

Report to Staff and Parents following Board of Management Meeting 25 August 2020

New Staff

A number of new teachers have been appointed in the following subject areas:

- French and Spanish
- Maths
- English and History

Teaching and Learning

A new teaching and learning group has been set up and will meet weekly to continue to develop teaching and learning in the school. The initial focus will be on digital skills.

Leaving Certificate and Junior Cycle 2021

The Department of Education has published revised guidelines for examinations in junior cycle and leaving certificate for 2021. These guidelines allow for more choice in examinations to allow flexibility for teachers around covering all of the curriculum. Junior Cycle students also only need to do one Classroom Based Assessment and do not need to do Assessment Tasks.

Remote learning

A big effort will be made from the start of the year to upskill staff and students to ensure that if we have to lockdown we will be able to teach remotely in line with the students timetables.

SNAs

The school has applied for additional allocation of SNAs and completed all documentation relating to this.

Enrolment & Admissions Act

The Board of Management approved the final draft of the Admissions Policy and also the Admissions Notice. Both of these are to be published on the website on the 15th September 2020.

Covid 19 Plan and Risk Assessment

The Board of Management approved the Covid 19 Policy, plan and risk assessment.

The Board noted that a huge amount of gratitude must be given to the admin staff, caretaker, cleaners and aide for all the work done in preparing the school for the return. They have worked so hard to make the school ready.

Whole school Guidance Plan

The school will engage with all the stakeholders on the draft Whole School Guidance plan.

Microsoft Showcase School

We have received the honour of being a Microsoft Showcase School for the second year.

Retirement

Ms Margaret Young – Admin Staff will be retiring on the 4th September. Her contribution to the school cannot be measured and she will be missed greatly by all the staff. We wish her the best in her retirement.

Rental of PE Hall, Scoil Phadraig Naofa

We have arranged for the hire of the hall in Scoil Phadraig Naofa. We will be using it five afternoons for PE classes.

Build of four additional classrooms

The proposed schedule for the building of the additional classrooms was provided to the board and will see the building start in mid-September and be finished by the middle of August 2021.

Appointment of Project Manager

The ETB has appointed a project manager who will tender for a design team for the large extension in the next week.

Report from Kinsale College

CPD

Teachers volunteered to do additional CPD in the area of remote teaching, teams, UDL, Autism and dysgraphia over the summer months. Liz Moynihan is working with CETB Active Inclusion officer to organise an online conference for Disability in FE in November 2020.

Remote learning

A huge effort will be made from the start of the year to upskill staff and students to ensure that if we have to lockdown, we will be able to teach remotely in line with the student's timetables. All students will be issued with a CETB email address and induction training for remote teaching will be given to students in small groups.

Needs Assessments

Needs assessments of all incoming students with disabilities is currently being completed and appropriate resources will be allocated.

Assessments

Some practical assessments which were unable to be completed in May/ June/ July are now being scheduled so last years' students can be accredited fully.

Interviews

Interviews for incoming students are currently taking place at the college.

Upgrades to the building

A new office has been created upstairs in the main building along with renovation of ladies' toilet, which was completed over the summer. An additional exit door is being installed in flat roof building along with footpaths at the back. The back of the flat roof building is also currently being cleared out. This work was on-going since July and we hope it will be completed before end of August. The automated main gate has been upgraded in line with health and safety guidance. Screens, and divisions have been installed to help reduce the risk of covid in the building.