



Scoil Inse Rátha

SPHE Policy

September 2018

This document lays out the procedures that our school follows in teaching the area of Social, Personal and Health Education. SPHE is a curricular area and Stay Safe and RSE are mandatory parts of this curriculum.

***Contexts for SPHE:***

SPHE will be taught in our school through a combination of the following contexts:

- **Positive School Climate and Atmosphere**
  - Little Island NS has created a positive atmosphere by:
- building effective communication
- catering for individual needs
- creating a health-promoting physical environment
- developing democratic processes
- enhancing self-esteem

- fostering respect for diversity
- fostering inclusive and respectful language

- **Discrete time for SPHE**

SPHE is allocated 30 minutes per week on each teacher's timetable. However teachers may allocate more time as necessary to allow for more in-depth exploration of a strand unit.

- **Integration with other subject areas and Linkage within SPHE**

Teachers will endeavour to adopt a thematic approach to SPHE by integrating it with other subject areas and by availing of learning opportunities that may arise.

- ***Approaches and Methodologies:***

We believe that the approaches and methodologies used in SPHE are crucial to the effectiveness of the programme. Active learning is the principal learning and teaching approach recommended for SPHE, therefore we will endeavour to teach SPHE using a variety of strategies which include:

- ❖ drama activities
- ❖ co-operative games
- ❖ use of pictures
- ❖ photographs and visual images
- ❖ written activities
- ❖ use of media
- ❖ information technologies and looking at children's work

## Content and Organisation:

### Resources:

- SPHE Curriculum: see [www.curriculumonline.ie](http://www.curriculumonline.ie) for more details.
- Making the Links 2017: see [www.pdst.ie](http://www.pdst.ie) for more details.
- RSE Books (these are available to teachers from Room 1). See [www.pdst.ie/primary/RSE](http://www.pdst.ie/primary/RSE) for more details.
- Stay Safe: see [www.staysafe.ie](http://www.staysafe.ie) for more details
- Walk Tall: see [www.pdst.ie/walktall](http://www.pdst.ie/walktall) for more details.
- Webwise: [www.webwise.ie](http://www.webwise.ie)
- Weaving Wellbeing (available in 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Classrooms)
- Amber Flag Folder on Drive (school internal server)
- Prim Ed Primary SPHE Resource Books A-G for SI to 6<sup>th</sup> Class (available in relevant classroom).

We will use the following table to make sure that all areas of the SPHE Curriculum are covered for all of our students during their 8 years in our school.

## RSE/Stay Safe/Walk Tall Schedule: Little Island NS

Year 1: JI, 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3rd & 5 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2: SI, 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4th & 6 <sup>th</sup>
<p><b>Term 1:</b>  <b>September &amp; October:</b> Strand: Myself  Strand Unit: Self Identity</p> <p><b>November &amp; December:</b> Strand: Myself &amp; Others  Strand Unit: Myself &amp; My Family</p>	<p><b>Term 1:</b>  <b>September:</b> Strand: Myself &amp; Others  Strand Unit: My Friends &amp; Other People</p> <p><b>October:</b> Strand: Myself &amp; Others  Strand Unit: Relating to Others</p>
<p><b>Term 2: RSE</b></p> <p><b>January - March:</b>  Strand: Myself  Strand Unit: Taking Care of my Body  Strand: Myself  Strand Unit: Growing &amp; Changing</p>	<p><b>Term 2: Stay Safe</b></p> <p><b>Strand: Myself</b>  <b>Strand Unit: Making Decisions</b>  Safety &amp; Protection  RSE: (Pg 84-86 of RSE Book)  <b>4<sup>th</sup> Class: Strand: Myself</b>  <b>Strand Unit: Growing &amp; Changing</b></p>
<p><b>Term 3:</b></p> <p><b>April - June:</b>  Strand: Myself &amp; The Wider World  Strand Unit: Developing Citizenship</p>	<p><b>Term 3:</b></p> <p><b>April:</b>  Strand: Myself &amp; The Wider World  Strand Unit: Media Education</p>

**Dissemination of policy:**

Parents/Guardians will be informed of this policy each year, normally by inclusion in the school newsletter. The Policy will be available to view on our website [www.littleislandns.com](http://www.littleislandns.com) or by request from the office.

**Parental Choice:**

Parents/Guardians who wish their child to opt out of any area of this curriculum should speak to the class teacher about their concerns first. If they still wish their child to opt out they need to put it in writing for school records each year. Their child will be given alternative work and sent to another class for the duration of the lesson or their parents/guardians can collect them from school.

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson