



1. Introduction

Our Self-Evaluation Report and Improvement Plan 2021 - 2022

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 2020] to [May 2021]

Literacy

- An emphasis on reading with all Junior Cycle students.
- An emphasis on oral presentations with all Junior Cycle students

Numeracy

- While school strategy for calculating percentages
- Problem Solving strategy

E-Learning

- CPD in-house for remote learning, for new staff and first years
- Maintaining online learning with Google classroom in the event of another lockdown.
- Student remote learning training and practice.
- Purchasing of a new set of Chromebooks
- Agreed timetable for scheduling of Classroom Based Assessments

Homework

- Homework Club promoted among parents.
- Free homework club for all Junior Cycle students.
- Continued whole school emphasis on importance of Homework (Frequency, sanctions)

New Junior Cycle

- Supporting parents with information about New Junior Cycle, particularly with understanding, CBA'S for 1st and 2nd years.
- Agreed timetable for scheduling of Classroom Based Assessments
- A new Parent Induction will run alongside 1st Year induction starting next academic year

DEIS and SSE amalgamation

- Staff CPD on 3 year DEIS plan 2020-2023.
- Whole staff on DEIS committees under each strand during CP hours to encourage uptake.
- Planning for "Assessment strand 22/23"



St Vincent's Secondary School, Glasnevin, Dublin 11



1.2 The focus of this evaluation

The focus of the evaluation is to look at how we can embed these practices across all areas of school life. This year our biggest challenges was remaining open safely during Covid.

Planning Stage

- We want school to improve our whole school approach to Assessment, we plan to make it the focus of our SSE process for 2022 - 23.

2. Findings

2.1 This is effective / very effective practice in our school

- Literacy – This year restrictions and high Covid cases still meant that with the best intentions some elements of the plan were not possible. We are missing the use of the library and literacy boxes.
- Numeracy – It did not embed the RUMPUR, instead we focused on delivering the best teaching under the most difficult conditions.
- ELearning – we continued to excel.
- Homework – Although the Homework Club was fully functional, we found first years were not as receptive to it. We are continually striving to push homework as a vital whole school strategy, we believe the return to home rooms next year will help this.
- New Junior Cycle – This year we tried to highlight the importance of CBA's among both parents and students. We held two coffee mornings for 1st and 2nd year parents to explain CBA's and grading.

2.2. This is how we judged our progress:

- Literacy testing in first years have shown a comprehension difficulty among almost half of our current first years. This will be a big focus for next year.
- Numeracy is always struggling in our school, we will continue to look at how we report grades, allowing students to work out their scores, this will be emphasised next year, with a standard test cover page for all.
- E- Learning continues to go from strength to strength, there was a second set of Chromebooks purchased at the beginning of the year.
- We have invested in seven new interactive whiteboards for Aug 2022.
- Form teachers and Year Heads are both reporting a lack of homework being recorded in the journals, parents have also raised this issue.



St Vincent's Secondary School, Glasnevin, Dublin 11



2.3

- We are further striving to embed practical literacy and numeracy practices in our school. We carried out our testing later in the year and this is something we will not do again.
- We will continue to promote and encourage our Homework Club, while identifying students who may need specific supports from teachers within the group
- We will communicate our new DEIS targets in accessible language in prominent places throughout the school
- Planning – we had five meetings of the voluntary Assessment committee to plan for SSE for next year, this proved very effective.

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**



St Vincent's Secondary School,
Glasnevin, Dublin 11



Our Improvement Plan Literacy

Timeframe of this improvement plan is from Sept 2021 to May 2022

Targets	Actions	Persons / groups responsible	Criteria for success/ deadlines	Progress and adjustments	Targets achieved
Oral presentations	Increased practice No second year exams instead emphasis on CBA Niall de Burca Visit	All staff JCSP – all junior students attended.	Students report feeling more confident giving oral presentations.	More recognition of students who excel in oral presentations. Based on first year survey.	This is an ongoing target, more work in needed.
Continued development of School Library	A lot of time spend putting the library back together post Covid.	Library Committee	New books in system – organisation of stock	Restocking of the library	Yes – focus for next year on access to library regularly for Junior Classes



St Vincent's Secondary School,
Glasnevin, Dublin 11



Our Improvement Plan Numeracy

Timeframe of this improvement plan is from Sept 2021 to May 2022

Targets	Actions	Persons / groups responsible	Criteria for success	Progress and adjustments	Targets achieved
To develop a whole-school approach to calculating percentages	Agreed procedure at assessment meeting for calculating percentages Explanation for staff including display.	J. Campbell E. Connolly	Students engage with calculating percentages on the front cover of each exam. Reinforcement from all staff, including use of poster if necessary	Agreed that a virtual poster would be sent to each teacher that could be brought up on projector rather than another poster for their wall	No – aim for 2022/23 With the use of a uniform cover sheet.
Numeracy Strategy – to identify the biggest need among students and implement strategy to help combat the issue	All juniors competed PT Maths testing in March.	SEN Committee All Staff	Greater confidence in attempting problem solving among students Repeated use of the acronym in class amongst teachers and students	Testing happened too late in the year.	Some success- team teaching added to numeracy classes who were struggling. .



St Vincent's Secondary School,
Glasnevin, Dublin 11



Our Improvement Plan Elearning

Timeframe of this improvement plan is from Sept 2021 to May 2022

Targets	Actions	Persons / groups responsible	Criteria for success/ deadlines	Progress and adjustments	Targets achieved
Organisation of Remote Learning	In school CPD for teachers and students Contact with Parents and students	J. Hanrahan All Staff	Enhanced use of remote learning Enhanced engagement from students	Overall very good engagement from students, tracking of assignments has meant SEN and Care Teams can support individually also	Yes – huge success given short time to get up and running. Huge work from I.T. Department to support teachers, students and parents
Enhanced efficiency in use of equipment	Purchased a new set of Chromebooks Purchased seven interactive white boards for Aug 2022. Chromebooks to be scheduled for CBAs Weekly booking timetable Access Key stored centrally	J. Hanrahan N.MCC All Staff	Chromebook Timetable managed each week. Availability CBA classes prioritised.	Chromebooks used across a wide range of subjects.	Yes – The second set of Chromebooks has alleviated pressure. Booking needs to be continuously monitored.



**St Vincent's Secondary School,
Glasnevin, Dublin 11**



<p>Move Towards Electronic Communication only with Parents</p>	<p>Emails of Parents collected</p> <p>Electronic Reporting through VSWare</p> <p>Sharing links for letters replacing post</p> <p>Time spent upskilling parents on VSware, googleclassroom etc.</p>	<p>All Staff</p>	<p>Parents using email to contact the school</p> <p>Monitoring of requests for paper reports</p>	<p>Focus on target parents.</p>	<p>Yes – This is working very well.</p>
--	--	------------------	--	---------------------------------	---

Our Improvement Plan Homework

Timeframe of this improvement plan is from Sept 2021 to May 2022

Targets	Actions	Persons / groups responsible	Criteria for success/ deadlines	Progress and adjustments	Targets achieved
<p>Focus on improvements that can be made to homework club</p>	<p>Review of current system</p> <p>Discussion around improving: Tracking of attendance Location of Homework Club Supervision of students</p>	<p>All staff and students</p>	<p>Increased engagement in Homework Club</p> <p>Improved structure</p>	<p>Canteen spaced use effectively</p> <p>Supports for individual students with SEN introduced</p>	<p>No – concerns have been raised about the decline in attendance at homework club. Consistency around the amount of homework across each year needs to be revisited</p>



St Vincent's Secondary School,
Glasnevin, Dublin 11



Our Improvement Plan New Junior Cycle

Timeframe of this improvement plan is from Sept 2021 to May 2022

Targets	Actions	Persons / groups responsible	Criteria for success/ deadlines	Progress and adjustments	Targets achieved
Information for Parents about New Junior Cycle	Information at Open Night Information given at PTMs Coffee morning for 1 st and 2 nd year parents on CBA's	All staff Year Heads	More understanding around Junior Cycle from Parents – increased attendance at information evenings.	Documents needed to be translated into different languages, perhaps individualised for parents going forward (like teacher list for PTMs)	Yes – focus now needs to be on maintain stream of information, particularly for parents of incoming first years
Use of New Junior Cycle Noticeboard	Each subject department to produce display for requirements and success criteria for their Classroom Based Assessments	All subject departments	More engagement and familiarity with process of Classroom Based Assessments	System for displays needed to reflect agreed scheduling of CBAs in each subject department	No – This will be a focus for next year.