



OUR SELF-EVALUATION REPORT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN

In the last year, we have looked at teaching and learning in our school to find out what we are doing well. This is what we discovered:

1. Using Technology to manage information effectively.
2. Students view themselves as learners and they show this in the positive and reflective way in which they apply themselves to their classwork and to their homework.
3. Students display very good subject knowledge and subject skill at an appropriate level and demonstrate this at the relevant assessment points in the year or cycle.
4. Students make meaningful and authentic connections between learning in different subjects and areas of the curriculum.
5. Students have an age-appropriate understanding of the concept of lifelong learning and see themselves engaging in continuing education and training.
6. Students receive opportunities to develop the skills and dispositions that prepare them for life-long learning.
7. Students recognise the importance of Mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding for a wide range of learning and for life-long use.

This is what we did to find out what we were doing well, and what we could do better:

1. Numeracy; We tested our students ability to use correct units, to change from one unit to another, and their ability to estimate. This was done on Google Sheets.
2. Literacy; Pupils wrote an Irish essay, and the number of mistakes, and the types of mistakes were counted.
3. Self-Organisation; Class Tutors counted the number of notes received in Student Journals by pupils from teachers regarding self-orgainsation. We also measured the number of pupils that presented in less than full uniform, forgot iPads, Locker Keys, Class Materials, and Copybooks.
4. Self-Organisation: Tutors counted the number of notes received by students in their Journals regarding Homework.
5. A survey was conducted on pupil's attitudes to learning.

6. A questionnaire was given to students on their ability to link topics in a cross-curricular basis.
7. Class discussions were held to find out pupil's attitudes to lifelong learning.

This is what we are now going to work on:

1. Promote accuracy with verbs and spoken language.
2. Promote structuring questions properly.
3. Improving pupil's mental arithmetic skills.
4. Improving student's ability to work with percentages, decimals and fractions.
5. Improving pupil's self-organisation skills, especially with equipment.
6. Promoting high levels of School Attendance and Punctuality.
7. Promoting Healthy Eating amongst our pupils.
8. Increasing pupil's participation levels in extra-curricular activities.

This is what you can do to help:

1. Ensure that your child practices his/her verbs and has his/her folder up to date.
2. Check that your child has their folder of questions up to date and practice asking these questions with them.
3. Challenge yourself to some mental arithmetic, especially with addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.
4. Challenge your child to some percentage/fraction/decimals conversions.
5. Encourage your child to pack his/her bag the night before, and to use the equipment list in their Dialann Scoile.
6. Ensure that your child doesn't miss out on any school days, except in exceptional circumstances. Highlight the importance of good attendance and punctuality.
7. Try to avoid putting unhealthy foods in your child's lunch. Get them to practice the healthy recipes that the school will provide them with.
8. Encourage your child to become active in school extra-curricular activities.

Here is some information about how we are carrying out our work and about what the Department of Education and Skills requires us to do.

School time and holidays

The Department requires all post-primary schools to have **167 school days** each year, and a **28-hour school week**.

This year we had 167 school days, from 28/8/2017 to 1/6/2018. Our school week is 28 hours.

The Department sets out a **standardised school year and school holidays**.

This year we took all our school holidays within the permitted time. YES

The Department sets out arrangements for **parent/teacher meetings and staff meetings**. This year we had three parent/teacher meetings and fifteen staff meetings, all in line with the Department's regulations.

Looking after the children in our school

The Department requires schools to follow the *Child Protection Procedures* it has set down. Our board of management has agreed in writing to do this. YES

All teachers know about the *Procedures* and we have told all parents about them and how we follow them. YES

Our Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Donnchadh Ó Cróinín and our Deputy DLP is Mairéad Ní Chonaill.

Enrolment and attendance

The Department requires schools to have and publish an admissions policy, to record and report attendance accurately, and to encourage high attendance and participation.

We have an admissions policy and it is published. YES

We reviewed (and updated) our admissions policy on: October 13th 2015

We keep accurate attendance records and report them as required. YES

We encourage high attendance in the following ways:

- Points awarded in our House System for good attendance and punctuality.
- Students are required to present a signed note from parents on return from being absent.
- A very clear and rigid signing in/signing out system.
- The importance of good attendance and punctuality is regularly discussed with parents and pupils.
- Good example being shown by teachers.
- Students with excellent attendance receive an award at the end-of-year Award's Night.

This is how you can help:

- Familiarise yourself with the School's Attendance Strategy.
- Highlight the importance of good attendance and punctuality to your child.
- Take every measure to avoid taking family holidays during the school term.

Positive behaviour for a happy school

The Department requires schools to have a code of behaviour, and asks us to consult parents and students about it. We do this. YES

Our code of behaviour describes and supports positive behaviour. YES

We have a very clear and high-profile anti-bullying policy in our school. YES