

## School Self-Evaluation Next Steps October 2022

**Target Area:** Impact of Covid-19

### **The Impact of Covid 19 on pupils' educational experiences and outcomes.**

**Feedback:** The impact of Covid 19 on pupils' progress was initially thought to be limited (Teachers' Feedback). Over time some issues arose. Homework was an area of concern. Some good habits in this area are gone. Feedback from Maths Week 2022 (Nov) indicates that pupils' ability to estimate and problem solve (Mathathon) have regressed significantly. A small number of pupils regressed due to an inability to engage for a myriad of reasons.

**Evidence:** Our initial parents' survey stated, 'In overall terms parents appreciate the myriad of challenges facing teachers presently and they are very grateful and complimentary about the school's efforts to continue teaching and learning online. Teachers reported that pupils very quickly 'caught up' once back at school. Parent Feedback Forms (June 2021), 95% of parents stated they were satisfied by their child's progress during the past academic (Covid) year. Homework survey (parents) 74% of parents think homework is important in primary school. 82% stated their children experience some level of anxiety about homework. Homework survey (pupils) 82% of pupils think homework is important in primary school. 52% of pupils stated they experience some level of anxiety about homework.

**Action:** Pupils whose educational experiences and outcomes were negatively impacted were identified by staff, see Pupils Not Engaging' document.

Targeted pupils through CLASS hours.

Targeted pupils through the Summer Programme

One of the tasks outlined in the school's new AP II post is to develop a nurture group to target vulnerable pupils.

Revision of Homework Policy following consultation with pupils, teachers and parents (Nov. 2022)

SSE and SIP on Numeracy to commence in Jan 2023

### **The impact of Covid 19 on pupils' wellbeing, their motivation to learn and their engagement in learning.**

**Feedback:** Attendance was an issue for a cohort of pupils. Homework regressed. Good habits in this area built up over many years no longer exist. This impacts on motivation to learn. It would appear that pupils had a lot of access to devices during Covid and there is a sense that some pupils are still spending a lot of time

gaming etc. Screen time is a problem. This inhibits problem solving, creativity and oral language. Parents report a large number of pupils with anxiety.

**Action:** Worked with individual families and Tusla when necessary. We are now trending in the right direction.

We engaged our NEPS psychologist to help us with pupils who were anxious about coming to school.

Targeted pupils through CLASS hours.

Targeted pupils through the Summer Programme

Where I'm From Is Everything was a whole school initiative to promote Creativity and the Art (see evidence on the school's blog).

Support and mainstream teachers identify and target pupils with anxiety.

Revised Homework Policy formulated in an effort to reduce anxiety.

SSE + SIP on Numeracy.

Parent feedback forms will be distributed in May 2023.

**Evidence of progress:** Attendance for Sept/Oct is much improved at 92.4% compared to 87% for the school year 2021/22.

Reviewed cases with NEPS psychologist. Significant progress has been made and interventions have ceased.

See Support Plans to view progress made with pupils suffering from anxiety.

Homeschooling impacted negatively on many aspects including motivation and engagement.

98% of parents who expressed an opinion stated that their child is happy at school. (See Parent Feedback below from May 2023)

96% of parents stated they are happy with their child's social and emotional development at school.

Homework survey (parents) 74% of parents think homework is important in primary school. 82% stated their children experience some level of anxiety about homework.

Homework survey (pupils) 82% of pupils think homework is important in primary school. 52% of pupils stated they experience some level of anxiety about homework.

Teacher Feedback from Maths Week showed pupils ability to problem solve and estimate had regressed significantly.

### **The positive impact of Covid on the smooth running of our school.**

i) The front car park was closed and will now remain closed in the interests of health and safety.

ii) Procedures for pupils entering and leaving the school are different. Pupils walk in from and out to the front gate. Appropriate supervision is in place.

iii) Pupils go directly to classrooms in the morning instead of going to the yard.

iv) Pupils and teachers preferred staggered breaks. They remain in place.

v) Communication tools SeeSaw and Aladdin are now in daily use. SeeSaw in particular is an excellent communication tool between home and school.

vi) Parent feedback indicated that they found the fortnightly newsletters during Covid very informative. This practice will continue.

- vii) There is a greater awareness of personal hygiene and general cleanliness.  
 viii) There is a greater awareness of education outdoors. We now have a second outdoor classroom and a wide variety of games and activities for outside.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chairperson BOM

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Principal

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent Feedback May '23

Key Questions	Yes	No	Comment
My child is happy and safe at school?	95%	5%	The most important question of all as an unhappy child cannot access the curriculum. We are aware of a small number of pupils who find coming to school challenging and we continue to support them.
I am satisfied with my child's progress at school.	97%	3%	Standardised test results for literacy and numeracy this year were very good and comparable to other years.

<p>I am happy with my child's social and emotional development at school.</p>	<p>93%</p>	<p>7%</p>	<p>It is very important to us that we are supporting all pupils' social and emotional development at school. Please let us know if you continue to have concerns.</p>
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<p>My child gets the right amount of homework.</p>	<p>83%</p>	<p>7%</p>	<p>16% of parents told us in a survey earlier in the year that their child receives too much homework. We have a new Homework Policy on our website. We are moving in the right direction.</p>
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