

# BÍ CINEÁLTA

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Our school's 'Bí Cineálta Policy to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour' is available to read in full on our school website. This leaflet provides an overview of the main points involved.

### Definition of Bullying

Bullying behaviour is **targeted** behaviour, online or offline that **causes harm**. The harm can be physical, emotional and/or social in nature.

Bullying behaviour is **repeated** over and over again and involves an imbalance of power in relationships between two people or groups.

### Bí Cineálta Focus

The school will seek to support all children affected by and displaying bullying behaviour.

The focus is on preventing and addressing bullying behaviour, restoring relationships and building trust.

### Procedures for Parents

If you feel your child is being affected by bullying behaviour, please make contact with your child's class teacher, or support your child in speaking to his/her teacher. Parents may request for the matter to be considered in accordance with our Bí Cineálta policy and procedures.

If parents would prefer for teachers to 'do nothing' and simply to monitor the situation closely for a period of time, this can also be facilitated.

#### Note

*Schools are not expected to investigate or deal with bullying behaviour which occurs outside of school.*

### Procedures for Staff

To determine whether the behaviour reported is bullying behaviour, the school will consider the three **Bí Cineálta questions**. This determination is made by teachers, with support from management as deemed necessary.

#### Targeted

1) Is the behaviour targeted at a specific student or group of students?

#### Intent to cause harm

2) Is the behaviour intended to cause physical, social and/or emotional harm?

#### Repeated

3) Is the behaviour repeated over and over again?

### Next Steps

If the answer to **all three** of the Bí Cineálta questions is **YES**, then the behaviour is bullying behaviour and the behaviour will be addressed using the **Bí Cineálta Procedures**.

Parents will be informed of the next steps in accordance with the school's Bí Cineálta policy.

If the answer to any of the three Bí Cineálta questions is **NO**, then the behaviour is not considered to be bullying behaviour. The Bí Cineálta procedures will not come into effect and parents will be informed of this determination. Instead, inappropriate or hurtful behaviour will be addressed in accordance with the school's **Code of Behaviour**.