Pleased	Embarrassed	Empathy
Scared	Annoyed	Enthusiastic	Sympathy
Upset	Hurt	Foolish	Lonely
Sad	Sorry	Guilty	Depressed
Angry	Calm	Worried	Confused
		Jealous	Exhilarated
		Frustrated	Impatient
		Cheerful	Excluded
		Stupid	Delighted

**Topic 2: Friendship and Bullying**

<b>Infants</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup></b>
Friend(ship)	Respect	Courtesy	Resolve
Sharing	Interview	Honest	Pathetic
Thoughtful	Cyberbullying	Loyal	Offensive
Listening	On purpose	Unacceptable	Viral
Helping	Deliberately	Outcome	Body language
Taking turns	Exclude	Physical	Assertive
Being fair	Include	Verbal	Tolerate
Bullying	Ignore	Emotional	
On purpose	Threaten	Identity	

Hurts	Rumour	Mimicking	
Frightens	agreement	Racism	
More than once		Disability	
Co-operating		Homophobic	
Put-downs		Ethnic	
		Nationality	
		Observance	
		Country of origin	
		Gender	
		Lesbian	
		Gay	

### Topic 3: Touches

Infants	1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup>
Private	Facial expression	Ungrateful	Sympathy
Public	Body language		Assertive
Personal	Embarrassed		Dilemma
Penis	Trust		Convince
Vagina			Opponent
Breast			Strategy
Confusing			
Senses - see, hear, smell, touch, taste			
secret			

**Topic 4: Secrets and Telling**

<b>Infants</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup></b>
Surprise	Pranks		Testicles
Uncomfortable	Blamed		Uncomplicated
Unsure	Dare		
Bribe	By accident		
Threat	responsible		

**Topic 5: Strangers**

<b>Infants</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup></b>
Stranger	Comments	Steward	Appropriately
Rules	Behave		Wary
Say no	Option		
Get away	Directions		
Tell	Nasty		



# Tuam Educate Together N.S.

*Appendix 2: Letter of withdrawal of pupil from the Stay Safe Programme*

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to withdraw my child from the Stay Safe Programme, and I understand the alternative arrangements that may be made. The alternative arrangements are outlined in the school's whole-school R.S.E. policy, and the same arrangements apply to the withdrawal of pupils from the Stay Safe Programme.

I am taking responsibility to cover the topics of the Stay Safe Programme with my child outside of school hours.

I understand that the school cannot guarantee that the other children will not inform my child about the content of these lessons. I am aware that the teacher may also need to make incidental reference to the topics covered at another time while my child is present.

Parent/Carer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**A COPY OF THIS LETTER SHOULD BE KEPT ON THE CHILD'S FILE.**

**A COPY OF THIS LETTER SHOULD BE GIVE TO THE CHILD'S PARENT/CARER FOR THEIR RECORDS.**

