



SCOIL BHRÍDE EGLANTINE

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Information; Scoil Bhríde Critical Incident Management Plan

Scoil Bhríde aims to protect the well being of it's students, staff and school community by providing a safe and nurturing environment at all times. Our school motto is; *In Safe Hands*

We, in Scoil Bhríde, endeavour to nurture the self esteem of all within our school. We aim to create an environment where everyone is free to question and encouraged to think. Where everyone feels cherished, valued and respected. Where children will learn and grow in honesty, respect and faith.

The Board of Management of Scoil Bhríde, through principal Ger O'Brien and members of the Critical Incident Management team, has drawn up a Critical Incident Management Plan as one element of our school's plans and policies.

Scoil Bhríde has policies which allow us to create a coping, supportive and caring ethos in the school. The school has implemented a number of policies and procedures which ensure the physical safety and psychological safety of the students, staff and school community both in ordinary time and in the event of a critical incident.

Scoil Bhríde recognises a critical incident to be "an incident or sequence of events that overwhelms the normal coping mechanism of the school and disrupts the running of the school" (*NEPS Guidelines and Resource Materials for Schools*).

Critical incidents may involve one or more pupils, staff or members of the school community. Types of incidents might include;

- The death of a member of the school community through sudden death, accident, terminal illness or suicide.
- An intrusion into the school.
- An accident/tragedy in the wider school community.
- Serious damage to the school building through fire, flood or vandalism.
- The disappearance of a member of the school community.
- An accident involving members of the school community.

Aim

Recognising that the key to managing critical incidents is planning, Scoil Bhríde has developed a Critical Incident Management Plan and accompanying supports. Such forward planning will, in the event of an incident, allow staff to react quickly and effectively



and to maintain a sense of control. To ensure that appropriate support is offered to students and staff and ensure that the effects on students and staff will be limited. Forward planning will help to ensure a return to normality as soon as is possible.

Communication

In the event of a critical incident home school communication will be via Aladdin (text or email). At all times, the dignity and wishes of those immediately affected will be respected. Parents, pupils, staff and members of the school community are asked to refrain from speculation or commenting on social media platforms. Staff, parent and community liaison roles have been appointed.

Resources

A bank of resources, prepared by NEPs, has been created for staff and for parents. Staff resources have been shared via Aladdin and parent resources uploaded to our website.

Media Guidelines have been acquired and will be shared with the relevant parties should the need arise.