



PWS AWARENESS: Teacher Notes



TEACHER NOTES: Junior Primary

The Three Balloons

The three balloons in our logo help us talk about growing up and being supported.

Each balloon shows a stage of life:

- Childhood – when we are little and learning
- Teen years – when we are growing and changing
- Adulthood – when we are older and still learning

Together, the balloons remind us:

- We all grow and change
- We all learn new things
- We all need help and support

What is Prader-Willi Syndrome? (child-friendly)

Prader-Willi syndrome (PWS) is a rare condition.

People with PWS may need:

- Extra help with learning
- Support with routines
- Help to stay healthy

With kindness and support, they can learn and grow just like everyone else.

🧑‍🎓 Classroom Activity

- Colour the three balloons.
- Talk about kindness and helping others



Key Message for All

Everyone is different.

Everyone needs support.

Everyone belongs.

Awareness increases understanding.

Understanding creates inclusion.

TEACHER NOTES – SENIOR PRIMARY

Understanding the Three Balloons

The three balloons in the PWSAI logo represent lifelong support.

They symbolise:

- Childhood
- Adolescence
- Adulthood

This reflects that Prader-Willi syndrome is a lifelong condition and individuals may need different types of support at different stages.

The balloons also represent:

- Growth and development
- Ongoing learning
- The importance of community and support

What is Prader-Willi Syndrome?

Prader-Willi syndrome (PWS) is a rare genetic condition. It can affect:

- Appetite: They can feel hungry most of the time, even after eating, which means they need help managing food and routines.
- Growth and physical development: They may grow differently and can need support with strength, energy and staying healthy.
- Learning and behaviour: Learning can take more time and changes or unexpected situations can sometimes feel overwhelming.

♥ Awareness & Inclusion

In Ireland, around 5 babies are born each year with PWS, meaning new families begin this journey every year.

Awareness helps:

- Reduce misunderstanding
- Support inclusion in schools
- Build empathy and kindness

🧑‍🎓 Suggested Activity

- Colour and discuss the balloons
- Reflect on what kindness means in school