

Scoil Lios na Groí

Lisnagry National School



Dear Parent(s)/ Guardian(s)

The Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE) Curriculum is a core part of the Primary School Curriculum. SPHE provides a unique and exciting opportunity for pupils to develop safety skills, to learn about themselves and others and to make informed decisions about their health, personal lives, and social development. As part of the SPHE curriculum, pupils must be taught both the Stay Safe Programme and the Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Programme. We have implemented a two year SPHE plan to cover the teaching of both.

Stay Safe is an integral part of the SPHE curriculum. The Stay Safe programme is a personal safety education programme designed specifically for primary schools. The aim of Stay Safe is to teach children personal safety skills so they can look after themselves in situations which could be upsetting or dangerous. The programme also teaches children the safety skills necessary to protect themselves from physical or sexual abuse and emphasises the importance of telling a trusted adult about any problems they have. There are five Stay Safe Topics; "Feeling Safe and Unsafe," "Friendship and Bullying," "Touches," "Secrets and Telling" and "Strangers." We will be completing these lessons in all classes in the forthcoming weeks. Co-operation between teachers and parents is essential to the success of this programme. Your child will bring home worksheets which will inform you on the topics being covered in class and how you can reinforce the messages at home. You can familiarise yourself with the content of the Stay Safe lessons at www.staysafe.ie/teachers/resources.htm.

Next year, all classes will be taught the RSE Programme.

We are very aware of both the importance and sensitivity of teaching the Stay Safe programme to our pupils and we thank you for your ongoing support.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

MICHAEL FEENEY
Principal