



BRÁITHNEACHAS Phoblacht na hÉIREANN

1st of November, 2024

A chara,

It has come to the attention of Sovereign Dáil Éireann, that there are growing concerns amongst many Parents and Teachers around the content and teaching of SPHE at both Junior and Senior Cycle level.

A significant volume of these concerns originates in what appears to be a disproportionate focus on LGBTQ+ issues, particularly Transgender and Queer ideologies. Of considerable concern also, is the teaching of 'gender identity'. These philosophies and systems of belief are being taught as 'fact' within the SPHE Curriculum. The recently published Cass Review indeed corroborates and validate these concerns around gender ideology.

[\(https://cass.independent-review.uk/home/publications/final-report/\)](https://cass.independent-review.uk/home/publications/final-report/).

Additionally, a considerable number of concerns appear to relate to the original SPHE Consultation Process for both Junior and Senior Cycle, expressly, the dearth of engagement with Parents and Parent Bodies. Moreover, I have personally been made aware of a response to a Freedom of Information Request, confirming the exclusion of Secondary School Parent Representatives from a Stakeholders' Meeting on the 2nd of October, 2023, at the Ashling Hotel, Dublin.

This is contrary to Article 34 of the Sovereign Constitution of the Republic of Ireland:

"The State acknowledges that the primary and natural educator of the child is the Family and guarantees to respect and support the inalienable right and duty of the Family Unit, to provide in accordance with their wishes and means, for the moral, intellectual, physical and social education of their children."

The influence of Corporate NGOs and Activist Groups such as *BelongTo*, *Transgender Equality Network Ireland* (TENI) and *ShoutOut*, is very much evident in the SPHE Curriculum and within school-life in general. Indeed, the influence of these Activist Groups appears to take precedence over both the advice and serious concerns expressed by Experts who published the Cass Report.

Under these circumstances, the Sovereign Department of Education & Irish strongly advises that all Secondary School Boards of Management, re-visit their School Risk Assessment, ensuring that the content of the SPHE Curriculum and the influence/role of the aforementioned Activist Groups are considered and included when identifying potential harm/risks that may affect the welfare and safety of all children, and that the School's Child Safeguarding Statement is adjusted to reflect same, accordingly.

Le gach dea-mhéin,

Barra S. de Róiste

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