

# St. Nessian's National School

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## **S.P.H.E.**

The subject “Social Personal and Health Education” (**S.P.H.E.**), is a core subject of the revised curriculum for all National schools. It covers a wide range of issues including substance abuse, relationships, sexuality, hygiene, personal safety, citizenship, child abuse prevention, media influence, prejudice and discrimination. “Relationships and Sexuality Education” (**R.S.E.**), is part of the **S.P.H.E.** curriculum.

The Stay Safe Programme is also taught in Senior Infants, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, 4<sup>th</sup> Class and 6<sup>th</sup> Class, as part of the S.P.H.E programme.

**S.P.H.E. /R.S.E.** will be organised in three inter-related ways.

1. In the context of a positive school climate and atmosphere
2. Through the allocation of a specific time in the timetable in order to address sensitive issues
3. Through an integral approach across subject areas.

Any parent who wishes to view the Stay Safe packs or **R.S.E.** Manuals issued by the Department of Education and Science may do so by request through the School Office.

All classes will be taught the approved content; however, a facilitator will continue to give a talk on sexual development (open to parents/guardians) to the girls in 5<sup>th</sup> Class and the boys and girls in 6<sup>th</sup> Class.

Parents/Guardians have the right to withdraw their children from any classes pertaining to sexuality education. These children will be supervised as they engage in other curricular activities. If you wish your child to be withdrawn from the sexuality classes that are part of the **R.S.E.** Programme, please inform your child's teacher in writing before the end of September of any given school year.

**Any Parent/Guardian who does not contact the Class Teacher in writing will be deemed to have given their implicit consent.**