



Scoil an Athar Tadhg

School Self Evaluation / School Improvement Plan

Introduction:

School self-evaluation (SSE) is an important process influencing the quality of education provided for the young people in our school. We are constantly looking at ways in which we can improve as a school. This school improvement plan has been formulated by the in-school management team after consultation and input from staff, pupils and parents. This plan outlines the key areas we as a school are looking to improve in from 2022 – 2026.



2022-2023

In accordance with Circular 0056/22 the 2022/23 school year was used as a review year. Our school used the SSE process to identify and reflect on the impact of Covid-19 on our pupils' educational experiences and outcomes, their well-being, their motivation to learn and their engagement in learning. Questionnaires and focus groups with staff and pupils were used to gather evidence which resulted in the following improvement plan.

| Suggested Areas for Improvement: | Action taken: |
|---|--|
| Overall Anxiety levels of children | Return of whole school assemblies. Weaving Well-being programme introduced in all classes. Emotional support for children who continue to struggle – Interventions and strategies will be decided on a child to child basis. |
| Handwriting | Review and edit of school handwriting scheme. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Move Write Programme in Junior Infants Term 1 and tails in the Infant classes.• Pen to be introduced at the end of 4th class. Streamlining of handwriting schemes throughout the school. Teacher CPD – Dr. Aine O' Dea. Emphasis on rewarding improvements and efforts in children's work. |
| Literacy | U. F. L.I. Implementation of a new phonics programme from Junior Infants to third class called UFLI. This programme will support children's reading and spelling skills. Heggerty Phonemic Awareness This year we also implemented a new Phonemic Awareness programme from Junior Infants to first class called the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Programme. This is mostly oral work and is timetabled for 8-10 mins daily. Bridge The Gap.. S.E.T. 2 nd Class and Above |

2023-2026

Identify Focus:

The identification focus for our next SSE area was discussed at our staff meeting in August of 2023. After this meeting it was decided that Well-being would be our key area for School Self Evaluation for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 school years.

Gather Evidence:

At the beginning of the 2023/24 school year the In School Management Team (ISM) created questionnaires for staff, parents/guardians and pupils. In October of 2023 school staff completed these questionnaires at a dedicated 'Croke Park' hour. The survey was then sent to parents/guardians via Aladdin Connect. Children (2nd – 6th) used the school laptops to complete the survey in groups. These results were then collated and presented in pie chart form (see gathering evidence attachment).

Analyse and Make Judgements:

The results from the questionnaires were then analysed by the ISM team. They were then brought to staff at a 'Croke Park' hour for discussion. Areas of improvement were suggested and ideas for an action plan discussed. The following action plan was then drawn up following that meeting.

School Improvement Plan 2023 – 2026

| <u>Action Plan</u> | <u>Action to be taken/taken</u> | <u>Timeline</u> |
|---|--|--|
| Establish starting point regarding pupil and staff wellbeing. Design surveys & distribute questionnaires. Share proposed plan with school community | Staff Discussion. ISM to design surveys and distribute. ISM on school website. | September 2023 October 2023 March 2024 |
| Staff Well-being | Formation of staff well-being Committee. Mentoring/Support colleague system for newly qualified teachers/SNA's. | March 2024 2024/2025 School year and going forward |
| Provision of space for social interaction/quiet Time | <u>Pupils:</u> Smaller sensory room for use by children in Mainstream classes created. Quiet area with sofa and positive quotes created by back entrance. Buddy Benches for yard times <u>Staff:</u> Benches/quiet area for staff to use during lunch breaks. | January 2024 April 2024 Term 1 2024/2025 Term 3 2023/2024 |
| Communication of positive behavior/achievement in school | Social Media (Instagram) pages to share news/updates. Positive Post It's Principals Awards | December 2023/2024 Term 3 2023/24 Term 3 2023/24 |

Monitor Actions & Evaluation of Impact:

This plan was most recently reviewed and updated in March 2024. It will be continue to be reviewed and edited accordingly throughout this current SSE cycle (2022-2026).

A comprehensive review and evaluation of all aspects of this improvement plan will take place in the 2025/2026 school year. This will be led by the ISM and include all staff, parents and pupils.