****

OUR SELF-EVALUATION REPORT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2024-2025

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

* A safe, stimulating learning environment is provided for the pupils in this school.
* During lessons the pupils have access to high quality resources.
* Pupils at all class levels are enabled to engage actively in their learning and the level of pupil interest and participation is high.
* The school is equipping the pupils effectively with the skills and tools they need for learning now and in the future.
* Teachers are thoroughly prepared in terms of practical and written planning for the delivery of the curriculum through the lessons they teach.
* Teachers are enthusiastic about making improvements.
* Teaching is focused, stimulating and relevant to the pupils’ learning.
* The management of pupils during learning and routine activities is effective.
* The school is inclusive and treats all pupils equitably and fairly.
* The quality of assessment is effective in terms of planning, the implementation of assessment approaches and the use and reporting of assessment information.
* The school has strong community links.

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

We gathered evidence from a variety of sources including teachers, learners, parents and school management. The evidence collected was analysed and judgements made on the aspects of provision that were deemed effective with areas also identified that needed to be improved. Evidence was gathered from the following sources:

* All standardised test scores from pupils in English and Maths.
* Questionnaires to Parents via google forms
* Teacher observation & records
* Pupils’ thoughts and opinions
* Student Council focus groups
* Professional reflection and dialogue among teachers and school management

This is what we are working on:

***Numeracy:*** Problem Solving Incorporating Mental Maths

***Literacy:*** Development of Oral Language Confidence and Fluency

***Physical Education:*** Health and Well Being

This is what you can do to help:

* Demonstrate a positive attitude about education to your children.
* Consolidate the work we are focusing on at school by supporting your child with their homework and project tasks.
* Encourage your child to read and to use the library.
* Talk with your child. Talking and listening play a role in children’s school success.
* Encourage active learning such as asking and answering questions, solving problems and exploring interests.
* Encourage your child to be responsible and work independently.
* Keep up to date with activities in our school by regularly consulting our school website and Facebook pages, checking homework folders and schoolbags for notes, important letters or messages from the school via Aladdin text/email on a daily/weekly basis.
* Ensuring that the children are adequately prepared for school so that they can happily and comfortably engage in our daily activities.
* Become familiar with all school policies that are communicated to you on our school website, a copy of which can be made upon request to the school secretary.
* Adhere to all school policies in order to ensure the smooth running of the school making it a happy, safe and enjoyable place to be for your child.
* Helping your children and the school to celebrate the successes we may attain throughout the year.
* Support the teachers in any requests they may make throughout the year e.g. gathering resources, asking for volunteers to assist them in their duties to enhance your child’s learning etc.
* Attend Parent-Teacher meetings and keep in touch with your child’s teacher.
* Maintain close home-school links. Voice any concerns you may have about your child by making an appointment with the class teacher.

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 primary schools to have **183 school days** each year.

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

Last year and this year to date we took all our school holidays within the permitted time.

The Department sets out arrangements for **parent/teacher meetings and staff meetings**. Last year and this year to date we have had parent/teacher meetings and 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.

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

Our Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Ms Fiona Whelan

Our Deputy DLP is Mrs Roisín Campbell

Our Relevant Person is Ms Aileen Lennon

***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 notice and it is published.

We reviewed (and updated) our admissions policy in: June 2024

We keep accurate attendance records and report them as required.

We encourage high attendance in the following ways:

* Developing a culture of high expectations, encouraging each student to take responsibility for his or her own learning and to achieve full potential through regular presence in school.
* Making school a welcoming and engaging place.
* A sense of belonging and connectedness in school is developed through participation in school life.
* The school’s reward system acknowledges excellent attendance and punctuality.
* Connecting with at-risk students.
* Involving parents.

This is how you can help:

* Let your child know that good attendance is important in order to get a good education. Make education a family priority.
* Instil good attendance habits from an early age.
* Establish a good morning routine e.g. give yourself and your children enough time to get ready, plan ahead the night before (set out clothes and have schoolbags ready) etc.
* Set a regular bedtime schedule to ensure your child gets proper rest.
* Take an interest in your child’s school life, activities and homework. Ensure homework journals are signed daily.
* Keep open lines of communication with your children, teacher, principal and school office. Let the school know in advance if your child is going to be absent or if you have concerns about your child’s attendance or school performance. Report all absences on the day the student will miss school by calling the school office. Provide doctor’s notes to the class teacher or school secretary when medical verification is available for student’s absences.
* Contact your child’s school for help if it is needed to support your child or family.
* Keep a school year calendar. This is an excellent way to track all of the important dates, holidays, and events at your child’s school. It is also a convenient place to document absences (who was absent, why and how you cleared it/date cleared), phone calls/conferences with school staff, and all of your other important school related information.
* Make sure your child knows you do not approve of him/her being late or absent. Talk to your child about issues that may be making them late for school.
* Help your child understand the state laws and school attendance policies.
* Do not let your child persuade you into making an excuse for him/her. Don’t give up. Reward good behaviour and take it one day at a time.

***Positive behaviour for a happy school***

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

Our code of behaviour describes and supports positive behaviour.

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