

## Some of the aims of The Zones of Regulation:

- To help children recognise when they are in the different Zones and how to change or stay in the Zone they are in.
- To gain a vocabulary of emotional terms so that they can explain how they are feeling.
- To gain insight into events that might make them move into the different Zones
- To help children understand that emotions, sensory experiences, physiological needs and environments can influence which Zone they are in.
- To develop problem-solving skills.
- To identify a range of different calming and alerting strategies/tools that support them.



## How do I learn more about *The Zones of Regulation*?

<http://zonesofregulation.com/index.html>



# The Zones of Regulation

The Zones of Regulation is a health and wellbeing program with a range of activities to help your child develop skills in the area of self-regulation

The **ZONES** of Regulation®

<b>BLUE ZONE</b> Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	<b>GREEN ZONE</b> Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	<b>YELLOW ZONE</b> Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	<b>RED ZONE</b> Mad/Angry Mean Terrified Yelling/Hitting Out of Control





Figure 2: Wall Posters of the Zones

## The Zones can be likened to traffic lights:

**Green:** you are 'good to go!'

**Yellow:** slow down or take warning

**Red:** stop and regain control

**Blue:** rest area where you pull over when you're tired and need to recharge.



## Who is *The Zones of Regulation* for?

We need to teach ALL of our children good coping and regulation strategies so that they can help themselves when they experience emotions such as anxiety or stress. Teaching children these tools at a young age will support them in later life.



## How can you help your child use *The Zones of Regulation*?

- Identify your own feelings using Zones language in front of your child (e.g. "I'm frustrated, I think I am in the Yellow Zone.")
- Talk about what tool you will use to be in the appropriate Zone (e.g. "I need to take 4 deep breaths to help get me back to the Green Zone.")
- At times, wonder which Zone your child is in (eg. "You look sleepy, are you in the Blue Zone?")
- Engaging your child in discussion around Zones when they are in the Red Zone is unlikely to be effective. You need to be discussing the different Zones and tools they can use when they are more regulated/calm.
- Teach your child which tools they can use (e.g. "It's time for bed, let's read a book together in the rocking chair to get to the Blue Zone").



*It is important to note that everyone experiences all of the Zones – the Red and Yellow Zones are not the 'bad' or 'naughty' Zones. All of the Zones are expected at one time or another.*

## How will my child learn about the Zones?

*The Zones of Regulation* programme is advocated internationally. Our school is introducing the programme across the school as part of the Health and Wellbeing curriculum.

Whilst it will be introduced in discrete teaching sessions, the Zones language will be used as part of daily school life.

**Some children prefer not to use the 'Zones language' but label the emotions directly – this is fine and encouraged!**

