

SCOIL MHUIRE KANTURK.

School Self-Evaluation Report and School Improvement Plan

June 2023 (DRAFT)



Mission Statement

Scoil Mhuire Kanturk is a Catholic co-educational secondary school under the Trusteeship of CEIST. We are committed to educating our students to their full potential in a spirit of equality and inclusiveness that welcomes and nurtures all of the diverse abilities and talents of the various communities we serve.

Introduction:

School Self-evaluation (SSE) empowers a school community to recognise and affirm good practice, and to identify and take action on areas that merit improvement.

School self-evaluation (SSE) involves reflective enquiry leading to action planning for improvement that is informed by evidence gathered within our school's unique context. The process enables schools to use this evidence to identify meaningful and specific targets and actions for improvements. SSE is supported by a quality framework *Looking at Our Schools (LAOS) 2022* which provides a set of criteria or descriptors of quality in schools.

Circular 0040/2012 requires all schools to engage in the school self-evaluation process, and set out its purpose and rationale. Circular 0056/2022 takes account of the experience of SSE to date and advises how schools can develop and use SSE in the years ahead in a way that ensures that school and system goals for equity, inclusion, teaching, learning and wellbeing can be achieved.

Action Plan For School Improvement:

The third cycle of SSE 2022-2026, comprises of 2 phases:

- 2022-2023: Review Year
- 2023-2026

2022-2023 - Review Year:

During this Review Year, a survey was conducted to analyse the effective practice of actions in SSE to date. Following on from results of this survey, many actions taken to date were deemed to be embedded in teaching practices at this point with no further monitoring required. In order to ensure SSE continues to be an inclusive and collaborative process, teams involving all staff members have been established. Wellbeing, Teaching & Learning, Curriculum, Inclusion & Digital Strategy teams have come together to suggest potential need for improvement in their particular area of focus.

2023-2026 - Action Plan for School Improvement:

Teaching and Learning:

“Students’ enjoyment in learning is evident and arises from a sense of making progress and of achievement.” (LAOS 2022). This statement of highly effective practice in teaching and learning underpins the need for informative, insightful and directional feedback to enable students to successfully progress in their learning experience.

Action 1:

Focus on Feedback: In order to enhance the learning process through assessment and feedback, it is proposed to develop a hybrid model of assessment and feedback using class tests, homework assignments, projects, portfolio work etc. Each teacher is asked to give create a pattern of feedback for their students whereby they will receive formative feedback only on one piece of their work followed by summative feedback on the next piece of work. The rationale behind this hybrid model of assessment and feedback is to centre student focus not just on a percentage grade, but also asking them to take encouragement and pride in successes and learn how they can improve in areas that need further development and work in their learning journey. This process is also intended to inform and enhance teaching and learning practices in the classroom.

ICT use, Digital Learning in Our School and the Digital Learning Framework

Action 1:

Formative Assessment using Digital Portfolios: First Year students will take part in a pilot scheme using digital portfolios in a number of subject areas. The pilot scheme aims to enhance and develop students’ IT skills across a number of subject areas while also placing a focus on formative assessment.

Wellbeing & the Impact of COVID-19:

Schools are required to address the immediate impact of COVID-19 in individual school contexts. There is a related requirement on schools to use SSE to initiate a wellbeing promotion review and development cycle. To begin this process, the Wellbeing Team has conducted surveys of all stakeholders in our school community; Students, Staff & Parents/Guardians. Surveys will be analysed and efforts will be made to identify a common area of focus as outlined by participants in the survey. This School Improvement plan will be updated in due course to outline actions being taken in this area.

School Self-Evaluation Team 2023:

Leader: Caitríona McNamara

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