



Statement on Arrangements for the Provision of Free Period Products

Details of Specified Public Service Body

Name of Specified Public Service Body	Loreto Grammar School, Omagh
Main Address of Specified Public Service Body	James Street, Omagh. BT78 1DL
Reference to sites where free period products are available	All female, unisex and accessible toilet facilities within Loreto's premises. Self Service provision outside the office of the Pupil Welfare Officer. From the Period Dignity Key Contact

Publication Details

Date of first publication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Publication: September 2024
Dates of subsequent publication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing/throughout the year
Where will this Statement be published?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loreto Website: https://www.loretogs.com/ • Posters at designated areas throughout school premises • Information leaflets will be uploaded to Loreto Grammar School Team channels and Social Media Channels

Details of Consultation Carried Out

WHEN was a consultation carried out? Enter start and finish date.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff consultation June 2024-August 2024. Consultation was via a Forms link based on the guidance provided by the Department of Education (Annex D) May 2024. • Students, Parents/Guardians and other relevant stakeholders consulted in (2022) as part of the consultation for Loreto's Period Dignity Policy.
WHO was consulted?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Period Products have been available in Loreto Grammar School, Omagh since 2019.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the consultation Process for Loreto's Period Dignity Policy (2023) all relevant stakeholders were consulted. For example, Student voice was sought and adhered to regarding types/brands of period products they wished to be stocked.
<p>HOW did the consultation process establish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the ways in which products users ought to be able to obtain free period products the locations in the SPSBs premises in which period products ought to be obtainable free of charge the types of period products which ought to be available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since it is already our working practice to provide period products, consultation in June 2024 provided an opportunity for respondents to suggest any changes to or comments on the current provision. Consultation questions followed the guidance provided by the Department of Education (Annex D) May 2024. Consultation sought opinions on what 'reasonably easy to access' meant to them. Responses validated current provision methods. Consultation sought the respondent's views on how to access the free period products in a way 'that respects your dignity, privacy and confidentiality.' Responses endorsed current provision methods. Consultation covered which products should be available. Respondents also have an opportunity to suggest other products that were not listed.
<p>And</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HOW has the consultation process had regard to: dignity, privacy and confidentiality of product users articles which are reusable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation was carried out via an anonymous Form. Respondents were able to select reusable products from the product list provided. Respondents were also provided with the opportunity to suggest other products that were not on the list provided.

The Arrangements

Loreto Grammar School, Omagh carried out a consultation process relating to the provision of free period products as detailed in the Period Products (Free Provision) Act (Northern Ireland) 2022. Previous relevant consultation was conducted when establishing a Period Dignity Policy in Loreto Grammar School, Omagh (2022). Consultation clearly affirmed the current systems of provision within Loreto Grammar School, Omagh. (It has been our working practice to provide period products for students, (discreetly, in each cubicle) and staff (in central baskets in staff bathrooms). Self-Service provision is also available at the office of the Pupil Welfare Officer.

69% of respondents noted that free period products should be available in all toilets. 17% responded that free period products should be available from the Pupil Welfare Officer. 6% of respondents believed that free period products should be available from a designated member of staff.

Free Period Products continue to be made available in all female (staff and student), unisex toilets, accessible toilets and centrally from an accessible area of the Pupil Welfare Officer's Office. Posters throughout the school premises clearly identify school personnel who can be contacted vis-à-vis period product provision. One respondent suggested ensuring that the link teacher for school events outside the school premises should be furnished with a supply of free period products to take with them. Going forward, this will be adopted as normal working procedure.

Current provision includes the supply of two different product types (Pads of differing absorbency and tampons). Reusable period pants are available from the Pupil Welfare Officer. 100% of respondents believed period pads of different absorbency should be made available. 60% felt that applicator tampons should be available. 12% felt reusable period pants should be available. 40% of responders felt panty liners should be available.

As a result of the consultation and in conjunction with Departmental guidance, Loreto Grammar School, Omagh will extend their current provision of free period products to include Panty Liners to ensure a suitable range of products and absorbencies are available. This will occur when accessing the Period Dignity Budget allocated for the first quarter 2024/2025.

In line with Departmental guidance, the availability and locations of free period products within Loreto Grammar School, Omagh will be advertised at pertinent points throughout the school premises, in order to respect the dignity, privacy and confidentiality of individuals. No one should have to request period products; they are discreetly and freely available. Products will continue to be made available in all female, unisex and accessible toilets, via a public self-service section of the office of the Pupil Welfare Officer and from the Period Dignity Key Contact. Products will be available in each cubicle, in student and adult toilets. In addition, in adult toilets products will be in a central basket in each toilet.

Information posters detailing the availability and location of free period products will continue to be displayed throughout the school premises and in internal channels of communication with Loreto- Microsoft Teams.

Stock levels of each product type will be checked on a regular basis by the Period Dignity Key Contact and Student Leadership Team. Products will be available whenever the premises are open.

The Arrangements – other details

Stock will be monitored by the Period Dignity Key Contact, with particular attention to expiry dates. Free period products available within Loreto premises will be procured via EA Procurement contract: Feminine Hygiene contract.

Publicising the Arrangements

In line with Departmental guidance and consultation, the availability and locations of free period products within Loreto Grammar School, Omagh will be advertised at pertinent points throughout the school premises, in order to respect the dignity, privacy and confidentiality of individuals. No one should have to request period products; they are discreetly and freely available. Relevant stakeholders will be made aware of the availability of free period products through posters, social media and explicit direction by staff to students in form class, assemblies or workshops.