



**An Bille um Gharchabhair agus Meabhairshláinte i Scoileanna (Oiliúint
Tosaigh ar Mhúinteoirí), 2018**

First Aid and Mental Health in Schools (Initial Teacher Training) Bill 2018

Mar a tionscnaíodh

As initiated



**AN BILLE UM GHARCHABHAIR AGUS MEABHAIRSHLÁINTE I SCOILEANNA
(OILIÚINT TOSAIGH AR MHÚINTEOIRÍ), 2018
FIRST AID AND MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS (INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING)
BILL 2018**

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ACTS REFERRED TO

Education Act 1998 (No. 51)

Teaching Council Act 2001 (No. 8)



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(OILIÚINT TOSAIGH AR MHÚINTEOIRÍ), 2018
FIRST AID AND MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS (INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING)
BILL 2018**

Bill

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entitled

An Act to provide for the introduction of a requirement that initial teacher training encompasses training in occupational first aid response and mental health first aid; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Oireachtas as follows:

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Interpretation

1. In this Act—

“Board of Management” means—

(a) in respect of a primary school or post-primary school the board or other equivalent forum which is charged with responsibility of the oversight, management and governance of the school,

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(b) in respect of a pre-school service means the proprietor or other designated person in charge;

“member of staff” means a teacher or special needs assistant or other person who is formally qualified to provide tuition or supervision at a pre-school service, primary school, or post-primary school;

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“Minister” means the Minister for Education and Skills;

“post-primary school” means a school which is recognised by the Minister in accordance with section 10 of the Education Act 1998 and which provides post-primary education to its students;

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“pre-school service” means any pre-school, play group, day nursery, crèche, day-care or other similar service which caters for pre-school children, including those grant-aided by the Health Service Executive;

“primary school” means a school which is recognised by the Minister in accordance with section 10 of the Education Act 1998 and which provides primary education to its students and which may also provide early childhood education;

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“Teaching Council” means the Teaching Council established under the Teaching Council Act 2001.

Regulations

2. (1) The Minister may make regulations prescribing any matter which is referred to in this Act as prescribed or to be prescribed or in relation to any matter referred to in this Act as the subject of regulations or for the purposes of enabling any provision of this Act to have full effect. 5
- (2) Every regulation or order made by the Minister shall be laid before each House of the Oireachtas as soon as practicable after they are made and, if a resolution annulling the regulation, order or rules is passed by either House within the next subsequent 21 days on which that House has sat after the regulation, order or rules are laid before it, the regulation, order or rules shall be annulled accordingly, but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done thereunder. 10
- (3) Regulations made under this Act may—
- (a) include such consequential, incidental, transitional or supplementary provisions as may be considered by the Minister to be necessary or appropriate for the purposes of this Act, and 15
 - (b) apply, either generally or by reference, to a specified class or classes of persons or category or categories of recognised school or to any other matter as may be considered by the Minister to be appropriate.

First aid and mental health training for new teachers

3. (1) The Minister, having consulted with the Teaching Council, shall require programmes of initial teacher education and training provided by institutions of higher education to incorporate a prescribed level of training in— 20
- (a) occupational first aid response, and
 - (b) mental health first aid.
- (2) When making a requirement under this section, the Minister may provide guidance on the course syllabus for the training of persons in— 25
- (a) occupational first aid response, and
 - (b) mental health first aid training.
- (3) Without prejudice to the generality of *subsection (2)(b)* the syllabus relating to mental health first aid training shall incorporate training in respect of— 30
- (a) indicators of mental health issues in children,
 - (b) indicators of anxiety and depression,
 - (c) information on eating disorders, and
 - (d) the steps to be taken to assist and support a child.

First aid training prerequisite for employment

4. A pre-school service, primary school, or post-primary school shall not offer a person a position as a member of staff unless that person has produced evidence of having successfully completed— 35

- (a) the required initial training in occupational first aid and mental health first aid under *section 3*,
- (b) a course of training in occupational first aid and mental health first aid,
- (c) the required refresher training in occupational first aid and mental health first aid.

Duty on Board of Management to ensure compliance

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5. It shall be the duty of each Board of Management to ensure that the school does not employ a person as a member of staff in circumstances where that person has not produced evidence of successful completion of one or more of the types of training which is referred to in *section 4*.

Short title and commencement

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6. (1) This Act may be cited as the First Aid and Mental Health in Schools (Initial Teacher Training) Act 2018.
- (2) (a) Save for *sections 4* and *5*, this Act comes into operation on 1 January 2019.
- (b) *Sections 4* and *5* shall come into operation on such day or days as the Minister may by order or orders appoint, provided such day or days are not earlier than 1 January 2021.

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An Bille um Gharchabhair agus
Meabhairshláinte i Scoileanna (Oiliúint
Tosaigh ar Mhúinteoirí), 2018

BILLE

(mar a tionscnaíodh)

dá ngairtear

Acht do dhéanamh socrú maidir le ceanglas a thabhairt isteach go ndéanfar oiliúint sa fhreagairt garchabhrach ceirde agus sa gharchabhair mheabhairshláinte a chuimsiú san oiliúint tosaigh ar mhúinteoirí; agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe gaolmhara.

*Na Seanadóirí Robbie Gallagher, Diarmuid Mac
Liam agus Keith Swanick a thug isteach,*

2 Bealtaine, 2018

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(Initial Teacher Training) Bill 2018

BILL

(as initiated)

entitled

An Act to provide for the introduction of a requirement that initial teacher training encompasses training in occupational first aid response and mental health first aid; and to provide for related matters.

*Introduced by Senators Robbie Gallagher, Diarmuid
Wilson and Keith Swanick,*

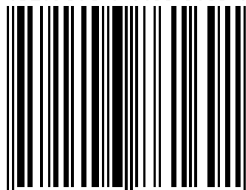
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