

Plean Scoile

St Fiacc's NS

Annual Board Report  
2021-2022



St. Fiacc's N.S.  
Fírinne le Misneach

Signed Chairperson BOM

*Liam Dooley*

## Annual Board Report St Fiacc's NS 2022

### 1. Introduction and Overview

St Fiaccs NS is a co-educational urban catholic school serving the Graiguecullen community. The school's enrolment presently stands at 589 pupils. To date 21 Ukrainian pupils have enrolled at St. Fiacc's. St. Fiacc's has 34 teachers comprising of an administrative Principal, 22 class teachers, 1 HSCL teacher and 10 Special Educational Needs teachers. It shares 5 SET hours with Levitstown NS. It presently has 25 additional EAL teacher hours for Ukrainian pupils and a projected enrolment post. Mr John Brennan is the Principal of St Fiacc's, Mr Pauric Bolton is Deputy Principal. In addition the school has one Assistant Principal 1 post holders and five Assistant Principal 11 post holders. The school will fill an extra AP1 and AP2 post this year. St Fiacc's has four Special Needs Assistants; a caretaker, three cleaners and a secretary. Our Deputy Miss Mary Fleming retired this year after 35 year's service at St. Fiacc's.

On 9/03/2022 St. Fiacc's was recognised as a DEIS Band II School. This will result in increased funding for our school to achieve educational outcomes for our pupils in line with national norms. To date Miss Fiona Payne has been appointed HSCL teacher for a 5 year period.

### 2. Mission Statement

Our school embodies Christian, Catholic values which emphasises compassion, care, good work ethos, striving for excellence and respect for all, irrespective of race, religion or social status.

*Fírinne le Misneach* is our school motto. It is written in Irish and translates as 'Truth with Courage'

### 3. Board Members & Number of Meetings

#### Members

John Brennan (Principal & Secretary), Fiona Payne (Teachers' Nominee), Liam Dooley (Chairperson and Safety Officer), Therese Sheehan (Patron's Nominee & Treasurer), Fiona Horahan (Parent Nominee); Dermot Kinsella (Parent Nominee), Lillian Fogarty (Community Nominee), John Hovenden (Community Nominee)

The Board met 7 times this year. John Brennan underwent training on Child Protection. Mr Brennan also completed a graduate Diploma in Life and Leadership Coaching and a Certificate in Professional Coaching Practice and Ethics, part funded by the Board of Management.

### 4. Initiatives supported by the Board

#### Educational Projects

All protocols outlined in the Covid 19 Response plan and Covid Risk Assessment were adhered to. The BOM wishes to acknowledge the excellent work of the staff of St. Fiacc's in ensuring a safe working environment for both staff and pupils. The school has changed its opening times from 9.20 - 3pm to 9.10 - 2.50pm.

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St. Fiacc's ran a Summer Inclusion programme for pupils with additional needs and pupils of disadvantage for two weeks from July 4th - July 15th. 36 pupils participated in the Programme. St. Fiacc's also ran a DEIS Literacy and Numeracy Camp for one week from July 11th - July 15th for 36 pupils.

### Curricular developments

- Review of school attendance strategy
- Introduction of STEM Education. CPD from PDST on 15/02/2022
- Alignment of planning templates with Primary Language Curriculum
- Utilising Feidhmeanna Teanga in Gaeilge
- Embedding FMS in PE.
- Piloting of Phonological Awareness; Dabbledoo and Numicon.
- Implementation of a framework for a whole school approach to coding.
- Teaching the FUSE Programme from 3rd - 5th to address bullying
- Piloting a Guided Reading Programme in 3rd & 4th.
- Utilising the Flourish programme to complement the RSE programme.
- Staff CPD on Behaviour from NCSE on 18/02/2022.
- Inservice on the Primary Language Curriculum on 15/03/2022. Webinar on Inclusion.
- Staff CPD on using Promethean Activ Panels on 29/03/2022 and Numicon workshop on 29/03/2022.
- Staff CPD on Child safeguarding on 3/05/2022
- Inservice on the Primary Language Curriculum on 03/06/2022. Webinar on Critical Literacy.
- German was taught in 6th class.
- Expenditure on resources in the following areas: PE; Mathematics; Literacy; Science
- Staff followed agreed Action Plans for Curricular targets.
- Staff requirement of 36 Croke Park hours was fulfilled.

### Extra curricular activities and School Celebrations

Extra curricular activities were curtailed due to Covid 19 restrictions but many returned in Term Three 2022. We hope that September 2022 will see a return to many extra curricular activities including: Gaelic Football; Soccer; Basketball; athletics; debating; Student Council; Greenschools; Active schools; Irish Dancing; Tag Rugby. Unfortunately our Hall is occupied with SEN spaces due to accommodation shortages.

### Living Our Ethos

Mr Pauric Bolton is responsible for Coordinating Religious Instruction Policy at St. Fiacc's and assisting with school mass preparation. Mr Bolton attended Flourish training 28/09/2021. Fr Dunphy, our school Chaplain, visits the school regularly and supports all pupils in their faith formation. School and class masses are held regularly to promote the school ethos and to celebrate liturgical events. The parish centre is proactive in Sacramental preparation and prepares both pupils and their families in their understanding of Confirmation, Penance and Eucharist. Prayer is a feature of school life both in class and at Friday Assemblies where designated classes lead the school in prayer and arrange thematic displays monthly in

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our school reception. The Liturgical seasons were celebrated during weekly school assemblies along the following themes:

Oct Assembly Theme - The Rosary.

November Assembly Theme - In November We Remember;

December Assembly Theme- Advent.

January: Catholic Schools Week; Our Lady of Lourdes

February: St. Brigid; Lent

March: St. Patrick

April: Easter

May: Our Lady

June: The Sacred Heart

### Improvements to facilities

- St Fiacc's has received planning permission to build four classroom and a Special Class Unit.
- Lino on corridors and classrooms sealed and buffed this Summer.
- Classrooms in the Senior Corridor were refurbished in August.
- A tree that was impacting on a boundary wall was removed following an engineer's report.
- A fire drill took place on 24/11/2021
- 8 air purifiers purchased and installed on the 8 largest classrooms.
- CO2 monitors installed in all classrooms
- 2 Radon Fans repaired
- A separate fuse box was installed for rented prefabs.
- LED lights installed in old prefab.

### ICT Investment

- Promethean Panel x 5 installed.
- 8 iPads purchased

## 5. Policies and procedures reviewed and ratified by the Board

Safety Statement	28/09/2021
Statement of Strategy for school Attendance	28/09/2021
Covid 19 Risk Assessment	28/09/2021
Covid 19 Response Plan	28/09/2021
Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment	08/02/2022
Anti-Bullying Policy	08/02/2022
Anti-Cyberbullying Policy	08/02/2022



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Policies to review next year:

Curricular	Organisational
Music	Administration of medication
Visual Arts	Healthy Eating
Drama	Homework
Maths	School Tours
	SEN Policy
	Critical Incidence

### 6. School Self Evaluation

St. Fiacc's completed the SSE - Focus of the previous two years. The process was lead by the Principal and the ISM team. The focus was on teaching the Writing Genres using the Writing Process. Self-editing and Self Assessment were central to the SSE Process. Tracker Samples were analysed Termly by the ISM team and Reported back at Staff Meetings and Board Meetings.

The focus for the next three years will be using the SSE cycle to devise DEIS action plans in the areas of: Literacy; Numeracy; Attendance; Partnership with parents & others; Wellbeing

#### Attendance Rates 2021- 2022

##### Overall attendance rate

2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
92.5%	92.6%	90.9%	85.8%

##### Number of Pupils who missed over 20 days

2020-2021	2021-2022
103 (18%)	286 (51%)

##### Cases of Bullying 2021-2022

2

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Number of Pupils Suspended 2021-2022
2

### **7. Confirmation**

The Board has met its obligations in respect of Child Protection & Anti-Bullying procedures. John Brennan was ratified as Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Miss Mary Fleming as Deputy DLP on 08/02/2022 and the Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted. The school accounts have been certified and submitted in accordance with FFSU guidelines.

### **8. Conclusion**

The Board wishes to acknowledge the commitment of staff, the support of the parents/guardians and the enthusiastic cooperation of the pupils who strive to make the school a centre of excellence in Catholic primary education. The efforts made by the teaching staff and SNAs to engage pupils remotely during the Lockdown deserve special mention

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**Table 1: Report of Aggregate Standardised Test Results in Mathematics**

Number of Students whose scores on a standardized test of mathematics fall within the following ranges in respect of tests undertaken in May 2022

	STen 1	STen 2	STen 3	STen 4	STen 5	STen 6	STen 7	STen 8	STen 9	STen 10	Total results	Excluded	Abs	Total
2nd Class (2021)	5 (6%)	3 (4%)	11 (13%)	16 (19%)	9 (11%)	17 (20%)	8 (9%)	11 (13%)	3 (4%)	2 (2%)	85	3	0	88
4th Class (2021)	3 (6%)	1 (2%)	7 (13%)	10 (19%)	8 (15%)	15 (28%)	2 (4%)	5 (9%)	1 (2%)	2 (4%)	54	1	0	55
6th Class (2021)	2 (3%)	5 (7%)	7 (10%)	19 (26%)	14 (19%)	11 (15%)	5 (7%)	6 (8%)	2 (3%)	1 (1%)	72	5	1	78
Total 2021 / 2022	5%	4%	12%	21%	15%	20%	7%	10%	3%	2%	211	9	1	221
Normal distribution	2.3%	4.4%	9.2%	15.0%	19.2%	19.2%	15.0%	9.2%	4.4%	2.3%				

**Table 2: Report of Aggregate Standardised Test Results in English**

Number of Students whose scores on a standardized test of English fall within the following ranges in respect of tests undertaken in May 2022

STen 1	STen 2	STen 3	STen 4	STen 5	STen 6	STen 7	STen 8	STen 9	STen 10	Total results	Excluded	Absent	Total	
2nd Class (2021)	7 (8%)	12 (14%)	11 (13%)	6 (7%)	9 (11%)	18 (21%)	14 (16%)	6 (7%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	85	3	0	88
Total 2021 / 2022	8%	14%	13%	7%	11%	21%	16%	7%	1%	1%	85	3	0	88
Normal distribution	2.3%	4.4%	9.2%	15.0%	19.2%	19.2%	15.0%	9.2%	4.4%	2.3%				

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STen 1	ST en 2	ST en 3	STe n 4	STe n 5	STe n 6	STe n 7	STe n 8	ST en 9	STe n 10	Tota l resu lts	Exclu ded	Abs ent	To tal	
4th Class (2021)	0 (0 %)	3 (6 %)	5 (9% )	7 (13 %)	15 (28 %)	12 (22 %)	6 (11 %)	3 (6 %)	2 (4% )	1 (2%)	54	0	0	54
6th Class (2021)	0 (0 %)	1 (1 %)	7 (10 %)	11 (15 %)	17 (24 %)	10 (14 %)	10 (14 %)	5 (7 %)	7 (10 %)	4 (6%)	72	4	1	77
Total 2021 / 2022	0%	3%	10 %	14 %	25 %	17 %	13 %	6%	7%	4%	126	4	1	131
Normal distribution	2.3 %	4.4 %	9.2 %	15. 0%	19. 2%	19. 2%	15. 0%	9.2 %	4.4 %	2.3 %				

### SIGMA-T Averages 2021

	2019	2021	2022
Std Score	98	95	98
Overall Percentile	45	37	45
STEN	5	5	5
Skills - Percentage Correct			
Understanding Concepts & Facts	57%	54%	56%
Performing Computations & Procedures	49%	45%	48%
Solving Word Problems	40%	33%	37%
Strands - Percentage Correct			
Number	51%	47%	50%
Measure	47%	44%	47%
Shape & Space	52%	47%	49%
Algebra	54%	50%	55%



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Data	50%	48%	50%
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## Drumcondra English Averages 2021

Vocabulary	2019	2021	*2022
SS (v)	101	100	102
Sten (v)	6	6	6
PR (v)	53	50	55
<b>Comprehension</b>			
SS (c)	100	98	100
Sten (c)	6	5	6
PR (c)	50	45	50
<b>Total</b>			
SS	100	99	101
Sten	6	5	6
PR	50	47	53

\*(3rd-6th only)

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### Appendix A

#### **Professional Development undertaken by staff throughout 2021-2022 school year**

Wriggle Connect Online
Flourish Programme- RSE for Catholic Primary Schools
Religion CoOrdinator Meeting
Supporting the Deployment of SNAs (Primary) NCSE
Supporting Literacy: Genres of Writing Programme Webinar Series - <i>Narrative and Report Writing</i>
Supporting Literacy: Genres of Writing Programme Webinar Series - <i>Procedural and Expository Writing</i>
Chess 4 Fun - Carlow Education Centre via Zoom
Comhar Assistant Principal Leadership Training (Kilkenny Ed Centre) (Wexford Education Centre)
Podcasting in the classroom
Establishing Special Autism Classes NCSE
Stephen Graham 'Understanding Levelled Texts'
Using Picture Books for Literacy Instruction in Middle & Senior Classes
Supporting Literacy: Genres of Writing Programme Webinar Series - <i>Recount, Explanation and Creative Writing</i>
Stephen Graham "Comprehending texts" P.1
Developing Writing Craft in the Middle & Senior Classes
Stephen Graham "Comprehending texts" P.2
Comprehension in the Middle & Senior Classes

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Discover Pobble: Teaching & Learning Tools
Exploring Whole Class & Group Novel work in Senior Classes
PPLI & Languages Connect webinar
Yoga For Teens Training Yoga Therapy Ireland Carlow Sports Partnership
Diploma in Mindfulness and Positive Psychology (Stage 2)
Instructional Leadership Teach Meet <i>Teaching &amp; Learning with IL Strategies in the Covid Classroom</i>
Friends for Life
STEM Education PDST
Behaviour Programme NCSE
Numicon
ESCI Region 3 Child Protection Webinar for Primary School Teachers
Reading Recovery link Teacher Training
Primary Wellbeing in Education PDST
WEC CHILD PROTECTION - Addressing The Procedures To Be Followed By THE DLP and THE DDLP And GDPR REGULATIONS
Welcoming Ukrainian Children to our Schools (NEPs)
Magical Leaders- Providing Children with 21st century skills (Zeeko Education & Enterprise Ireland)
Canva in the Classroom
MA Special and Additional Learning Needs - Module 1 - Inclusive Education: Collaboration and Best Practice

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MA Special and Additional Learning Needs - Module 2 - Dyslexia and Literacy: Issues, Perspectives and Best Practice
Guidance on Preparation for Teaching & Learning NCCA & INTO
Developing Motivation and Confidence through Physical Literacy - PDST Kilkenny Education Centre (Hotel Kilkenny)
Legal Issues (BOM) Webinar - CPSMA
Seminar on DEIS Action Planning for Improvement - Inspectorate
Zippy's Friends
Responding to Critical Incidents in School NEPs- elearning module
Certificate in Professional Coaching Practice and ethics Diploma in Life & Leadership Coaching



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### Appendix B

Summer Courses undertaken this Summer by Staff.

Exploring the use of Numicon in the Classroom
Literacy through the Arts
Principals & Principalship
Ciall Ceannaithe 2022
5th & 6th class Education
Introduction to Digital Citizenship
Global citizenship schools 2022
Working with children with anxiety
Aistear - The journey of learning through play!
Differentiation in a Mainstream Classroom
Teaching & Learning in the Early Childhood Setting
Categories of Special Needs
101 Literacy Lifters for Senior Classes
Manage Stress like a pro
Guitar for the classroom
Moving from Mainstream to SET 2022
Tin Whistle and the Music Curriculum
Getting Active in Physical Education
Autism
Social Communication: Meaningful Engagement with Children with SEN
Inclusion & Special Education: A practical Approach
Embracing racial, ethnic and cultural diversity in our schools 2022
101 Maths Boosters for 3rd & 4th class