Summary of Appendices

Appendix A	Bí Cineálta Policy	Template document must be used as a basis for each school's Bí Cineálta Policy.
Appendix B	Studentfriendly Bí Cineálta Policy	Easy to understand policy must be developed by each school and template can be used by schools for this.
Appendix C	Guide to Addressing Bullying Behaviour	Guide can be used to address bullying behaviour.
Appendix D	Guide to providing bullying behaviour update to board of management	Guide can be used to assist Principals in providing bullying behaviour update to board of management.
Appendix E	Review of Bí Cineálta Policy Notification of Annual	The Review template must be completed when the Bí Cineálta policy is reviewed. The template can be used to notify the school
Appendix F	Review	community that the annual review has been completed.
Appendix G	Bí Cineálta – Overview of the Procedures	This is an overview of the key areas of change from the 2013 antibullying procedures for schools.

Appendix A School Bí Cineálta Policy to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour Bí Cineálta Policy to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour

The Board of Management of

following policy to prevent and address bullying behaviour.

This policy fully complies with the requirements of Bi Cineálta: Procedure of Preventional Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2024.

The board of management acknowledges that bullying behaviour interferes with the rights of the child as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. We all, as a school community, have a responsibility to work together to prevent and address bullying behaviour and to deal with the negative impact of bullying behaviour.

We are committed to ensuring that all students who attend our school are kept safe from harm and that the wellbeing of our students is at the forefront of everything that we do. We recognise the negative impact that bullying behaviour can have on the lives of our students and we are fully committed to preventing and addressing bullying behaviour.

We confirm that we will, in accordance with our obligations under equality legislation, take all such steps that are reasonably practicable to prevent the harassment of students or staff on any of the nine grounds specified: gender, civil status, family status, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, race and membership of the Traveller community.

Definition of bullying

Bullying is defined in *Cineáltas*: Action Plan on Bullying and Bí Cineálta: Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post-Primary Schools as targeted behaviour, online or offline that causes harm. The harm caused can be physical, social and/or emotional in nature. Bullying behaviour is repeated over time and involves an imbalance of power in relationships between two people or groups of people in society. The detailed definition is provided in Chapter 2 of the Bí Cineálta procedures.

Each school is required to develop and implement a Bí Cineálta policy that sets out how the school community prevents and addresses bullying behaviour. Strategies to deal with inappropriate behaviour that is not bullying behaviour are provided for within the school's Code of Behaviour.

Section A: Development/review of our Bi Cineálta Policy to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour

All members of our school community were provided with the opportunity to input into the development/review of this policy.

	Date consulted	Method of consultation
School Staff		
Students		
Parents		
Board of management		
Wider school community as appropriate, for example, bus drivers		
Date policy was approved:		
Date policy was last reviewed:		

Section B: Preventing Bullying Behaviour

This section sets out the prevention strategies that will be used by the school. These include strategies specifically aimed at preventing online bullying behaviour, homophobic and transphobic bullying behaviour, racist bullying behaviour, sexist bullying behaviour and sexual harassment as appropriate (see Chapter 5 of the Bí Cineálta procedures):

The school has the following supervision and monitoring policies in place to prevent and address bullying behaviour (see Chapter 5 of the Bí Cineálta procedures):			
address bullying behaviour (see Chapter 5 of the Bi Circuita procedures).			
Section C: Addressing Bullying Behaviour			
The teacher(s) with responsibility for addressing bullying behaviour is (are) as follows:			
When bullying behaviour occurs, the school will:			
> ensure that the student experiencing bullying behaviour is heard and reassured			
> seek to ensure the privacy of those involved			
> conduct all conversations with sensitivity			
> consider the age and ability of those involved			
> listen to the views of the student who is experiencing the bullying behaviour as to how			
best to address the situation			
> take action in a timely manner			
> inform parents of those involved			
The stage that will be taken by the selection of the determine if by this a behaviour become a			
The steps that will be taken by the school to determine if bullying behaviour has occurred, the approaches taken to address the bullying behaviour and to review progress are as			
follows (see Chapter 6 of the Bí Cineálta procedures):			
The school will use the following approaches to support those who experience, witness			
and display bullying behaviour (see Chapter 6 of the Bí Cineálta procedures):			

All bullying behaviour will be recorded. This will include the type of behaviour, where and when it took place, and the date of the engagement with students and parents. The actions and supports agreed to address bullying behaviour will be documented. If the bullying behaviour is a child protection concern the matter will be addressed without delay in accordance with *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools*.

Section D: Oversight

The principal will present an update on bullying behaviour at each board of management meeting. This update will include the number of incidents of bullying behaviour that have been reported since the last meeting, the number of ongoing incidents and the total number of incidents since the beginning of the school year. Where incidents of bullying behaviour have occurred, the principal will also provide a verbal update which will include where relevant, information relating to trends and patterns identified, strategies used to address the bullying behaviour and any wider strategies to prevent and address bullying behaviour where relevant. This update does not contain personal or identifying information. See Chapter 7 of the Bí Cineálta procedures.

This policy is available to our school community on the school's website and in hard copy on request. A student friendly version of this policy is displayed in the school and is also available on our website and in hard copy on request.

This policy and its implementation will be reviewed, following input from our school community, each calendar year or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this policy refers.

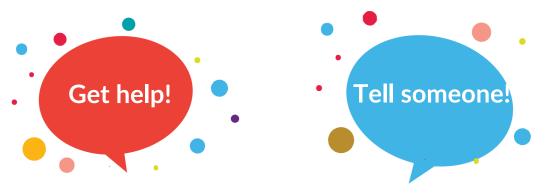
Signed:	Date:
(Chairperson of board of management)	
Signed:	Date:
(Principal)	

Appendix B StudentFriendly Bí Cineálta Policy

Bí Cineálta!

We want everyone at our school to feel safe and happy.

If you think that you are being bullied or someone else is being bullied, you need to tell a teacher or another adult that you trust. They will know what to do to help.



If a student tells a staff member that they think they are being bullied, we will:

- >talk with the student
- >ask the student what they want to happen
- >work out a plan together
- > talk to their parents
- > talk to the other student(s) involved
- >talk with the other student's parents

Bullying behaviour is when someone keeps being mean or hur**琀**ul to others on purpose over and over again.

Please
tell someone if you
think that you are
being bullied or
someone else is
being bullied.

Our school
has a Bí Cineálta policy to try
to stop bullying behaviour.
We look at this policy every year to
see what is working well or what could
work be琀er.
We will ask you what

you think.

When it happens a lot. Not just once.

Appendix C Guide to Addressing Bullying Behaviour

The whole school community has a responsibility to prevent and address bullying behaviour. Schools should work in partnership with their patron, board of management, staff, students and their parents to develop and implement their Bí Cineálta policy.

This appendix is intended as a guide to addressing bullying behaviour. It is based on the information contained in Chapter 6 of the Bí Cineálta Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post-Primary Schools.

Approach

The primary aim in addressing reports of bullying behaviour should be to stop the bullying behaviour and to restore, as far as practicable, the relationships of the students involved, rather than to apportion blame.

When addressing bullying behaviour teachers should:

- ensure that the student experiencing bullying behaviour feels listened to and reassured
- > seek to ensure the privacy of those involved
- > conduct all conversations with sensitivity
- > consider the age and ability of the students involved
- > listen to the views of the student who is experiencing the bullying behaviour as to how best to address the situation
- > take action in a timely manner
- > inform parents of those involved

Identifying if bullying behaviour has occurred

Bullying is defined in *Cineáltas*: Action Plan on Bullying and Bí Cineálta: Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post-Primary Schools as targeted behaviour, online or offline that causes harm. The harm caused can be physical, social and/or emotional in nature. Bullying behaviour is repeated over time and involves an imbalance of power in relationships between two people or groups of people in society. The detailed definition is provided in Chapter 2 of the Bí Cineálta procedures.

To determine whether the behaviour reported is bullying behaviour you should consider the following questions:

- 1. Is the behaviour targeted at a specific student or group of students?
- 2. Is the behaviour intended to cause physical, social or emotional harm?
- 3. Is the behaviour repeated?

If the answer to each of the questions above is **Yes**, then the behaviour is bullying behaviour and the behaviour should be addressed using the Bí Cineálta Procedures.

Note: Oneoff incidents may be considered bullying in certain circumstances. A single hurtful message <u>posted on social media</u> can be considered bullying behaviour as it has a high likelihood of being shared multiple times and thus becomes a repeated behaviour.

If the answer to any of these questions is No, then the behaviour is not bullying behaviour.

Strategies to deal with inappropriate behaviour are provided for within the school's Code of Behaviour.

When identifying if bullying behaviour has occurred teachers should consider what, where, when and why?

- > if a group of students is involved, each student should be engaged with individually at first
- > thereafter, all students involved should be met as a group
- > at the group meeting, each student should be asked for their account of what happened to ensure that everyone in the group is clear about each other's views
- > each student should be supported as appropriate, following the group meeting
- > it may be helpful to ask the students involved to write down their account of the incident(s)

Where bullying behaviour has occurred

- > parents are an integral part of the school community and play an important role, in partnership with schools, in addressing bullying behaviour. Where bullying behaviour has occurred, the parents of the students involved must be contacted at an early stage to inform them of the matter and to consult with them on the actions to be taken to address the behaviour
- > it is important to listen to the views of the student who is experiencing the bullying behaviour as to how best to address the situation
- a record should be kept of the engagement with all involved
- this record should document the form and type of bullying behaviour, if known (see Section 2.5 and 2.7 of the Bi Cineálta procedures), where and when it took place and the date of the initial engagement with the students involved and their parents
- the record should include the views of the students and their parents regarding the actions to be taken to address the bullying behaviour

Follow up where bullying behaviour has occured

- > the teacher must engage with the students involved and their parents again no more than 20 school days after the initial engagement
- > important factors to consider as part of this engagement are the nature of the bullying behaviour, the effectiveness of the strategies used to address the bullying behaviour and the relationship between the students involved
- > the teacher should document the review with students and their parents to determine if the bullying behaviour has ceased and the views of students and their parents in relation to this

- > the date that it has been determined that the bullying behaviour has ceased should also be recorded
- > any engagement with external services/supports should also be noted
- > ongoing supervision and support may be needed for the students involved even where bullying behaviour has ceased
- > if the bullying behaviour has not ceased the teacher should review the strategies used in consultation with the students involved and their parents. A timeframe should be agreed for further engagement until the bullying behaviour has ceased
- > if it becomes clear that the student who is displaying the bullying behaviour is continuing to display the behaviour, then the school consideration should be given to using the strategies to deal with inappropriate behaviour as provided for within the school's Code of Behaviour. If disciplinary sanctions are considered, this is a matter between the relevant student, their parents and the school
- if a parent(s) is not satisfied with how the bullying behaviour has been addressed by the school, in accordance with the Bí Cineálta Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post-Primary Schools. they should be referred to the school's complaints procedures
- if a parent is dissatisfied with how a complaint has been handled, they may make a complaint to the Ombudsman for Children if they believe that the school's actions have had a negative effect on the student

Appendix D

Guide to Providing Bullying Behaviour Update

Guide to providing Bullying Behaviour Update for board of management meeting of DD/MM/YYYY

Having reviewed the details of the incidents of bullying behaviour that have been reported since the previous board of management meeting, the principal must provide the following information at each ordinary meeting of the board of management:

Total number of new incidents of bullying behaviour reported since the last board of management meeting.	
Total number of incidents of bullying behaviour currently ongoing.	
Total number of incidents of bullying behaviour reported since the beginning of this school year.	

Where incidents of bullying behaviour have been reported since the last meeting, the update must include a verbal report which should include the following information where relevant:

- > the trends and patterns identified such as the form of bullying behaviour, type of bullying behaviour if known, location of bullying behaviour, when it occurred etc.
- > the strategies used to address the bullying behaviour
- > any wider strategies to prevent and address bullying behaviour
- > if any serious incidents of bullying behaviour have occurred which have had a serious adverse impact on a student
- > if a parent has informed the school that a student has left the school because of reported bullying behaviour
- if any additional support is needed from the board of management
- if the school's Bí Cineálta policy requires urgent review in advance of the annual review

This update should not include any personal information or information that could identify the students involved.

Appendix E Review of the Bí Cineálta Policy

The Board of Management (the Board) must undertake an annual (calendar) review of the school's Bí Cineálta policy and its implementation in consultation with the school community. As part of the review, this document must be completed.

Bí Cineálta Policy Review

1.V	1.When did the Board formally adopt its Bí Cineálta policy to prevent and address bullying behaviour in accordance with the Bí Cineálta Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools? Insert date when the Bí Cineálta policy was last adopted by the school//20			
2.V	2. Where in the school is the studentfriendly Bí Cineálta policy displayed?			
3.V	Vhat date did the Board publish the Bí Cineálta policy and the student friendly policy on the school website?/20			
4.	How has the studentfriendly policy been communicated to students?			
5.	How has the Bí Cineálta policy and studentfriendly policy been communicated to parents			
6.	Have all school staff been made aware of the, school's Bí Cineálta policy and the Bí Cineálta Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post-Primary Schools?			
7.	Does the Bí Cineálta policy document the strategies that the school uses to prevent bullying behaviour?			

8.	Has the Board received and minuted the Bullying Behaviour Update presented by the principal at every ordinary board meeting ove rthe last calendar year?	Yes No
9.	Has the Board discussed how the school is addressing all reports of bullying behaviour.	Yes No
10	.ls the Board satisfied that all incidents of bullying behaviour are addressed in accordance with the school's Bí Cineálta Policy?	Yes No
11.	Have the prevention strategies in the Bí Cineálta policy been implemented?	Yes No
12.	Has the Board discussed the effectiveness of the strategies used to prevent bullying behaviour?	Yes No
13.	How have (a) parents, (b) students and (c) school staff been consulted with as part of the review of the Bí Cineálta Policy?	
14.	Outline any aspects of the school's Bí Cineálta policy and/or its implementation that have been identified as requiring further improvement as part of this review:	
15.	Where areas for improvement have been identified, outline how these will be addressed and whether an action plan with timeframes has been developed?	

16.Does the studentfriendly policy need to be this review and if so why?	oe updated as a result of	
17.Does the school refer parents to the comhave a complaint about how the school has behaviour?		Yes No
18. Has a parent informed the school that a student has left the school due to reported bullying behaviour?		
19.Has the Office of the Ombudsman for Children initiated or completed an investigation into how the school has addressed an incident of bullying behaviour?		
Signed:	Signed:	
(Chairperson of board of management) (Principal)		
Date:	Date:	
Date of next review:		

Appendix F Notification regarding the board of management's annual review of the school's Bí Cineálta Policy

The Board of Management of	confirms that the board
9	ool's Bí Cineálta Policy to Prevent and Address was completed at the board of management
	vith the requirements of the Department of t and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and
Signed:	_ Signed:
(Chairperson of Board of management)	(Principal)
Date:	Date:

Appendix G

Overview of the Bí Cineálta Procedures for Preventing and Addressing Bullying Behaviour

The following is a guide to the main changes between the requirements of the 2013 Anti-bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools and the requirements of the 2024 Bí Cineálta procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post-Primary Schools, which replace the 2013 procedures. This is not an exhaustive list.

	•	I members of the school community must work together in
	of the school community	partnership to prevent and address bullying behaviour at school.
L	egal basis	Legislation underpinning Bí Cineálta:
		Children First Act 2015.
		Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Act 2020 also known as Coco's Law.
Chapter 2W	/hat is bullying L	Ipdated definition of bullying behaviour based on Cineáltas:
b	oehaviour?	Action Plan on Bullying (2022).
	Criminal	Updated information on when bullying behaviour can be
b	pehaviour	considered criminal behaviour.
	Child protection concerns	Updated information relating to when bullying behaviour becomes a child protection concern.
Chapter 3Im	npact of	Updated information on how bullying behaviour can impact
	oullying oehaviour	students who experience bullying behaviour, students who witness the behaviour and students who engage in bullying behaviour.
Chapter 4Bí	Cineálta	Schools must engage with the whole school community to
P	Policy	develop their Bí Cineálta policy, using the template in Appendix A.
		The policy must list preventative strategies that are used including those to specifically prevent cyberbullying behaviour, homophobic and transphobic bullying behaviour, racist bullying behaviour, sexist bullying behaviour and sexual harassment as appropriate.
		Schools must list specific support strategies for individuals experiencing bullying behaviour, those who witness bullying behaviour and those displaying bullying behaviour.
		All incidents of bullying behaviour must be recorded.
		The school principal is required to provide a bullying behaviour update at each ordinary board of management meeting.
		The school's Bí Cineálta policy must be reviewed in collaboration
		with the whole school community once each calendar year and sooner if a serious incident occurs and the board of management determines an urgent review is required.

Chapter 4	Appendix A Bí Cineálta Policy	This template document must be used as a basis for each school's Bí Cineálta Policy.
	StudentFriendly Bí Cineálta Policy	Every school must develop a studentfriendly version of its Bí Cineálta policy and display it where students and the school community can see it.
	Appendix B Student Friendly fo Bí Cineálta Policy	This template document can be used by schools as a basis or their studentfriendly policy.
Chapter 5	Reportance of fost and the role of the Prevention strateg types of bullying behaviour, homopic	ering a "telling environment" in schools trusted adult. ies must be provided relating to specific ehaviour including cyberbullying hobic and transphobic bullying
		ullying behaviour, sexist bullying ual harassment, as appropriate.
Chapter 6	Appendix C Guide to Addressing Bullying Behaviour	Guide can be used to address bullying behaviour.
	Remit of the school in addressing bullying behaviour	A school is not expected to deal with bullying behaviour that occurs when students are not under the care or responsibility of the school. However, where this bullying behaviour has an impact in school, schools are required to support the students involved. Where the bullying behaviour continues in school, schools should deal with it in accordance with their Bí Cineálta policy.
	Requests to take no action	Guidance for schools on how requests by students and parents to "take no action" should be addressed.
	students involved in bullying	Schools must engage with students who have experienced bullying behaviour to decide the actions to be taken to address the incident of bullying behaviour.
	behaviour and their parents	Schools must also engage with their parents. Schools must engage with students who have displayed bullying behaviour as well as their parents when deciding actions to be taken.
		Schools must engage with all involved when reviewing
		progress and determining whether bullying behaviour has ceased.
	Recording	All incidents of bullying behaviour must be recorded by the
	Incidents of Bullying Behaviour	teacher addressing the behaviour.

Chapter 7	Update to the board of management	Principal must provide an update to the board of management at each ordinary board meeting. This report includes the number of incidents of bullying behaviour reported since the last board meeting, the number of incidents ongoing and the total number reported since the beginning of the school year. The principal must provide a verbal update which will include, where relevant, trends and patterns, the strategies used to address the incidents and whether an urgent review of the policy is needed. The update is to inform discussion at each ordinary board of management meeting regarding the effectiveness of the preventative strategies used by the school and the overall effectiveness of the Bí Cineálta Policy.	
	Appendix D Guide to providing bullying behaviour update to the board of management Review of Bí	Guide can be used to assist principals in providing bullying behaviour update to board of management.	
	Cineálta Policy	The Bí Cineálta policy must be reviewed once each calendar year, in collaboration with the whole school community, and earlier if the Board determines an urge review is warranted.	
	Appendix E Review of the Bí Cineálta policy.	The Review template must be completed when the Bí Cineálta policy is reviewed.	
	Appendix F Notification of Annual Review	The template can be used to notify the school community that the annual review has been completed.	

Bibliography

Children First Act (2015) https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2015/act/36/enacted/en/pdf

Data Protection Commission *Children's data and parental consent* Retrieved October 20, 2023 from https://www.dataprotection.ie/en/dpcguidance/mychildsdataprotection rights Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (2023) *National*

Access

Plan Against Racism 2023-2027 https://www.gov.ie/en/pressrelease/d157aministerobrien announcespublicationofirelandsnationalactionplanagainstracism20232027/ Department of

Education (2018) Best practice guidance for primary schools in the use of programmes and/or external facilitators in promoting wellbeing consistent with the Department of Education and Skills' Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice Circular 0042/2018 https://circulars.gov.ie/pdf/circular/education/2018/42.pdf

Department of Education (2018) Best practice guidance for post primary schools in the use of programmes and/or external facilitators in promoting wellbeing consistent with the Department of Education and Skills' Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice Circular 0043/2018 https://circulars.gov.ie/pdf/circular/education/2018/43.pdf

Department of Education (2019) Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice

https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/851a8ewellbeingineducation/

Department of Education (2022) Cineáltas Action Plan on Bullying

https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/52aafcinealtasactionplanonbullying/

Department of Education (2023) Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary

Schools https://www.gov.ie/en/policyinformation/d7be05childprotection/

Doumas, D.M., Midgett, A., Watts, A.D. (2019). The Impact of a Brief, Bullying Bystander

Intervention on Internalizing Symptoms: Is Gender a Moderator of Intervention Effects? School Psychology International, v40 n3 p275293 Jun

Education (Welfare) Act (2000) Education (Welfare) Act, 2000 (irishstatutebook.ie)

Equal Status Acts (2000–2018)

https://adsdatabase.ohchr.org/IssueLibrary/IRELAND_Equal%20Status%20Act.pdf

Foody, M., McGuire, L., Kuldas, S., & O'Higgins Norman, J. (2019). Friendship quality, gender and their role in cyberbullying involvement and psychological well-being. Frontiers in Psychology https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.01723/full

Foody, M. Samara, M., O'Higgins Norman, J (2017) Bullying and cyberbullying studies in the schoolaged population on the island of Ireland: A metaanalysis Bullying and cyberbullying studies in the schoolaged population on the island of Ireland: A metaanalysis – Foody – 2017 – British Journal of Educational Psychology – Wiley Online Library

Harassment Harmful Communications & Related Offences Act (2020) https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2020/act/32/enacted/en/pdf James, D. J., Sofroniou, N., & Lawlor, M. (2003). The response of Irish adolescents to bullying. Irish Journal of Psychology, 24, 22–34.

National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (2023) *Traveller culture and history Research report*: travellercultureandhistoryresearchreport_en.pdf (ncca.ie)

O'Higgins Norman, J, (2020) *Tackling bullying from the inside out*: Shifting paradigms in bullying research and interventions. *International Journal of Bullying Prevention*, 2(3), 161–169.

Platten, J., Evans G., & Danko S., Platten Killeen J., (2003). The Role Of Permanent Student Artwork In Students' Sense Of Ownership In An Elementary School. Environment and Behaviour (2): 250–263

Professional Development Services for Teachers *Restorative Practice* retrieved October 13, 2023 from https://www.pdst.ie/postprimary/healthwellbeing/restorativepractice
Prohibition of Incitement to Hatred Act 1989

https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/1989/act/19/enacted/en/print.html

Rodkin, P.C., Espelage, D.L., & Hanish, L. (2015). A Gendered, Relational Framework for Understanding Bullying: Developmental Antecedents and Outcomes, American Psychologist, Pages 70, 311–321

Sigurdson, J.F, Wallander, J., Sund, A.M. (2014) Is involvement in school bullying associated with general health and psychosocial adjustment outcomes in adulthood?, Child Abuse & Neglect, Volume 38, Issue 10

Tusla (2008) Developing a Code of Behaviour Guidelines for Schools www.tusla.ie/guidelines school codes

UNICEF UK. (1989). The United Nations convention on the rights of the child.

https://downloads.unicef.org.uk/wp

 $content/uploads/2010/05/UNCRC_PRESS200910web.pdf?_ga=2.78590034.795419542.\\15824747371972578648.1582474737$

Wolke, D. & Lereya, S.T. 2015. Longterm effects of bullying. Archives of Disease in Childhood, Vol. 100

