

CRITICAL INCIDENT POLICY

Scoil Nioclais Naofa, Dunlavin aims to protect the well being of its students and staff by providing a safe and nurturing environment at all times.

Our aim is to establish a Critical Incident Management Team (CIMT) to steer the development and implementation of the plan.

Review and Research

The CIMT should consult resource documents provided to schools as well as publications listed in the resources section of this book.

These include:

When Tragedy Strikes: Guidelines for Effective Critical Management in schools (INTO/Ulster Teachers Union 2000)

Responding to Critical Incidents: Guidelines for Schools (NEPS 2007)

Guidelines for Schools on How to Respond to the Sudden Unexpected Death of a Student (ASTI 1997).

Suicide Prevention in Schools: Best Practice Guidelines (IAS, National Suicide Review Group 2002)

Critical Incident Definition

The staff and management of Scoil Nioclais Naofa recognise a critical incident to be “an incident or sequence of events that overwhelms the normal coping mechanism of the school”. Critical incidents may involve one or more students or staff members, or members of our local community. Types of incidents might include;

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

Aim

The aim of the CIMP is to help school management and staff to react quickly and effectively in the event of an incident, to enable us to maintain a sense of control and to ensure that appropriate support is offered to students and staff. Having a good plan should also help ensure that the effects on the students and staff will be limited. It should enable us to effect a return to normality as soon as possible.