



Scoil Chaitríona Junior

**WHOLE SCHOOL
POLICY
&
PLAN**



Scoil Chaitríona Junior

S.P.H.E Whole School Policy

Introductory Statement and Rationale

- (a) In Scoil Chaitríona Junior S.P.H.E provides opportunities for the personal development, health and wellbeing of the individual child.
- (b) Through S.P.H.E children can develop values, attitudes and skills that will inform their decisions now and in the future.

Vision Statement:

S.P.H.E in our school should help the child to learn social, personal and health aspects relating to their lives and the lives of others in the community and wider world.

Aims:

The aims of social, personal and health education are:

- to promote the personal development and well-being of the child.
- to foster in the child a sense of care and respect for himself/herself and others and an appreciation of the dignity of every human being.
- to promote the health of the child and provide a foundation for healthy living in all its aspects.
- to enable the child to make informed decisions and choices about the social, personal and health dimensions of life both now and in the future.

- to develop in the child a sense of social responsibility, a commitment to active and participative citizenship and an appreciation of the democratic way of life.
- to enable the child to respect human and cultural diversity and to appreciate and understand the interdependent nature of the world.

Objectives

When due account is taken of intrinsic abilities and varying circumstances the SPHE curriculum should enable the child to: -Be confident and to have a positive self-esteem

- Develop a sense of personal responsibility and come to understand his or her sexuality and the processes of growth development and reproduction.
- Develop and enhance the social skills of communication, cooperation and conflict resolution.
- Create and maintain supportive relationships both now and in the future.
- Develop an understanding of healthy living, an ability to develop healthy behaviour and willingness to participate in activities that promote and sustain health.
- Develop a sense of safety and an ability to protect himself/herself from danger and abuse.
- Make decisions, solve problems and take appropriate action in various personal, social and health contexts.
- Become aware of, and discerning about the various influences on choices and decisions.
- Begin to identify, review and evaluate the values and attributes that are held by individual and society and to recognise these effects thoughts and actions.
- Respect the environment and develop a sense of responsibility for its long term care.

- Develop some of the skills and abilities necessary for participating fully in groups and in society,
- Become aware of some of the individual and community rights and responsibilities that come from living in a democracy.
- Begin to understand the concepts of personal, local, national, European and global identity.
- Appreciate and respect the diversity that exists in society and the positive contributions of various cultural, religious and social groups.
- Promote the values of a just and caring society in an age-appropriate manner and understand the importance of seeking truth and peace.

Methodologies:

- Active learning strategies will be used whenever possible
- Talk and Discussion
- Collaborative learning
- Problem solving
- Skills through content
- Use of the environment

Active Learning Strategies:

- Drama activities
- Co-operative games
- Pictures, photos, visual images
- Discussion
- Written activities
- Media and ICT
- Looking at children's work

Contexts for S.P.H.E

- Positive school climate and atmosphere
- Specific time on the timetable

- Integrated approach across other subject areas

Assessment:

The primary emphasis is on informal assessment.

- Teacher Observation
- Teacher designed tasks and tests
- Portfolios and projects

Children with Special Needs

All children will have the opportunity to participate in and benefit from the experiences offered in S.P.H.E

Homework: Worksheets based on lessons taught.

Policies and Programmes that support S.P.H.E

- Substance Abuse Policy
- Relationships and Sexuality Education
- stay Safe Programme
- Child Protection

Resources

- Walk Tall
- RSE
- Stay Safe
- Action for Life
- Alive-O
- Earthlink
- All Around Me
- What a Wonderful World

Classroom Planning

The plan of work derives from the overall school plan and reflects school policy on matters related to S.P.H.E.

Weekly/Fortnightly schemes, Cúntas Míosúil, yearly plan.

Staff Development

In-Service training

Parental Involvement

Opportunities for involvement will include:

- Supporting teachers in implementing aspects of the programme.
- Discussing the learning that has taken place in the school.

Community Links

There are a number of people who can support S.P.H.E. :

A local garda, crossing warden, firefighter, nurse or doctor, vet may be invited to the class to reinforce what has been taught.

Success Criteria

The success criteria will be based on how the programme has affected the behaviour and actions of the children, how they resolve conflicts, cope with new situations and respect others.

Implementation

Responsibility.

Our plan is based on shared responsibility between parents, teachers, children, board of management, health professionals and community members.

Time frame

Two year cycle year 1 and year 2

Review

In 3 years time.

Ratification and Communication:

Ratification by Board of Management.

Signed Date