



FUSE

## Report on FUSE Programme (Anti-Bullying Awareness Programme): Mercy Secondary School Ballymahon

FUSE is a Five Step Intervention Programme. FUSE has designed a programme that combines a Whole School Approach (O Higgins: 2008) with a 5 Step Programme (Darley and Latane: 1970) whose goal is to educate students in how to respond to bullying and by which students, teachers and parents will have acquired the necessary skills to report bullying.

This programme is innovative, research based, and has been enriched by the expertise and experience of the staff at the National Anti-Bullying Centre (ABC).

### **Teachers Involved**

Rachel Ryan: School Programme Coordinator

Wellbeing Teachers (Delivering the programme): Sean Larkin, Una Daly, Rachel Ryan and Louise Duffy

### **Year Group**

2ndYear

### **Programme Aims**

Over the course of one academic year, FUSE aims to:

- Reduce levels of bullying in schools
- Increase reporting of bullying incidents
- Raise student, school staff and parent awareness of online safety
- Increase inclusiveness within the school climate, enabling school staff, students and parents, to tackle bullying and online safety together.

At the beginning of FUSE, nominated teachers will participate in a One-Day Training Programme, which will enable them to deliver workshops to school staff, parents and students.



Post-Programme evaluations will take place with school staff, parents and students. These evaluations will help us to measure the extent to which the programme is achieving its goals and impacting on participant's knowledge of online safety and ability to tackle bullying.

## **Workshops**

5 Workshops: Beginning 4<sup>th</sup> February

Workshop 1: What is Bullying and the Importance of Noticing

Workshop 2: Empathy & Relationships

Workshop 3: Online Safety & Social Media

Workshop 4: Bystanders, Responsibility, and Reporting

Workshop 5: Action Plan

## **Action Plan**

- » Students are provided with the Action Plan Activity Sheet.
- » Students can work as a whole class, in small teams, or individually.
- » Consider the following to write your action plan:
  - » How would I notice a bad behaviour?
  - » Why is it important to take action?
  - » Why is it important that I should take action? » How can I take action?
  - » What could adults in and outside of school do?

## **Phase Four: Post Survey**

Once the programme is implemented, FUSE staff will conduct an anonymous online survey to students, teachers and parents that aims to measure the confidence in their ability to report bullying incidents after participating in the FUSE programme. By running this survey we will ensure that our programme is effective and that we are contributing to create a culture of reporting bullying.

### **Online Survey for students.**

The online survey is anonymous and the link to it will be first provided from FUSE to teachers. For FUSE, consent and ethical procedures are fundamental. As such, before students gain access to online surveys, our design includes a double parental\guardian consent that has three phases:

Phase 1) Plain Language Statement (where we describe the research) and consent form for parents to allow their child to participate

Phase 2) FUSE data privacy notice for parents\guardians (where we inform about who we store the data)

Phase 3) Plain Language Statement and consent form for students

It is important to notice that in order to maintain participants anonymity, the link to the survey is first sent to the teachers, who will then send it to the parents, who will complete the survey with their children.



### **Online Survey for teachers.**

This survey is for teachers who have delivered the programme. FUSE will send the link to teachers once they finish the implementation of the programme.

### **Online Survey for parents\guardians**

All the parents who have accessed or attended FUSE live sessions on Facebook will receive a link to our survey.

And what is the online survey about?

Based on feedback requests to keep the survey short, we have created our own instrument . This instrument is simple, short and user friendly. It also aims to measure the confidence in the ability to report bullying after attending our programme. The technical details of our instrument are described on the following paragraphs:

### **Instrument**

The instrument measures individuals' self-efficacy, which is defined as the "confidence in the ability to exert control over one's own motivation, behavior, and social environment" and it aims to assess the 5-step model that will be covered in FUSE workshops. The main question is to understand how

The FUSE programme has increased students parents and teachers confidence in their ability to

1. Noticing bullying.
2. Understanding the emergency of bullying.
3. Taking personal responsibility to tackle the incident.
4. Knowing what to do and how to appropriately respond.
5. Reporting bullying.

The instrument is anonymous, no personal data is collected, and it is only 30 minutes long.

### **Analysis.**

The analysis will take place at ABC FUSE offices in DCU, using secured online storage systems. The first step for the data analysis is the construct validation of the instrument that is developed for the FUSE programme. In order to accomplish it, both Exploratory and Confirmatory Factor Analysis (EFA, CFA) will be performed.

After the construct validation, frequencies and rates of the reported answers will be calculated using descriptive statistics.

Finally, inferential statistics will be performed in order to test the hypothesis of our research, see the data of the sample and make generalizations about the population.

More specifically, t-tests, ANOVAs, correlation and regression analysis will be performed. However, it should be noted that the nature of the data will reveal if other, more advanced, statistical techniques will be used, as well as if parametric or non parametric tests will be used.

### **RESULTS:**



If the student feels that the programme has created more confidence in their abilities to tackle bullying our programme will be therefore validated and then significantly, the programme will contribute to tackle bullying nationally and internationally.

### **NEXT STEPS**

November 4th - Full school survey on Bullying

Staff inservice and training

Delivering of FUSE to current 2nd Year (2021 and 2022)