



OUR **PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS** SELF-EVALUATION REPORT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN

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:

- Parents feel welcome at St. Fiacc's.
- Parents feel that we will arrange meetings for them with their teacher on request.
- Parents feel well informed on school news through newsletters, texts, Aladdin, seesaw and our website.
- Notes sent home are easy to understand.
- Parents receive advice and support on their child's learning
- The school helps with English translation for parents with little English
- Most parents know our HSCL teacher Miss Payne

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

- We surveyed all the parents in our school.
- We reviewed our approach to parental involvement with the staff.
- We analysed levels of parental engagement with Aladdin and seesaw.
- We identified the nationalities of our newcomer parents to assist with language barriers.

This is what we are now going to work on:

- We will make provision for parents whose first language is not English by providing translation of notes into Romanian and Ukrainian, our two largest cohorts of non-English speaking parents. We will also ensure that notes home are parent friendly. We will arrange introductory English classes for parents with little English.
- We will facilitate parent development through arranging leisure courses; personal development courses and parenting courses lead by our HSCL.
- We will involve parents in the school through the following areas: Maths for fun; gardening projects; sports and library lead by our HSCL and Deputy/
- We will involve parents in school policies and planning such as organisational planning; curricular planning through invitation.

This is what you can do to help:

- Continue to support your child's work at home and at school.
- Continue to read our newsletter and messages with school updates
- Ensure that you phone has the Aladdin Connect app to access your child's data.
- Communicate with us if you have any concerns
- Make sure that you attend any school related events regarding your child
- Complete any surveys we send from time to time; your opinions matter and read our DEIS plans on our website www.stfiaccsns.ie
- Familiarise yourself with our online learning platform seesaw.

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 **182 school days** each year.

This year we had school days, from August 31st to June 30th.

The Department sets out a **standardised school year and school holidays**. This year we took all our school holidays within the permitted time.

The Department sets out arrangements for **parent/teacher meetings and staff meetings**. This year we 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. 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 Mr John Brennan and our Deputy DLP is Mr Pauric Bolton.

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 (and updated) our admissions policy on January 2023

We keep accurate attendance records and report them as required.

YES

We encourage high attendance in the following ways:

- Awareness campaigns that promote good attendance and punctuality
- Weekly monitoring of pupil attendance
- Creating a positive school climate

This is how you can help:

- Know how many days your child has missed.
- Explain all absences through your Aladdin application
- Contact Miss Payne (HSCL) or Miss Kavanagh (attendance coordinator) if you have concerns around attendance.
- Early to bed on school nights.
- No screens on school mornings.
- Be organised from the night before.
- Return to school after appointments.
- Keep talking about the importance of going to school.
- Better late than never!
- Don't give your child a choice to stay at home.

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. 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