



**SCOIL MHUIRE CARLANSTOWN**  
**CARLANSTOWN, KELLS, CO. MEATH**  
**ROLL NO. 18132 Q**

**SPHE - STAY SAFE POLICY**

*The Stay Safe programme is part of the Social, Personal and Health Education curriculum which all primary schools are required to implement. The Stay Safe programme should be taught in its entirety over one school year. Each topic builds on the learning from the previous topic. Teachers should therefore ensure that topics are taught consecutively, beginning with Topic 1 and working through to Topic 5.*

*The Stay Safe programme is developmentally tailored and contains four sets of lessons suitable for Infants, First and Second classes, Third and Fourth classes, and Fifth and Sixth classes. This approach is compatible with the structure of the SPHE curriculum. The lessons plans are divided into the five Stay Safe Topics:*

- *Feeling Safe and Unsafe*
- *Friendship and Bullying*
- *Touches*
- *Secrets and Telling*
- *Strangers*

*The lessons of the Stay Safe programme are spiral in nature, where similar content is revisited at each level but the processes, approaches and information adopted are designed to reflect the needs of children at a particular time and at their various stages of readiness.*

Stay Safe Topic	Number of Lessons			
	J. Infants S. Infants	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup>
Feeling Safe and Unsafe	3	3	3	3
Friendship and Bullying	3	5	6	6
Touches	2	2	2	2
Secrets and Telling	1	1	1	1
Strangers	1	1	1	1

***What does the Stay Safe programme do?***

*The aim of the Stay Safe programme is to teach children personal safety skills so they can 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*



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*necessary to protect themselves from physical or sexual abuse and emphasises the importance of telling a trusted adult about any problems they have.*

***How is the programme taught?***

*Ideally, children are taught the content of the Stay Safe lessons in the classroom by their usual class teacher, and then discuss the lessons at home with their parents. Teachers and parents work together to ensure that children learn the skills they need to keep safe.*

***How are parents/guardians involved in the programme?***

*As the most important people in a child's life it is essential that parents/guardians are involved in the programme. It's been shown that programmes like Stay Safe are most effective when parents/guardians are actively involved in the process. It is important that parents are aware of the content of the Stay Safe lessons and are able to discuss the lessons with their children.*

*Parents will be notified of the commencement of the programme by letter and encouraged to familiarise themselves with the content of the Stay Safe Lessons at [www.staysafe.ie/teachers/resources.html](http://www.staysafe.ie/teachers/resources.html). Parents can meet with the class teacher if they have any questions to ask. Children may bring home worksheets which will inform parents on the topics being covered in class and how parents can reinforce the messages at home. Children have sometimes used the worksheets to tell their parents/guardians about problems.*