



Loreto Secondary School, St Michael's, Navan.

Our Self-Evaluation Report and Improvement Plan June 2023.

1. Introduction

This document records the outcomes of our last improvement plan, the findings of this self-evaluation, and our current improvement plan, including targets and the actions we will implement to meet the targets.

1.1 Outcomes of our last improvement plan from September 2022 to May 2023

- There is a continued and expanded inclusion of all the school community's voices in teaching and learning and in the life of the school.
- There is a continued focus on broadening teaching and learning in the school to support the student voice in the classroom and engagement in learning.
- There is a greater focus on wellbeing.
- There has been a greater focus on sustainability be that environmental or school policies and practices.

1.2 The focus of this evaluation

We undertook self-evaluation of teaching and learning during the period August 2022 to May 2023. We evaluated the following aspects of learning and teaching:

- Strength of the student voice in the classroom.
- Supports available to and used by teachers to increase engagement for all students in the classroom during our new (almost) hour-long classes.
- The student voice regarding learning and assessment of that learning (to include homework).
- The staff, student and Parent & Guardian voices regarding school life and the structure of the school day for 2023-2024.
- The furthering of student wellbeing - which impacts on T&L.
- The availing of Erasmus + funding as a means of supporting school life and T&L.

2. Findings

2.1 This is effective / very effective practice in our school

List the main strengths based on data from teachers, students, parents and guardians of the school in teaching and learning (Teacher best practice to include all students in T&L) and on Inclusion:

- Teachers received continual updates, new resources and in-house CPD on reaching, including and engaging all students in L&T in the classroom (Strong ICT & AEN focus - and practical, student self-directed learning approaches).

- A new Teaching and Learning Committee (our 3rd since 2020-2021) was established to provide new methodologies, teacher and student evaluations & feedback, resources, and in-house CPD with a particular focus on adapting to the new class length.
- The Digital Learning Team sourced, trailed and evaluated individual devices and resources for future use by teachers. In-house CPD provided to full teaching staff. Additional voluntary training sessions were made available based on teachers' identified needs.
- Erasmus + Mobilities were availed of - AEN department (Summer 2022), Restorative Practice (February 2023), Wellbeing (February 2023).
- Hour-long classes introduced in August 2022 and evaluated by the whole-school community in Term 3 2023.
- New School Mission Statement created and which now forms the basis of all SSE, Strategic plans, School policies and daily practices.

2.2. This is how we know

List the evidence sources. Refer to students' dispositions, attainment, knowledge and skills.

- Data gathered from students, teachers, staff and Parents & Guardians
- Project and Research work carried out by teachers

Teacher, Student and P&G Feedback on the School Year & Structure of School day 2023-2024.

- Feedback sought a half-day Wednesday for 2023-2024 to align us with all other second-level schools in the town.
- Very high levels of satisfaction regarding hour-long classes.
- 3 key things called for by students were: variation and movement during class, homework to be addressed and issues relating to uniform.

Student Voice: Subject Selection: Broadening of our Senior Cycle Subjects

- 3 new Leaving Certificate subjects introduced in 2022-2023 are still in demand for 2023-2024. All subjects at Senior Cycle are sustainable.
- LCAP class established for 5th year 2023-2024.
- TY is maintaining 4 classes for 2023-2024.

Updating School Mission Statement: Staff and Student feedback

- Any students who were not surveyed last year were included this year. Class Captains from 2nd, TY and 5th year created a focus group. Staff group finalised the working, B.O.M. approved it.
- 6th year student (A Connell) created a visual to accompany the new mission statement. This will be reproduced on various school documents and painted in our reception.
- Our new AP2 Ethos Coordinator launched the Mission Statement to the school community in May 2023.
- New Statement has been included in updated policies and plans.

Wellbeing: Check and Connect and Amber Flag

- 24 students are part of our Check & Connect programme.
- 18 teachers volunteered to assist.
- The school has retained our Amber Flag.

Wellbeing: Points System and Restorative Practice

- Our Behavioural Points System is used via VsWare. It supports RP and student engagement with school.
- Restorative Practice became part of tutor time.
- Restorative Practice is used by teachers, staff, Management and Student Leaders.

Wellbeing: Inclusion

- Stand Up Awareness Week was actively celebrated (November 2022) in conjunction with BeLong2 LGBTQ+ Youth Ireland.
- Building has begun on our Special Classroom and facilities (May 2023).
- Annual Social Justice Week (March 2023) celebrates culture, ethnicity, interdependence at local and international level.
- Much work was carried out by teachers and students on multiculturalism.

2.3 This is what we are going to focus on to improve our practice further

Specify the aspects of teaching and learning the school has identified and prioritised for further improvement.

- Continue our focus on L&T to reflect students' needs with particular emphasis on Universal Learning and formative &/ summative assessment.
- Continue to avail of Erasmus+ supports to further improve L&T, inclusion and ICT.
- Continue to focus on developing the Student Voice in the classroom.
- Apply **Lundy's Model of Youth Participation** regarding school policies and practices.
- Provide further CPD on movement and variation for students during class.
- Ensure the CDP for teachers of new Senior Cycle subjects will be carried out in time along with the provision of required T&L resources.
- Further our use of Restorative Practice and evaluate the Points System as a means of supporting students.
- Review Homework Policy.
- Update Uniform Policy to better reflect modern life.

3. Our improvement plan

On the next page we have recorded:

- The **targets** for improvement we have set
- The **actions** we will implement to achieve these
- **Who is responsible** for implementing, monitoring and reviewing our improvement plan
- How we will measure **progress** and check **outcomes** (criteria for success)

As we implement our improvement plan we will record:

- The **progress** made, and **adjustments** made, and **when**
- **Achievement of targets** (original and modified), and **when**

Timeframe of this improvement plan is from August 2022 to June 2023

Targets	Actions	Persons / groups responsible	Criteria for success	Progress and adjustments	Targets achieved
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<p>To continue to create an inclusive school environment where all students are included in T&L.</p>	<p>R&D of new teaching methodologies and resources. Support and T&L Forum organised for all teachers.- FA, Universal Learning, Assessment for All & Student Voice In the classroom</p> <p>Erasmus + Mobilities' reports uploaded and report completed.</p>	<p>SMT, RF (SSE, T&L Coordinator), T&LCommittee #3.</p> <p>AFK, NM (Erasmus+ Coordinator), RF (SSE Coordinator) , SEN teachers, Language teacher, Career Guidance teacher.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers can correctly: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Use RP Understand and use the Points System Differentiate L&T as required for all students in the inclusive classroom Access supports to achieve 1-3 above, 	<p>Good practices shared amongst staff digitally and in person. In-house CPD.</p> <p>Submission Acknowledged by Léargas June 2023</p>	<p>August 2022 - Staff meeting CPD - hour-long class. Updates T&L Forum May 2022</p> <p>5 teachers involved in Erasmus + mobilities 2022-2023</p>
<p>To continue to support teachers in their ever changing role in L&T</p>	<p>Teacher Individual Digital Devices & CPD provided</p>	<p>TK (IT Coordinator), Digital Literacy Team, AFK.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That students feel included and have their voices heard in the classroom and in school life. 	<p>7 CPD sessions organised</p>	<p>Updates at staff meetings throughout the year.</p>
<p>To provide a clear understanding for students and staff of Restorative Practice</p>	<p>RP became part of tutor time</p>	<p>Tutors, UBUNTU, Team Wellbeing Coordinator (CC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That teachers are supported with the necessary resources for ever improving L&T. 	<p>RP part of Tutor Time and practice in school</p>	<p>Throughout the year</p>
<p>To ensure support for equity in L&T</p>	<p>SET Continuum of support updated for this year's needs</p>	<p>NS, LT, , JO'S, JL, NB, Dep (MH),</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That wellbeing is to 	<p>Updated Matrix in operation. Updates at staff meetings.</p>	<p>Matrix used in AEN</p>
<p>To update various school policies and practices.</p>	<p>Senior Cycle Options broadened: Introduction of LCAP planned, policy created</p>	<p>SMT, SC (Programmes' Coord), interested teachers, LD (Curriculum Development Coord), AEN Dept, Careers Dept.</p>		<p>Senior Cycle subject choice form updated</p>	<p>LCAP Class established for August 2023.</p>

	<p>Continue to develop the Accelerated Reader Programme</p> <p>NGRT testing carried out on 1st and 2nd years Spelling programme rolled out the PDST Maths Assessment. Support in place through mainstream and AEN.</p> <p>Academic Tracking Continued and updated</p> <p>Policies updated: Irish Exemption, Admissions, Child Protection & Risk Assessment, Data Protection, Code of Behaviour Policies created: LCAP, Social Media, ICT Loans Job Share & Career Breaks.</p> <p>Staff Review Groups established</p>	<p>Teachers of 3rd year AR classes, DR(coordinator), MH, AEN Dept</p> <p>AEN Dept</p> <p>LD (Academic Tracking Coord), SMTeam</p> <p>LD (Curriculum Dev Coord), SMT</p> <p>SMT, Teacher volunteers</p>	<p>the fore of school life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That our New Mission Statement is the basis for school life. 	<p>Testing and reporting of AR completed</p> <p>Testing completed & data analysed and shared</p> <p>All 1st years CAT, AR, Spelling, Christmas exams analysed and data made available for teacher, Year Head and SET analysis</p> <p>Shared with staff, AEN Dept, Year heads, SRC as appropriate per policy review</p> <p>Assessment and school Journal reviewed.</p>	<p>September 2022 - May 2023</p> <p>Throughout the year</p> <p>Data available to teachers to support students' learning</p> <p>Policies in place for 2023-2024</p> <p>Ratified by B.O.M. May 15th 2023.</p> <p>Updated policy on assessment tbc. Updated school journal in use August 2023</p>
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To develop the student voice regarding student leadership, school policy and practice.	Amber Flag maintained	CC (Wellbeing Coordinator), Student Amber Flag team, SMT		Awareness campaign organised and run by the Team	May 2023
	Green Schools Flag earned	KC , Green Schools Committee		Awareness campaign, events organised	Travel Flag awarded May 2023
	'Lundy's Model of Youth Participation' adopted	SMT, SSE Coordinator		Explanation to staff and student body	Main form of feedback with students Aug 2023
	Upgrading of waste Management	Composting Ire, Meath Co. Co. Caretaker (SmcG), SJG, Green Schools Committee, SMT		New approaches adopted to composting and waste disposal	May 2023