

Annual Report of Board of Management of St. Patrick's Boys' School 2016/17

Introduction and overview of the school:

During the 2016/17 school year, there were 12 teachers and 5 SNAs in St. Patrick's Boys' School. This included administrative principal, 7 class teachers and four special education teachers (some shared with other schools). After Halloween, we received an extra allocation of 7.5 hours per week and a part-time teacher was employed to cover this work.

We have an allocation of 4 full-time Special Needs Assistants and one part-time SNA who works 16 hours per week.

We had 161 pupils on roll on September 30th 2016.

Board of Management

The Board of Management met six times during the school year. A new Board was appointed in November 2015 and this Board will serve for four years. The members of the Board are Fr. Con McLaughlin (Chairperson), Ross Bowyer (Patron's nominee), Kathleen Farren, Martin Robins (community representatives), Shauna Stamp, Donal Farren (parents), Noel Doherty (teacher) and Anne McLaughlin (principal).

Legislative and Regulatory Obligations

The school is following regulations fully in the following areas:

- The school calendar and school timetable Circular 11/95
- Parent teacher meetings and staff meetings Circular 14/04
- Implementation of agreement regarding additional time for teachers in school Circular 0008/2011
- Standardisation of school year Circular 034/2011
- Valid enrolment of pupils Educational Act 2000
- Pupils repeating a year Circulars
11/01&32/03

- Development of school plan Education Act 1998
- Engagement with SSE process Circular 39/2012
- Time for literacy and numeracy and reporting achievement
Circular 56/2011
- Exemption from Irish Circular 12/96
- Implementation of child protection procedures Circular 0065/2011
- Implementation of complaints procedure Education Act 1998
- Appeals in the case of refusal to enrol students, suspension and expulsion
Education Act 1998

Home School Links

We have a Home School Community Liaison teacher, Mrs. Grace McCarron who is based in St. Patrick's Girls' School. Mrs. McCarron works closely with all our families. Coffee mornings were organised during the year and many parents visited the school. Many courses were also organised by HSCL teacher for the benefit of children and parents/guardians. A group of grandparents visited the school to talk to children about their own childhoods and grandparents visited to make St. Brigid's crosses.

The Board acknowledges the great work carried out by the parents association. The PA works closely with the school and has been very successful in their fundraising activities.

Early intervention/testing of pupils

Pupils in Junior Infants are tested using the British Picture Vocabulary Scale, PIPA (Preschool and Primary Inventory of Phonological Awareness). Senior Infant pupils are screened using Middle Infant Screening Test (MIST) Strategies are put in place to provide support where needed.

Children in first to sixth classes are tested annually in reading, maths, spellings, using standardised tests. Results are compared to scores on Non Reading Intelligence Tests. Where pupils are not achieving their potential, teachers carry out more screening tests. Support is made available for children who are experiencing difficulty. Children are tested in Gaeilge in 2nd, 4th and 6th classes. Results of all standardised tests are communicated through end of year report cards.

Results of standardised tests carried out in second, fourth and sixth classes are submitted (anonymously) to DES every year.

School Activities

Pupils were engaged in a wide range of activities in the last year:

- Gaelic football
- Hurling
- Soccer
- Swimming
- Walking
- Athletics
- Finn Valley athletics competitions
- Gardening
- Debating
- Class dramas/concerts
- Eason's Spelling Bee
- Cinema trips
- Library trips
- Fair Trade
- Ceili Dancing
- Peace Proms
- Choir competition
- Feis Domhnaigh
- Tin whistle
- School tours to Leisureland, W5, Finn Valley Centre
- Quizzes
- Art competitions
- Catholic Schools Week, including Grandparents Day
- Literacy Lift Off
- Fan the Flame mass
- Trip to Gaeltacht
- Science workshops with Dr. Trish Murphy
- Student Council

School Policies

The Board has devised new policies in attendance, job-sharing for teachers and data protection.

The Board has reviewed policies on Child Protection and Anti-Bullying.

The Board has met its obligations in relation to Child Protection and Anti-Bullying.

The Board has reviewed standardised test results and attendance statistics for the year.

The Board acknowledges the commitment of the staff, the support of parents/guardians and the great work of the boys in our care. We are proud of the standards achieved in the school.