



LEIXLIP
Educate Together
National School

Roll No. 20526D

Collinstown, Leixlip, Co Kildare W23 R942
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Agreed Report - Board of Management

Date of Meetings: 16th September 2020, 14th October 2020, 18th November 2020

Attendance (Via Zoom): Donie Wiley (Chairperson), Mary McDowell (Principal), Orla Matthews (Treasurer and Parents' Nominee), Lindsay Mahon (Community Nominee)

Minutes of all previous meetings: Approved

Principal's Reports: At each meeting the principal presented reports to the Board of Management outlining the school's activities, updates on staffing, pupil numbers, enrolment information and details of policies in various stages.

Policies Reviewed and Ratified:

- Child Safeguarding (reviewed and updated) - Mary McDowell is the Designated Liaison Person and Niamh Haughton is the Deputy Designated Liaison Person
- Yard Supervision Policy (formulated and ratified)
- Anti-Bullying Policy (reviewed)
- Code of Positive Behaviour (reviewed)

Policies in Draft Stage:

- Health & Safety

Policies in Consultation Stage:

- RSP Policy
- SPHE Plan
- One to One Teaching Policy
- Student Teacher Placement Policy

Staff Update: Niamh Haughton was appointed to a permanent teaching position in Leixlip ETNS and will be teaching Senior Infants. Sarah Crowe was appointed as part-time temporary SET (10 hours).

Enrolment: Our enrolment numbers at September 30th, 2020 were: Senior Infants (15) and Junior Infants (14). Based on these numbers we have been allocated a second permanent teacher (see staff update above).

Leixlip ETNS commenced accepting applications for enrolment for 2021/2022 on October 14th. The closing date for applications was November 27th, with offers being made to parents/guardians no later than December 10th.

Parent Teacher Meetings: This year's meetings will take place over the phone due to Covid-19 restrictions. Parents will be invited to select a mutually convenient time slot.

Home-Based Learning: The teaching and learning platform Seesaw, our school website and email will be used for home-based learning as required. The school will survey parents regarding the availability of devices and broadband in the home.

Curricular Developments

Our RSE and SPHE policies were circulated to parents and guardians for consultation and will be ratified at our next meeting in January.

Ethos

We are developing our Learn Together Whole School Plan and further information will be sent to parents and guardians. Belief Systems is one strand of the Learn Together curriculum - this strand will be presented on a two-year basis with pupils learning about the six major world religions over the two year period. Each year, teachers will undertake to teach content on three major belief systems and one non-belief system. This year (Year Two), the teachers will focus on Buddhism, Sikhism, Christianity and Atheism. Next year (Year One), the pupils will learn about Hinduism, Islam, Juddaism and Humanism. Each year they will also learn about a number of secular or non-religious festivals, traditions and celebrations (Chinese New Year, Halloween, St Patrick's Day etc).

The BOM have agreed additional expenditure on Learn Together Resources.

Giving in the Community

The Board of Management approved the school's participation in a local charity event before the end of term.

Gifts for Staff

In keeping with the Educate Together Ethos, the Board of Management does not encourage the practice of giving Christmas gifts to staff.

Thank you to Staff

The Board of Management acknowledges the hard work and commitment by all members of staff, particularly in light of the current crisis.

Covid19:

Prior to reopening the school, the Board of Management carried out a Risk Assessment in the context of Covid-19 and formulated a response plan and a plan for the safe reopening of the school. These documents along with our Covid-19 Statement were circulated to parents and staff, and are available on our website. One of our responses to the pandemic was our Outdoor Classroom and the development of our play area.

The BOM commended the outstanding work carried out by parents/guardians and grandparents on our school yard. The children are really enjoying all the new additions to their play space and the BOM

acknowledged that this could not have been done without the creativity and support of our school community. A thank you letter will be sent to all those involved.

Aistear and Curricular Events

The outdoor classroom has proved to be an invaluable resource in terms of holding outdoor learning. The classes regularly use this space for Aistear. We have also been fortunate to have had some members of the wider community visit the school to talk to the children (at an appropriate social distance) in our outdoor classroom. In October, we welcomed author Dera Mulholland who read her book *The Dodie Tree* to the children, and in November we enjoyed a visit by local postwoman, Angela. The children also enjoyed a trip to the playground for Maths Week and while we did not participate in National Science Week, we hope to hold our own mini-Science Week later this year.

Extra Curricular Events:

Approval was granted for the introduction of the programme ***Music Generation***. This will enable the school to partner with a professional musician so that the pupils can learn an instrument.

External Events

The BOM agreed to facilitate parents whose children attend ***Shooting Stars*** after-school soccer training. Eoghan O'Meara will collect those pupils who have signed up for training. The explicit consent of parents must be given on the understanding the training is separate from the school.

Laptop from Intel

The Board of Management acknowledged the generous donation of a laptop from Intel. This will be used by our Special Education staff.