



Stay Safe Policy

Introductory Statement

This policy was devised in line with current recommendations and guidelines [Child Protection Guidelines & Procedures (DES) 2023 and Children First (TUSLA) 2017], relating to child abuse prevention and child protection. The CAPP (Child Abuse Prevention Programme), more commonly known as Stay Safe, is a primary school based approach to the prevention of child abuse. The aim of the programme is to reduce vulnerability to child abuse and bullying through the provision of a personal safety education programme for children at primary school level.

Vision and Aims

The programme aims to give children the skills necessary to enable them to recognise and resist abuse or victimisation, and teaches them that they should always tell an adult that can help, about any situation which they find unsafe, upsetting, threatening, dangerous or abusive.

Content

The Stay Safe programme is a personal safety skills programme designed for use with primary school children from Junior Infants through to 6th class. The programme seeks to enhance children's self-protective skills by participation in lessons on safe and unsafe situations, bullying, inappropriate touch, secrets, telling and stranger danger. The revised Stay Safe programme is presented at four levels in line with the Primary School Curriculum. In Carbury School, the Stay Safe programme is taught in alternate years, as part of the SPHE (Social Personal and Health Education) curriculum. Children from Junior Infants to Sixth class participate in formal lessons on the Stay Safe Programme. A teacher may decide to revisit topics at other times in the year, if the need arises. Staff will make every effort to ensure that the messages of the programme are reinforced whenever possible.

Collaboration

It is considered good practice to inform parents in advance of commencement that the Stay Safe Programme is due to be taught and to direct them to <https://staysafe.ie/> for further information. To that end a letter is sent to the parent prior to teaching the Stay Safe Programme (See Appendix 1). Parents and Guardians are encouraged to become involved in the programme by discussing each lesson with their child and helping their child to complete worksheets based on the lessons. In the event that a parent wishes to withdraw their child from the Stay Safe Programme a written record of their reasons for doing so will be kept on file.

Continuous Professional Development

Continuing professional development for teachers, training for the Board of Management and information sessions for parents in relation to the Stay Safe programme will be facilitated as the need arises.

Related Policies and Documents

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment
- RSE Policy
- SPHE Policy
- Bí Cineálta (Anti- Bullying) Policy
- Code of Behaviour

Organisation and Planning

The Stay Safe Programme in Carbury School will be taught in alternate years. See Appendix 2 for details on specific lessons taught at each class level.

Ratification and Communication

The Board of Management reviews this policy every two years. The Board of Management will monitor the implementation of all aspects of this policy and amend as required. This policy is available on the school website.

Signed: Linda McMahon
Principal

Date: 3rd February 2026

Derek Whitcomb
Chairperson of the Board of Management



Appendix 1

Stay Safe Programme

(Insert date here)

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

The 'Stay Safe' programme is an integral part of the S.P.H.E. curriculum and will be taught from (Insert date here) The aim of the Stay Safe programme is to teach children personal safety skills. This should help equip them to look after themselves in situations which could be upsetting or dangerous. It deals initially with common situations which most children will experience at some stage or other, e.g. getting lost or being bullied. The programme also teaches children the safety skills necessary to protect themselves from physical or sexual abuse. Essentially, the programme teaches children the importance of telling a trusted adult about any problems they may have.

The Stay Safe programme is a joint initiative between the Department of Health and the Department of Education and has been endorsed by all the partners in Education. Co-operation between parents and teachers is essential to its success.

Information is available online at www.staysafe.ie/parents.htm

Should you have any concerns about the programme content please talk to your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

R. Hunter
S.P.H.E. Co-ordinator

Appendix 2

Stay Safe Programme/ Manual	Topic	Lessons	
		Junior Infants	Senior Infants
Junior & Senior Infants	Feeling Safe & Unsafe	All lessons	-
	Friendship & Bullying	Friendship: Lesson: 1	Bullying: Lessons 2-5
	Touches	Mention & Rules	All lessons
	Secrets & Telling	Mention & Rules	All lessons
	Strangers	All lessons	-
		1st Class	2nd Class
1 st & 2 nd Class	Feeling Safe & Unsafe	All lessons	-
	Friendship & Bullying	-	All lessons
	Touches	All lessons	<i>Revision</i>
	Secrets & Telling	All lessons	<i>Revision</i>
	Strangers	-	All lessons
		3rd Class	4th Class
3 rd & 4 th Class	Feeling Safe & Unsafe	All lessons	-
	Friendship & Bullying	-	All lessons
	Touches	-	All lessons
	Secrets & Telling	All lessons	
	Strangers	All lessons	
		5th Class	6th Class
5 th & 6 th Class	Feeling Safe & Unsafe	All lessons	-
	Friendship & Bullying	All lessons	-
	Touches	-	All lessons
	Secrets & Telling	-	All lessons
	Strangers	-	All lessons