

Policy to manage significant emergency situations (Aggression/ Medical)

Grange Post Primary School



Grange Post-Primary School
Iarbhunscoil na Gráinsí
windows of opportunity

Ethos Statement

MSLETB is a community of learners with historic and unique tradition as a provider of education and training. In responding to the needs of the community, it delivers the highest standards of teaching and learning. Schools within MSLETB are democratic, co-educational and multi-denominational in character where policies, practices and attitudes are underpinned by the core values of Respect, Equity and Fairness.

The Board of Management of Grange PPS is publishing this document as the official policy for managing significant emergency situations. MSLETB as Patron of the school has approved this publication.

Mission Statement

Grange Post Primary School is a partnership of staff, students and parents enabling each student to achieve his or her full potential. We aim to inspire a love of learning in all our students, irrespective of ability and through personable and enthusiastic encouragement to lead all on to develop as caring, respectful individuals in a challenging world.

- This procedure for managing significant emergency situations is designed to complement our mission statement by ensuring that the learning environment is safe for the school community, whereby emergency situations will be dealt with in a caring and respectful manner for all participants.

Legislative and Policy Context

This policy operates in conjunction with:

- Education Act 1998
- Education (Welfare) Act 2000
- Children First Act 2015
- Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005
- Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR
- Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (Revised 2021)
- Bí Cineálta: Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour (2024)
- Code of Behaviour

- Child Safeguarding Statement
- Health and Safety Statement
- Data Protection Policy
- Critical Incident Policy

Definitions

Significant Emergency Situation

An incident that presents an immediate and serious risk to the health, safety or wellbeing of students or staff and which cannot be safely managed through normal classroom procedures.

Aggressive Behaviour

Refers to behaviour that is well outside normal misbehaviour and whereby the teacher no longer has control over a student, or behaviour that creates an immediate health and safety risk as a direct result of the behaviour of a student/students.

Serious Medical Issue

Refers to a medical issue that causes a student to be incapacitated to the point where a teacher cannot safely send him/her accompanied to the office, as per the Code of Behaviour.

Procedure to be Followed

The class teacher who is in charge of the group where the incident is underway will, where safe to do so, send two students from the group:

- One student to notify the Principal or Deputy Principal
- One student to notify a teacher/member of staff in the staffroom

The student will clearly state:

“There is an emergency in Room _____. Immediate assistance is required.”

- If an incident happens at lunch/break time, the teacher will send two students to the staff room to request immediate assistance from two members of staff and/or management.
- Should the class teacher who is in charge of the group become incapacitated, where safe to do so, students should notify the nearest available member of staff.

Safety of Other Students

- During the emergency, if the class teacher deems that there is a risk of injury to other students at any point, every reasonable effort should be made to move all other students to the next general-purpose classroom or safe location.
- In a behavioral incident where the remaining students in the class have not been put at risk by virtue of the behavior in question, when management attempts to move the student, if the student refuses to move from the room then the class teacher shall remove the remaining students from the room.

Removal and Management of Student

- The member of management, accompanied where possible by another member of staff, should make every reasonable effort to remove the student from the environment to the main office.
- Whilst the student is being calmed by management, appropriate supervision will be maintained.

Medical Emergency

- In the case of a medical emergency, the class will be removed as soon as possible where necessary.
- Home and/or doctor/ambulance will be contacted as soon as possible and a full written report will be documented.

Personal Safety

- If the teacher's personal safety is at risk at any point, he/she should remove all other students and, if necessary, also leave the room.
- Where a staff member's safety or the safety of others is at immediate risk, reasonable and proportionate action may be taken in line with Department of Education guidance and relevant legislation. Any such incident must be reported to management and documented.

Absconding

- If the student absconds, the teacher will alert management as soon as possible. Management will take any reasonable measures possible in the circumstances to protect the health and safety of the student in question.
- Home will be contacted as soon as possible and An Garda Síochána may also be informed where necessary.

Reporting

- At the earliest opportunity, management and the teacher should organise a factual written report (ranging from a teacher's account to statements from witnesses, as appropriate, as deemed by the Principal/Deputy Principal).

Ratification and Review

The Board of Management fully ratified this policy on the 9th March 2026.

This policy will be reviewed periodically and amended as required.