

Scoil Mhuire Maigh Cuilinn

Polasaí Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta 2022
HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY 2022

The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005 requires employers, their representative management, and employees alike to consider safety as a joint responsibility. The safety and health of all Scoil Mhuire employees and pupils is an important objective of the school. Each of us at all levels of the school must co-operate to ensure that safe working becomes an instinctive habit. We commit ourselves as a team to do the job right, first time, in a safe manner, while meeting our job requirements. We will achieve and maintain the highest possible standards of occupational health and safety in compliance with the requirements of all Irish and European legislation as it pertains to our activities.

The Board of Management has conducted a **Safety Risk Assessment**, using the HSA Interactive Risk Assessments for Primary Schools, to ensure that control measures are in place to address identified risks. **Actions Arising from the Risk Assessment** were identified; a list of these actions is available from the school website at:

<https://moycullencentralschool.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Actions-Arising-from-Health-and-Safety-Risk-Assessment-2022.pdf>

The Board of Management ratified a **Safety Statement** which specifies the manner in which the safety and health of persons employed by the school will be addressed. The Safety Statement is available from the school website at:

<https://moycullencentralschool.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Sabhailteacht-%E2%80%93-Safety-Statement-and-Risk-Assessment.pdf>

All staff and stakeholders are encouraged to discuss the contents of this document and/or any ideas they may have to improve safety at any time. If it is considered that a safety concern is not being properly addressed, staff and stakeholders are asked to bring it to the personal attention of the Health & Safety Representative, Ms. Julie Ann Brown or that of the Principal, Mr. Terry Kavanagh.

As well as periodic safety inspections, the Health & Safety Representative, in consultation with the Principal and with the assistance of staff, will complete a thorough safety Inspection of the school area on at least an annual basis. This will provide an on-going upgrade of safety awareness within the school and provide the information necessary to upgrade and maintain the Safety Statement. It is recognised that the writing of a Safety Statement in itself will not increase safety awareness or improve safety standards. The Safety Statement provides a base line for management to build on. In order to increase safety awareness, it is necessary for management and staff to have hands-on involvement in support of the Safety Statement.

Scoil Mhuire will do all that is reasonably practicable to ensure a safe working environment for pupils, staff, contractors and visitors at all times.

In particular, the Scoil Mhuire Board of Management will:

- Provide a team structure that will value the health and safety of all personnel;
- Lead by example and respond to all reasonable health and safety concerns;
- Provide and maintain safe and healthy working conditions, in accordance with all statutory requirements;
- Provide employees with training, information and supervision in a form, manner and, as appropriate, a language that is reasonably likely to be understood;
- Make available all applicable safety or protection devices, information, instruction, training and supervision as is necessary to generate a safe place of work;
- Maintain a constant and continuing interest in health and safety matters pertinent to all the Schools activities;
- Regularly review the Safety Statement and any other safety related documents;
- Carry out on-going assessments of our operations through the medium of audits and inspections.

The Board of Management and all staff of Scoil Mhuire are fully conscious of their duty of care to pupils. The Safety Statement addresses this in detail.


Parents are asked to inform the school in writing if their child suffers from any allergies, long-term or short-term illness and if their child is on medication. Parents of pupils who are on medication or inhalers should consult the school's **Policy on First Aid and the Administration of Medicines**, complete Appendices 1,2,3 and 5, as appropriate and submit to the school. If a child has, for example, a serious nut allergy/allergy to wasp stinging etc., the parents must inform the class teacher and the Principal. If parents have been advised that immediate action may be needed, they must inform the Board of Management in writing via submission of the aforementioned appendices, with advice from GP/Consultant as to what procedure should take place. The school's Policy on First Aid and the Administration of Medicines is available from the school website at:

<https://moycullencentralschool.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Scoil-Mhuire-Administration-of-Medicine-and-First-Aid-Policy-Nov22-.pdf>

Each of us is reminded that every employee has a legal duty under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005 to take reasonable care of the safety, health and welfare of ourselves and of others who may be affected by our acts or omissions at work. It is also the specific duty of any employee to report to their immediate manager any defects in the procedures, systems of work, structure or equipment which might endanger the safety, health or welfare of anyone on site and give the management a reasonable opportunity to correct the situation.

All members of the school community, staff, parents/guardians and ancillary service providers are advised to read the school's Safety Statement.

This policy was re-affirmed by the Board of Management on 15th November 2022.

Chairperson, Board of Management	
Principal	