



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 for more details.
- Making the Links 2017: see www.pdst.ie for more details.
- RSE Books (these are available to teachers from Room 1). See www.pdst.ie/primary/RSE for more details.
- Stay Safe: see www.staysafe.ie for more details
- Walk Tall: see www.pdst.ie/walktall for more details.
- Webwise: www.webwise.ie
- Weaving Wellbeing (available in 2nd to 6th Classrooms)
- Amber Flag Folder on Drive (school internal server)
- Prim Ed Primary SPHE Resource Books A-G for SI to 6th 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, 1st, 3rd & 5th	Year 2: SI, 2nd, 4th & 6th
<p>Term 1: September & October: Strand: <i>Myself</i> Strand Unit: <i>Self Identity</i></p> <p>November & December: Strand: <i>Myself & Others</i> Strand Unit: <i>Myself & My Family</i></p>	<p>Term 1: September: Strand: <i>Myself & Others</i> Strand Unit: <i>My Friends & Other People</i></p> <p>October: Strand: <i>Myself & Others</i> Strand Unit: <i>Relating to Others</i></p>
<p>Term 2: RSE</p> <p>January - March: Strand: <i>Myself</i> Strand Unit: <i>Taking Care of my Body</i></p> <p>Strand: <i>Myself</i> Strand Unit: <i>Growing & Changing</i></p>	<p>Term 2: Stay Safe</p> <p>Strand: <i>Myself</i> Strand Unit: <i>Making Decisions</i> <i>Safety & Protection</i></p> <p>4th Class: (girls) RSE: (Pg 195 of RSE Book)</p> <p>4th Class: Strand: <i>Myself</i> Strand Unit: <i>Growing & Changing</i></p>
<p>Term 3:</p> <p>April - June: Strand: <i>Myself & The Wider World</i> Strand Unit: <i>Developing Citizenship</i></p>	<p>Term 3:</p> <p>April: Strand: <i>Myself & The Wider World</i> Strand Unit: <i>Media Education</i></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 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 12/9/2018.

Reviewed: 10/10/2022

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Chairperson