

This year our school has signed up to take part in a HSE initiative – Health Promoting Schools (HPS). The HPS concept is a whole school approach to all aspects of health and well-being and involves all members of the school community. Students, staff, parents and guardians will be consulted to identify priority health areas. Over a period of 2 school years, the school will develop an action plan to address the health area identified during the consultation process.

The process of working towards becoming a HPS requires schools to address their priority area under the following four key areas: environment, curriculum and learning, policy and planning, environment, and partnerships. Schools work at their own pace supported by the HSE Health Promotion and Improvement Dept. In each school, a HPS co-ordinator and HPS team lead out on the progression of health and wellbeing and this work is supported by the school principal, board of management and wider school community. (In our school Claire Gillard will co-ordinate the project.)