

Gaelscoil Mhuscraí

POLASAÍ OIDEACHAS CAIDRIMH & GNÉASACHTA

Clár

1. Sonraí scoile
2. Réamhrá
3. Réasúnaíocht
4. Fealsúnacht na scoile
5. Sainmhíniú
6. Nasc le O.S.P.S.
7. Soláthar scoile
8. Aidhmeanna
9. Treoirínte scoile
10. Soláthar do thacaíocht leanúnach
11. Faomhadh & Athbhreithniú

RÉAMHRÁ

Cuireadh an polasaí seo le chéile bunaithe ar chomhoibriú idir múinteoirí, baill boird agus tuismitheoirí. Déanadh an leagan seo den pholasaí a chur le chéile i mí na Nollag 2024. Bhí sé seo mar chuid de phróiseis Féin Mheastóireacht na Scoile ar chúrsaí Folláine i rith na scoilbhlianta 2022-2024.

RÉASÚNAÍOCHT

Cuireadh an polasaí seo le chéile:

- Chun ár ndualgas a chomhlíonadh maidir le ráiteas polasaí a chur ar fáil don O.C.G.
- Chun leanúnachas cur i bhfeidhm agus cur chuigí don O.C.G. a chinntiú inár scoil
- Chun teagmháil dearfach scoile / baile a chur chun cinn, mar aon le rannpháirtíocht in oideachais na bpáistí
- Chun cur in iúl do mhúinteoirí agus tuismitheoirí maidir leis an gelár OCG.

FEALSÚNACHT NA SCOILE

Is scoil Chaitliceach sinn agus mar sin tá ár bpolasaithe go léir curtha i bhfeidhm i mbealach atá oiriúnach d'éiteas na scoile.

Cothaítear éiteas na scoile trí:

- Bheith mothálach agus réalaíoch faoi shaol ár bpáistí i ndomhan atá i gcónaí ag athrú
- Meas cómhalartach a bheith idir na pairtnéirí go léir
- Bheith Páiste lárnach

- Iarracht a dhéanamh a chinntiú go n-éiríonn le gach páiste barr a chumais a shroichint i ngach bealach
- Iarracht a dhéanamh féinmhuinín a chothú sna daltaí go léir chun go mbeidh siad ábalta saol sona freagrach agus iomlán a bheith acu
- Aithníonn éiteas na scoile go bhfuil luachanna difriúla cultúrtha agus creideamh i measc na bpáistí atá ag freastail ar an scoil.
- Aithníonn an scoil gurb iad na tuismitheoirí na príomh-oideachasóirí na bpáistí agus bíimid ag cabhrú leo sa ról sin. Maidir le OCG bíonn an scoil ag tacú le tuismitheoirí. Níl ról lárnach ag an scoil i múineadh cúrsaí OCG.
- Déantar idirdhealú réasúnta chun freastail ar pháistí le riachtanaisí speisialta.

SAINMHÍNIÚ

Cad é O.C.G.?

Déanann O.C.G. iarracht deiseanna a chuir ar fáil do pháistí agus do dhaoine óga foghlaim faoi ghaolta le daoine eile agus gnéasacht an duine, i mbealaigh a chabhraíonn leo smaoineamh agus gníomhú i slí mórálach, tuisceanach agus freagrach.

NASC LE O.S.P.S.

Cabhraíonn O.S.P.S. le cothú oibre na scoile trí shláinte agus dea-bhail na bpáistí agus na daoine óga a chur chun cinn. Tarlaíonn sé seo i gcomhthéacs a bhforbairt mothúcháin, mórálach, sóisialta agus spioradáltach, chómh maith lena bhforbairt intinne, fisiciúil, politiúil, creidmheach agus cruthaitheach.

Tá an fráma oibre OSPS bunaithe ar na snáithe seo a leanas:

1. Mé féin
2. Mé Féin agus Daoine eile
3. Mé Féin agus an Domhain Uile

Is curaclam bíseach é seo le modúl cuí ar an OCG do gach rang. Tá an OCG mar chuid lárnach den OSPS. Clúdófar gnéithe gnéasacha atá leochaileach mar pháirt don snáth; Ag tabhairt aire do mo chorp, Fás agus Athrú, Sábháilteacht agus Cosaint.

Beidh na ceachtanna á mhúineadh de réir éiteas Chaitliceach na scoile agus an scéim I nGrá Dé.

AIDHMEANNA

- Chun cabhrú le daoine óga gaolta cairdiúil agus sláintiúil a chothú

- Chun cabhrú le daoine óga dearcadh agus luachanna sláintiúil a chothú i dtaobh a ngnéasacht féin i módh mórálach, spioradálach agus sóisialta
- Chun cur le forbairt pearsanta, féin mhuintín agus dea-bhail an pháiste
- Chun eolas cruinn a chur ar fáil faoi atáirgeadh agus meas a chur in iúl don pháiste
- Chun cabhrú leis an bpáiste bheith compórdach lena ghnéasacht féin agus daoine eile agus iad ag fás agus ag forbairt

SOLÁTHAR SCOILE

Tá na cláir a leanas in úsáid chun ár bpolasaí a chur i bhfeidhm:

- Cláir Creidimh (I nGrá Dé)
- O.S.P.S.
- An Cúrsa O.C.G.
- Bí Sábháilte
- Misneach
- Ag cruthú na naisc
- Aireachas
- Fí na Folláine (Weaving Wellbeing)
- Talkabout
- Zones of Regulation
- Fun Friends & Friends for Life

Beidh cúrsaí scoile á gcur le cheile maidir le forbairt féinmhuintíne. Go neamhfhoirmiúil beidh atmasféar tuisceanach, tacúil á chothú sa scoil agus beidh Rialacha na Scoile á gcur i bhfeidhm (Cód Iompair srl.)

TREOIRLÍNTE SCOILE

Cúrsaí Curaclaim

- Ábhar curaclama - Leanfar an Curaclam mar atá foilsithe ag an N.C.C.A. ó Naíonáin Bheaga go rang a sé. Beidh na hacmhainní go léir atá in úsáid in oiriúint do pholasaí agus éiteas na scoile
- Tá timthriall dhá bhliain curtha i bhfeidhm sa scoil le haghaidh múineadh na cláir *Bí Sábháilte* agus O.C.G.
 - ⇒ Bliain 1: Bí Sábháilte (Naí Bheaga, Rang 1, Rang 3, Rang 5)
 - ⇒ Bliain 2: O.C.G. (Naí Mhóra, Rang 2, Rang 4 & Rang 6)
- I suíomh rang measctha, beidh an rang /na ranganna is óige tógtha amach as an rang má tá ábhar á mhúineadh nach bhfuil oiriúnach dá n-aois
- Le ábhair atá sain-insneach, múinfear é do bhuachaillí leo féin agus cailíní leo féin ar dtús agus ansin pléifear é mar ghrúpa iomlán le chéile
- Múinfidh cuairteoir na gnéithe gnéasacha atá leochaileach do rang 6 sa tríú téarma, cuirfidh an múinteoir ranga iad ar an eolas faoi pholasaí na scoile agus fanfaidh an múinteoir sa rang i rith an cheachta. Cuirfear tuistí ar an eolas roimhré.

- Cé go múinfear na ceachtanna as Gaeilge, d'fhéadfadh eisceachtaí a bheith ann chun tosaíocht a thabhairt do thuiscint agus rannpháirtíocht an pháiste. Feicfear a leithéid mar dheis comhtháthú leis an mBéarla.

Cúrsaí Eagraíochta

- Sula dtosaíonn cláir O.C.G. agus *Bí Sábháilte*, cuirfidh an múinteoir ranga litir abhaile go tuistí chun go mbeidís ar an eolas
- Má tá tuismitheoirí / caomhnóirí buartha faoin ábhar, is féidir leo dul i dteagmháil leis an múinteoir ranga chun é sin a phlé. I ndiaidh na cainte, má thógtar an cinneadh an páiste a bhaint ó na ceachtanna, caithfear litir a chur chuig an scoil.
- Mar chuid den eolas a thugtar do thuistí nua beidh litir eolais faoi OCG. Déanann an litir seo cur síos ar OCG agus na téamaí a bheidh in úsáid ar scoil. Tugtar aitheantas do thuistí mar príomh-oideachasóirí na bpáistí. (Appendix 1)
- I dtaobh ábhar faoi rún atá pléite sa rang, ní féidir leis an scoil aon fhreagracht a ghlacadh faoin mbealach a pléitear é taobh amuigh den suíomh seo.
- Tá sé de cheart ag aon mhúinteoir gan na hábhair ghoilliúnacha gnéasach O.C.G. a mhúineadh. Luíonn freagracht leis an mBord Bainistíochta a chinntiú go mbeidh an t-ábhar múinte do na páistí ag múinteoir eile nó ag cuairteoir
- Aithníonn an scoil ról na dtuismitheoirí mar phríomhoideachasóirí a bpáistí agus tá an scoil ag obair i ról tacaíochta
- Aithnítear go bhfuil sé de cheart ag tuismitheoir páiste a bhaint amach as rang O.C.G. ar leith ar an tuiscint go bhfuil an tuismitheoir sin iomlán freagrach as an toipic seo a mhúineadh don páiste iad féin. Tá cúram ar an tuismitheoir an cinneadh seo a chur i scríbhinn don scoil

Ag deileáil le ceisteanna

Freagrófar aon cheisteanna atá clúdaithe sa churaclam don aoisghrúpa atá i gceist. Ní bheidh na toipicí a leanas á bplé; ginnhilleadh, féintruailiú agus frithghiniúint. Is féidir ceisteanna a chur ar an múinteoir ó bheal nó ar pháipéar sa rang agus freagrófar iad taobh istigh de theorainn an churaclaim agus an polasaí seo. Má chuirtear ceisteanna nach bhfuil oiriúnach iarrfaidh an múinteoir ar an bpáiste an cheist a chur ar a thuismitheoirí. Ní féidir leis an scoil freagracht rúin a ghlacadh má chuireann páiste ceist phearsanta nó má insíonn said eolas pearsanta fúthu féin.

I dtaca leis an Acht um Thús Áite do Leanaí 2017, tá gach múinteoir mar dhuine sainordaithe agus dá bharr caithfidh aon nochtadh faisnéise dul ar aghaidh go dtí an DIA nó Leas-DIA

Conradh/ Bunrialacha

- Meas do chách
- Tá cead gáire - ach níl cead bheith ag gáire faoi éinne
- Ní cheadaítear ceisteanna pearsanta
- Níl cead daoine a ainmniú nó níl cead labhairt faoi daoine eile i rith na gceachtanna

- Is féidir ábhar na gceachtanna a phlé le tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí, ach níl cead é a phlé le héinne níos óige ná éinne nach bhfuil sa rang inniu

SOLÁTHAR DO THACAÍOCHT LEANÚNACH

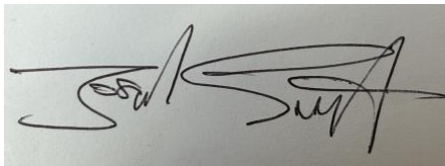
- Cuireadh tugtha do thuistí teacht chun an curaclam a fheiceáil
- Teagmháil rialta le tuistí roimh mhúineadh ceacht le toipic mothálach ann i bhfoirm cóip den leathanach nasc-baile sa leabhar O.C.G.

FAOMHADH & ATHBHREITHNIÚ

Cuirfear an polasaí seo i bhfeidhm le linn na scoilbhliana 2024-25. Déanfar athbhreithniú nuair is gá.

Cuireadh an polasaí seo faoi bhráid an Bhoird Bainistíochta i mí Bealtaine 2025 agus rinneadh faomhadh air.

SÍNITHE



Cathaoirleach



Príomhoide

Dáta: 29/5/25

Gaelscoil Mhuscraí

RELATIONSHIPS & SEXUALITY EDUCATION POLICY

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INTRODUCTION

This policy was put together based on collaboration between teachers, board members and parents. This version of the policy was compiled in December 2024. This was compiled as part of the school's SSE process for Well-Being.

REASONING

This policy was compiled:

- To fulfil our duty to provide a policy statement on RSE
- For continuity of implementation and approaches to RSE in our school
- To promote positive school / home contact in the children's education

- To inform parents and teachers as to the material covered.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE SCHOOL

We are a Catholic school and therefore all our policies are implemented in a way that is appropriate to the ethos of the school.

The school's ethos is fostered by:

- Being sensitive and realistic about our children's lives in a world that is constantly changing
- Mutual respect between all partners
- Being Child-centered
- Strive to ensure that every child succeeds in reaching the maximum of their abilities in every way
- To try to build self-confidence in all the students so that they can live a happy, responsible and complete life.
- This ethos also acknowledges the cultural and religious values of all the pupils attending the school.
- The school recognises that the parents are the primary educators of their children and we support them in that role.
- In the area of R.S.E., above all, the schools' role is subsidiary to that of the parents. We support and complement their work.
- Reasonable accommodation will also be made to facilitate students with disabilities.

DEFINITION

What is RSE?

RSE provides opportunities for children and young people to learn about relationships with other people and human sexuality, in ways that help them think and act in a respectful, considerate and responsible way.

LINK TO SPHE

SPHE helps to promote the work of the school by promoting the health and well-being of children and young people. This takes place in the context of their emotional, social and spiritual development, as well as their mental, physical, political, religious and creative development.

A commonly accepted curricular framework for S.P.H.E. is based on the following three dimensions:

1. Myself
2. Myself and Others
3. Myself and My Community and Environment

A spiral curriculum based on these three dimensions will include suitable modules on Relationships and Sexuality Education for each class. It is clear that the Relationships and Sexuality Programme is correctly defined as being an integral part of the programme outlined above. Sexually sensitive issues will be covered within the strand units:

Taking care of my body

Growing and changing

Safety and protection.

As stated previously, the content of all lessons will be governed by the schools' Catholic ethos as taught in the InGrá Dé/Grow In Love Religion programme.

PURPOSES

- To help young people build friendly and healthy relationships
- To help young people develop healthy attitudes and values about their own sexuality in a dignified, spiritual and social way
- To contribute to the child's personal development, self-confidence and well-being
- To provide accurate information about reproduction and express respect to the child
- To help the child to be comfortable with their own and other people's sexuality as they grow and develop

SCHOOL AIDS

The following programs are used to implement our policy:

- Religious programme – Grow in Love
- SPHE
- The RSE Course
- Be Safe
- *Misneach*
- *Making the Links*
- Meditation
- Weaving Wellbeing
- Talkabout
- Zones of Regulation
- Fun Friends & Friends for Life

School courses will be put together in relation to the development of self-confidence. Informally a considerate, supportive atmosphere will be fostered in the school and School Rules will be enforced (Code of Behaviour etc.)

SCHOOL GUIDELINES

Curriculum Matters

- Curriculum content - The Curriculum will be followed as published by the N.C.C.A. from Infants to sixth class. All the resources used will be adapted to the policy and ethos of the school
- A two-year cycle has been implemented in the school for teaching the Be Safe and O.C.G programs.
 - Year 1: Be Safe (Naí Bheaga, Rang 1, Rang 3, Rang 5)
 - Year 2: RSE (Naí Mhóra, Rang 2, Rang 4 & Rang 6)
- In a mixed class setting, the youngest class(es) will be taken out of the class if material is being taught that is not appropriate for their age
- With gender specific subjects, it will be taught to boys individually and girls individually first and then discussed as a whole group together
- The ‘sexually sensitive issues’ in the sixth class programme will be delivered during the child’s final term in school. A fully trained outside speaker will deliver this programme with the class teacher present. The speaker will be made aware of school policy and parents will be notified of their visit.
- Although the lessons will be taught in Irish, there may be exceptions to prioritize the child's understanding and participation. This will be seen as an opportunity to integrate with their English subject lesson

Organisation

- Before RSE/BE Safe classes begin, the class teacher will send a letter home to parents to inform them.
- If parents / guardians are concerned about the subject, they can contact the class teacher to discuss this. After this, if the decision is taken to withdraw the child from the lessons, a letter must be sent to the class teacher and principal.
- Enclosed in the Enrolment Pack provided to new entrants’ parents/guardians will be an RSE Parent Information Leaflet. This leaflet introduces RSE, acknowledges the parent as primary educator of their child and details the curriculum themes that will be used at each developmental level. (Appendix 1)
- Regarding confidential matters discussed in class, the school cannot take any responsibility for the way it is discussed outside of this space.
- Any teacher has the right not to teach sexually suggestive materials. It is the responsibility of the Board of Management to ensure that the subject is taught to the children by another teacher or a visitor.
- The school recognises the role of parents as the main educators of their children and the school is working in a supporting role.

- It is recognised that a parent has the right to withdraw a child from an RSE class and on the understanding that that parent is fully responsible for teaching this topic to the child themselves. The parent is responsible for putting this decision in writing to the school.

Dealing with questions

Any questions covered in the curriculum for the age group in question will be answered. The following topics will not be discussed; abortion, masturbation and contraception. Questions can be asked of the teacher orally or in writing in class and will be answered within the confines of the curriculum and this policy. If questions are asked that are not appropriate, the teacher will ask the child to ask the question to his parents. The school cannot accept responsibility for secrets if a child asks a personal question or if they tell personal information about themselves.

In relation to the Children First Act 2017, every teacher is a mandated person and therefore any disclosure of information must go to the DLP or Deputy DLP

Basic Rules

- Respect for all
- You are allowed to laugh - but you are not allowed to laugh at anyone
- Personal questions are not allowed
- It is not allowed to name people or it is not allowed to talk about other people during the lessons
- The content of the lessons can be discussed with parents/guardians, but it is not allowed to be discussed with anyone younger than anyone who is not in class today

PROVISION FOR ONGOING SUPPORT

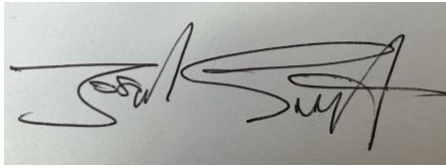
- Parents are invited to come and see the curriculum
- Regular contact with parents before teaching a lesson with a sensitive topic in the form of a copy of the link-home page in the RSE book

APPROVAL & REVIEW

This policy will be implemented during the 2024-25 school year. It will be reviewed when necessary but no later than the 2024-25 school year.

This policy was presented to the Board of Management on 29/5/25 and approved.

SÍNITHE



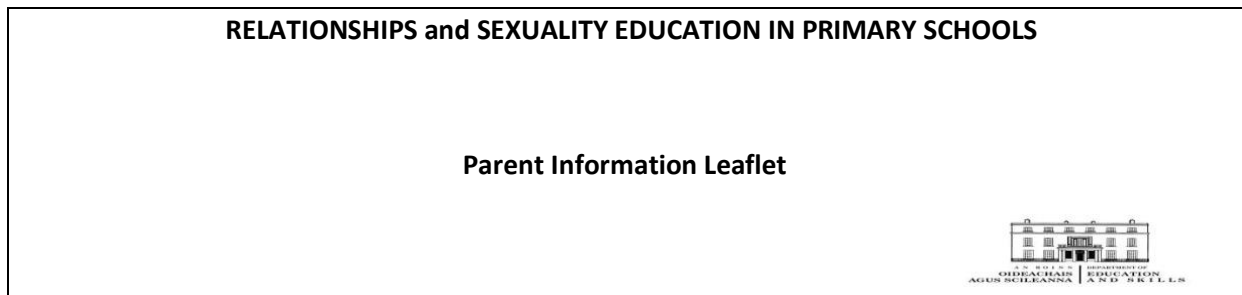
Cathaoirleach



Príomhoide

Dáta:

Appendix 1



Introduction

Learning about relationships and sexuality is a process that goes on throughout our lives. Children learn primarily from their families. Therefore, as a parent, you are the first and most important teacher of your child when it comes to relationships and sexuality. A school based Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) programme can complement and support what children are learning at home. RSE is most effective when schools and parents work in partnership.

Partnership is supported when schools:

- Inform parents about what will be taught in RSE, and when it will be taught
- Consult with parents of a child with a learning difficulty to ensure that his/her needs are being met.
- Inform parents of their right to withdraw their child from the sex education component of RSE.
- Collaborate with parents when reviewing their RSE policy

The Department of Education and Skills requires all schools to teach RSE and to have an RSE policy. Please see the school website for a copy of GS Mhuscraí's policy – www.gaelscoilghuscrain.ie. The policy will ensure that RSE is taught in a way that reflects the core values and ethos of the school.

The purpose of this leaflet is to give you some information about RSE. For more detailed information please go to <https://www.pdst.ie/node/811>.

What is RSE?

RSE teaches children about relationships, sexuality and their own growth and development. The lessons give children the opportunity to reflect on their lives and their relationships in a social, moral and spiritual framework. RSE is taught in the context of a wider subject called Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE).

SPHE provides opportunities to:

- Foster the personal development of children
- Promote the health and well being of children
- Help children to maintain supportive relationships
- Encourage children to become active, responsible citizens

The lessons in SPHE are arranged under three strands: **Myself, Myself and Others, Myself and the Wider World**.

The RSE programme is incorporated into the strands **Myself** and **Myself and Others**. Each strand is sub-divided into strand units. These are shown below, with a very brief summary of their content.

The Stay Safe Programme is also an aspect of SPHE and should be taught under the strand unit 'Personal Safety'. The programme helps children to deal with upsetting, unsafe or frightening situations. For more information go to: www.staysafe.ie

In the event of you wishing to withdraw your child from participating in the RSE programme, arrangements will be made with the principal. Please contact the school principal to discuss this and arrangements will be made to facilitate your request.

Naíonáin Bheaga – Rang 2 / JUNIOR INFANTS TO SECOND CLASS

MYSELF:

Self Identity: What makes me unique and special, becoming self reliant, making choices, expressing opinions.

Taking Care of My Body: Caring for one's body, respect for one's body and that of others, diet, hygiene, being able to name parts of male and female body using appropriate anatomical terms.

Growing and Changing: Understanding growth and change, exploring feelings, becoming aware of new life and birth, understanding a baby's needs.

Safety and Protection: Identifying risks, developing strategies for keeping safe, understanding why there are rules.

MYSELF AND OTHERS:

Myself and My Family: Learning about how families love and take care of each other.

My Friends and Other People: Appreciating friendship, treating others with dignity and respect, recognising bullying behaviour, understanding that it is wrong and knowing what to do about it.

Relating to Others: Listening to others, practicing care and consideration towards others, resolving conflict.

Rang 3-6 / THIRD CLASS TO SIXTH CLASS

MYSELF

Self Identity: Self awareness, self confidence, expressing feelings and opinions, coping with change, becoming more responsible, body image, identifying goals and targets.

Taking Care of My Body: Understanding health, dangers of substance misuse, personal hygiene, nutrition. For 3rd/4th Class: understanding physical changes for boys and girls. For 5th/6th Class children: understanding physical and other changes at puberty, understanding the male and female reproductive system.

Growing and Changing: Identifying and discussing feelings, having a positive sense of self. For 3rd/4th Class children: being able to discuss the development of the human baby from conception to birth, recognising how feelings are influenced by puberty. For 5th/6th Class children: understanding sexual intercourse, conception and birth in the context of a committed, loving relationship. **Please note this topic will be further facilitated with a guest speaker in Rang 6.**

Safety and Protection: Identifying threats to safety, knowing how to keep safe, helping others to be safe.

Making Decisions: Decision making, understanding that decisions have consequences, recognising the role of adults in setting boundaries for young people.

MYSELF AND OTHERS

Myself and My Family: Exploring what it means to belong to a family, identifying behaviour that promotes harmony in families.

My Friends and Other People: Appreciating the importance of friendship, coping with the loss of friendship, learning how to deal with bullying, recognising the importance of courtesy, good manners and caring for others.

Relating to Others: Listening and communication skills, positive strategies for resolving conflict.

