

Reports to Board of Management on Teaching & Learning during the Academic Year 2016/2017

September 2016

Two Continuous Professional Development (CPD) sessions were attended by Teachers and Special Needs Assistants at the start of the term. Dr Mark Fennell delivered a CPD session on Teaching and Learning and Ms Michelle Stowe on Restorative Practice.

The progression rates to Higher and Further Education for the Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied students of 2016 were reported.

The Inspection Report on the Evaluation of the Junior Certificate Schools Programme conducted in the school in April 2016 had been made available to the school in July and it was a very good report. The Chairperson confirmed that he had seen the Report and agreed that it was very good. The Board thanked and congratulated the staff involved.

October 2016

Five teachers had joined the Transfer of Learning in the 21st Century programme organised by Dublin & Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB).

Twenty Transition Year students were participating in the writers' programme; Fighting Words, originally set up by writer Roddy Doyle.

A group of Transition Year students were working on a transfer programme, called Next Step, with Sixth Class pupils from two local primary schools.

The Management Team had begun reviewing Parent–teacher meetings and Student Education Plans using the document 'Looking at Our Schools 2016: A Quality Framework for Post Primary Schools'.

December 2016

Six teachers were involved in research study with Trinity College Dublin that aims to support teachers' assessment for learning practice through a Continuous Professional Development model that incorporates a virtual learning environment.

January 2017

An invitation had issued to the School from the NCCA to become involved in an action project on Junior Cycle reporting. A network of 12 schools was involved in the project. The NCCA had suggested that as a school we take two principles of good reporting and that one or both of the principles might be included as part of a third strand of School Self-Evaluation.

The School Cluster Junior Cycle Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Day was scheduled to be held on 6th February 2017. The cluster involved six local schools coming together for subject specific and other Junior Cycle related CPD.

April 2017

A Junior Cycle project involving the teachers of two First Year classes on using the language of learning in reports continued to make progress.

The Third Junior Cycle CPD day will be held on 15th May 2017.

Principal's Reports made to the Board of Management during the Academic Year 2016 2017

September 2016

The Principal reported on the provisional enrolment figures for the academic year 2016/17. She advised that sixteen new students had transferred from other schools into various Year Groups. The Board commended the work of the school on maintaining its student enrolment despite an increase in the number of schools in the local area.

October 2016

The Principal reported that:

- the recent announcement by the Government to discontinue the JobBridge scheme which provides work experience placements for interns for a six-month or nine-month period will impact on the school's future capacity to maintain and repair its IT equipment. The school currently has two IT Technician interns as part of the JobBridge scheme.
- there had been no further developments on the proposed Primary Care Centre on a corner site on the school grounds.
- to date 92 students were enrolled for first year for the forthcoming academic year 2017/18.

December 2016

The Principal reported that:

- under the School Self-Evaluation process, the school was examining, 'Circular 0039/2016 CONTINUING IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION 2016-2020' and the publication of 'Revised Guidelines for School Self-Evaluation 2016-2020' and that the school's School Self-Evaluation Plan was being revised in light of the circular and guidelines.
- the school was examining the publication, 'A Guide to Inspection in Post-Primary Schools 2016'.

January 2017

The Principal provided an update on:

- the Strategic Planning Process. The process commenced during the academic year 2015/16 in accordance with a recommendation by the Inspectorate from the Management, Leadership and Learning Evaluation in 2014. The Principal reported that the staff were invited to complete a survey. From the survey a number of themes were identified as follows:
 1. Staffroom & Workroom Facilities
 2. Staff Social Activities
 3. Building on a Professional School Culture
 4. Staff Meeting & Subject Department Meetings
 5. Croke Park Hours
 6. Continuous Professional Development
 7. Code of Behaviour

The Staff Discussion Groups made recommendations. The Management Team were considering the recommendations in terms of their viability and practicability and within the context of curricular, legislative and inspectorate requirements.

The agreed recommendations would be included in a Staff Wellbeing and Development Plan.

- the Principal reported that the refurbishment of toilet facilities would commence during the February midterm break.

April 2017

The Principal reported on:

- the sudden death of a Second Year student. She reported that the student was a great student who will be sadly missed by his family, friends, teachers and the whole school community.
- the effective implementation of the Critical Incident Management Policy at the time of the student's death and the up-coming review of the policy. The Board asked that their condolences be conveyed to the student's family and their thanks conveyed to all staff members for their involvement in supporting the school community during this sad time.
- the launch date of 17th May for the Anthology of Short stories written by 19 Transition Year students as part of the Fighting Words writing programme.
- the refurbishment work completed on the toilet facilities.

