

Report to Staff and Parents following Board of Management Meeting 18th December 2019

Digital Roll Out

St. Brogan's College has been announced as a Microsoft Showcase School.

Teaching and Learning

A group of teachers continues to meet each week and roll out new teaching and learning strategies to teachers.

Student Voice Project

The school has been accepted into a project run by ETBI to encourage student voice in the school. Ms C Kelleher, Ms Michelle Crowley and Derry O'Donovan are participating in this project. In addition, the JCT and NCCA have invited the school to send representatives and take part in a learner voice project with them. The school will be asked to showcase the results of the project in the coming year.

Leaving Certificate PE

The school has put in its intention to run Leaving Certificate PE as a leaving certificate subject next year. There is however, a shortage of PE facilities and the school is currently investigating the possibility of using off site facilities.

ETB Leaving Certificate Awards

Four of our students will get awards from the ETB for their leaving certificates – Fionn Twomey, Joe Crowley and Eibhlin Kiely and also Jude Donegan will get student of the year.

Wellbeing Plan

We will be providing 400 hours of wellbeing in 2020 as required by the new Junior Cycle. The different wellbeing groups are continuing to work on this. The Student focus groups have been meeting and the different subject departments are working on their plans.

Whole school Guidance Plan

A group consisting of the two guidance counsellors, Helen and Derry are working on updating the whole school guidance plan following new guidelines from the NCGE.

Child Protection Review

The Board of Management conducted the annual Child Protection Review and adopted the Child Safeguarding statement and Risk Assessment.

Shortage of space and facilities

The school currently has an enrolment of 602 students. It is expected that as the school continues to take 120 first years it will be a school of 720 students in 2023. The school does not have adequate facilities to manage this number of students.

A meeting was held with the CE of the ETB to discuss the need for a long term plan for the school building. The school requires additional general classrooms and additional specialist rooms including an additional art room, additional home economics room, additional science labs, sports facilities, canteen, toilets and staff facilities.

A formal request for additional accommodation is being sent into the ETB for consideration by the Department of Education and Skills.

Planning Permission

An Bord Pleanála has granted planning permission for the extension of 4 general classrooms and two resource rooms. The architect is now working on the disability and fire certificates before going to tender for builders. This build is expected to be completed for September 2021 after which the prefabs will be removed.

Enrolment

There are 87 children on the waiting list for enrolment. There are a number of boys in the community with no school place for September as Hamilton High School is also full. We have had no communication from the Department of Education regarding this issue. The Board notes that we are presently extremely short of space and concerned about dealing with an enrolment of 720 in September 2023 given the lack of rooms, corridor space, canteen space and toilet facilities. We cannot see how we can deal with an enrolment greater than 720 with the current facilities.

Autism Friendly School

The school is taking part in the ASIAM Autism friendly school pilot project.

Annual Report

The Board of Management approved the Annual Report for 2018-19.

Report from Kinsale College

Nomination for Best use of Digital West Cork Business and Tourism Awards

Kinsale College was delighted to win the award in the Best use of Digital category at the prestigious West Cork Business and Tourism Awards 2019.

Erasmus

In 2020 60 students from across all disciplines in the College will travel to Spain Italy and Poland to complete work placements and gain experience expanding their geographical and intellectual horizons through studying and working throughout Europe.

Active Inclusion

Kinsale College has led the Active Inclusion project and the formal report was launched on December 18th 2018

The outcomes of the work done around inclusion in Kinsale are as follows:

National advisory group set up to advise on Inclusion in FE

Solas to ring fence funding for student needs

CETB to appoint an active inclusion officer to direct inclusion in FE going forward.

Continuous Professional Development

Teachers are taking part in the following CPD:

Recognition of prior learning, academic writing, VSware, Digital technologies, UDL, Teaching and learning, ECDL, Assistive Technology, Teacher wellbeing, Office 365, Digital Badge, First Aid, Fire Safety, Permaculture Conference.

Liz Moynihan is now a member of the National Active Inclusion Advisory Group set up by ETBI. Liz Moynihan is also a member of the CETB FET Strategy Group.

Entrepreneurial Awards

The Film & TV students in Kinsale College took part in a pilot course on Enabling Entrepreneurship set up by Mary Lenihan, CETB and Liz McAvoy, Junior Achievement Ireland. On Wednesday 20th March Aaron Kidney, John O'Brien and Sharon Crosbie all presented Prize Winning Business Projects at the Entrepreneur Trade Fair at CETB, Cork with Sharon Crosbie winning 'Best Pitch'.

Kinsale College currently has 20 entrants in an initiative called the "Enabling Entrepreneurship 2019/2020 Programme" with the aim of creating exciting opportunities for students to immerse themselves in the world of enterprise.

Irish Education Awards

Kinsale college has been shortlisted for the prestigious Irish Education Awards in four different categories – Best Further Education Provider, Best Green Campus, Best Student Experience and Best Erasmus Programme.

The award winners will be revealed at an awards ceremony in Dublin on Thursday, February 20th, 2020.

Transition Year Work Experience

Kinsale College is offering transition year students an opportunity to sample courses as part of their Transition year work experience. TY students can apply for a place to sample Sailing, Cooking, Film and TV and Horticulture. This is hoping to increase the progression of students from second level to FE.

Well being

All students are now offered mindfulness and Yoga at the beginning of each day. Counselling is offered at the college and all students have access to drop in centre for wellbeing at the college. Health promotion is planned for Feb 2020

English course

The college is hoping to a recruitment drive to encourage Bandon residents whose first language is not English to attend the college in September 2020.

Climate Action Kinsale college

In solidarity with our global family, the staff and students of Kinsale College gathered on Friday September 21st in support of the global climate strike.

Ahead Conference Submission/ Education Awards Submission

Kinsale College has submitted an entry to the Ahead Through the Looking Glass: Reflecting Inclusion from the Boardroom to the Classroom 2020 on March 26th – 27th 2020 in the Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin, Ireland.

Retention

The focus for this academic year is retention.