

Coláiste Abbáin



OUR SELF-EVALUATION REPORT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN

May 2022

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

Group	Literacy rating	numeracy rating	Child happy
Parents	9	8	9
Students	7	7	8

1=poor 10=excellent

96% of students like our monthly Positive Affirmation Awards.

89% of 3rd Year students received the attendance JCSP statement.

Retention Rates have improved both in Junior Cycle and Leaving Cert.

We have a significant increase in enrolment in 1st year (72 students) August 2022 and a number of transfer students.

Our Year head System is working very well in the school.

Our Éacht attainment and tracking programme is now fully implemented and a brochure developed to communicate this to stakeholders.

90% of parents attended our 1st Year Induction Meeting May 2022.

Teaching & Learning

The % of students studying Higher Level Maths at Junior Cycle has increased significantly.

72% of 1st year students think about success criteria when completing a written assignment.

83% of students can submit assignments via Teams.

The % of students studying Higher Level Irish at Junior Cycle has increased significantly.

97% of 5th and 6th year students reflect on their tracking reports and attended one to one meetings with the DP.

83% average attendance for senior cycle students which is much improved.

The % of students studying Higher Level English at Junior Cycle has increased significantly.

We introduced the new Leaving Certificate Applied Programme September 2021 and this has continued for 2022.

We now have 2 full class groups taking our Transition Year Programme 2022.

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

We undertook self-evaluation of teaching and learning during the period April/ May 2022. We evaluated the following aspect(s) of teaching and learning:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Teaching and Learning – teacher collaborative/ collective practices, rolling out the Junior Cycle Reform
- Attainment
- Attendance
- Retention
- Transitions
- Partnership with parents and others

This is what we are now going to work on:

- **Continuing with our DEIS plan for next year - Some targets modified**

Specific focus

- Progress charts and calculating percentages – lead by the Maths Department and implemented by all subject teachers.
- Success criteria - all Junior Cycle teachers- explicitly taught in class
- Attendance challenge – continue to roll these out after letters sent home reinforcing the positive. Reduce % of students who miss more than 20 school days.
- Teachers will provide opportunities for 1st year students to engage in self and peer reflection in class.

This is what you can do to help:

Encourage your child to read at home, complete all homework and reflect on work completed. Encourage your child to practice mental maths and communicate the importance of constantly improving their numeracy and literacy skills. Attendance and work ethic are key factors that assist student attainment. Please encourage your child to engage in as many school activities as possible to promote their wellbeing and learning.

A parent /guardian should attend the pre scheduled PTM for all children enrolled in Coláiste Abbáin. This date is communicated to parents in June the previous year to allow for forward planning.

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 post-primary schools to have **167 school days** each year, and a **28-hour school week**.

This year we had 167 school days on our calendar, from 30th August to 3rd June. Our school week is 28 hours. This included remote teaching and learning and special exemption (earlier finishing date) to facilitate accredited grading system for Leaving Certificate 2021

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

This year we took all our school holidays within the permitted time. YES

The Department sets out arrangements for **parent/teacher meetings and staff meetings**.

This year we had 6 Parent /Teacher meetings and 4 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. YES

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

Our Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is John Nolan

and our Deputy DLP is Lorraine Simmons

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 policy and it is published. YES

We reviewed our admissions policy on: September 2022

We keep accurate attendance records and report them as required. YES

We encourage high attendance in the following ways: sms and phone calls home, meetings with parents HSCL, DP, Student Support Team meetings every week, BFL programme, Year Head attendance challenges.

This is how you can help: Encouraging your child to achieve maximum school attendance, praising their achievements and active participation in school activities. Please ensure any absence from school is explained via notes in the school diary.

Positive behaviour for a happy school

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

Our code of behaviour describes and supports positive behaviour. YES

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