



**An Bille Oideachais (Éigeandálaí Leighis i Scoileanna),
2026**

Education (Medical Emergencies In Schools) Bill 2026

Meabhrán Miniúcháin
Explanatory Memorandum



**AN BILLE OIDEACHAIS (ÉIGEANDÁLAÍ LEIGHIS I
SCOILEANNA), 2026
EDUCATION (MEDICAL EMERGENCIES IN SCHOOLS)
BILL 2026**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Purpose of Bill

A 2024 report by Medical Emergency Response Ireland (“How Prepared are Irish Schools for a Medical Emergency?”) found that most primary school staff have not been trained to use life-saving equipment such as adrenaline auto-injectors. There must be greater awareness of the need to provide for emergency first aid in our schools, with training and equipment to enable staff respond to medical emergencies and with quick access to life-saving medicines. The purpose of this Bill is to provide a framework for such improved access to first aid, including auto-injectors and emergency medicines, in the primary and secondary school environment.

Provisions of Bill

Section 1 of the Bill seeks to amend section 33 of the Education Act 1998, which enables the Minister for Education and Youth to make regulations concerning specified matters relating to schools. The amendment would insert a new paragraph (ja), so that the Minister would be entitled to make regulations in order to promote the participation of sufficient staff in approved courses of training in first aid for medical emergencies, including the use of medical equipment acquired and maintained for the purpose. The paragraph extends to promoting the entry of a greater number of schools in the list maintained by the Health Products Regulatory Authority of organisations who have staff trained and authorised to administer certain specified prescription-only medicinal products without a prescription, for the purpose of saving life or reducing severe distress in medical emergencies.

Section 2 provides in standard form for the short title of the Bill when passed and for its citation and construction together with the Education Acts 1878 to 2022.

*Eoghan Kenny, TD,
Feabhra, 2026.*

