

## **Report to Staff and Parents following Board of Management Meeting 15 December 2020**

### **Applied Maths – Leaving Certificate**

There is a new specification for Applied Maths for the Leaving Certificate. We have arranged for three members of staff to sign up for the training and we hope to offer it to next year's transition years.

### **Curriculum Changes for next year's first year**

The Board was given information on possible changes to the first-year curriculum. This is a proposal that must be considered by staff, parents and students and there is more consultation required on it.

The proposal is that we get the students to decide on what subjects they will take as options before they join us. This means that the students will take Irish, English, Maths, Science and History as core and will then choose **four** optional subjects. We can give them four optional subjects as they will not be tasting all the subjects in first year. This means they choose four from the following: Spanish, French, Geography, Home Ec, Tech Graph, Art, Music, Woodwork, Metalwork and Business Studies.

### **Parent/Teacher Meetings**

We are unable to hold Parent/Teacher/Student meetings this year. Staff have entered comments for sixth years, third years and are currently entering comments for fifth years. These will be published to parents online.

### **Staff CPD**

On 16<sup>th</sup> November we held our whole school Junior Cycle Planning Day. Subject departments did a lot of work reflecting on and planning units of learning and sharing resources.

### **Teaching and Learning**

The teaching and learning group continues to meet weekly and are currently working on the roll out of a question answering technique.

### **Learner Voice**

The school is involved in a learner voice project in conjunction with the NCCA and ETBI. The group made a presentation on the project so far this week to a representative of NCCA and ETBI. The group are working on co-creating success criteria with students.

### **WISE**

St. Brogan's was selected to be the pilot school for the WISE Teacher Training programme. This programme was developed by the Sexual Health Centre, Cork. WISE is a sexual well-being programme in line with the Department RSE guidelines for Senior cycle students but there are elements of it which can be adapted for Junior cycle. Up to 12 teachers took part in the training and have given feedback on the course. These teachers will receive resources and further training so this course can be delivered to senior cycle students.

### **Covid Inspection**

We had a Covid 19 Inspection on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December. The inspection was conducted by a DES Inspector. During the inspection she did a Level 1 Child Protection check and found all in order. The Inspectors report noted that we were compliant with all Covid 19 requirements for schools.

### **Design team for new build**

The design team have been appointed for the new building and we held an initial meeting.

### **Build of Four Classrooms**

The building of the four new classrooms and a new DCG room is ahead of schedule. It is expected it will be ready for September 2021

### **Sports Capital Grant Funding**

Members put forward a proposal that we apply for sports capital funding in January in conjunction with a local club to secure funding for development of sports facilities. It was agreed that the school would explore this proposal with local clubs and move forward with a funding application.

## **Report from Kinsale College**

### **Personal Assistants**

The FSD fund for students with disabilities is submitted this December and the college hopes to have the allocation by January 2021 to put adequate supports in place to support students.

### **Enrolment**

Kinsale College has begun marketing the college for students for September 2021. Online applications are now open.

### **COVID-19 19 Plan and Risk Assessment**

Due to Level 5 restrictions students in Kinsale College are only attending the college for essential practical work.

### **Green Campus Status for Kinsale College**

Staff and students at Kinsale College had reason to celebrate this week when the college became the first College of Further Education in Munster to achieve the An Taisce Green Campus Award.

Winning the prestigious green flag is the latest in Kinsale College's impressive list of environmental awareness credentials. It was the first college in the world to offer a course in Permaculture back in 2001. Ever since then, Kinsale College has been gaining national and international recognition as a climate action hub.

### **Teaching and Learning**

A survey of all students was undertaken to determine their IT access and access to broadband/phone data.

### **Inclusion**

Kinsale College has a very active role in the CETB Conference on inclusion run over four weekends in November 2020. This conference resulted from the active inclusion initiative lead by the active inclusion pilot. The national active inclusion led by Solas have looked closely at Kinsale College and some of our best practice will be outlined in a booklet for Further education teachers due to be published in Spring 2021.

### **Solas**

Solas is now the funding body of Further Education. Solas has two main agendas in relation to Further Education and they include Inclusion and Green Campus. Kinsale College has been driving both of these actively at Kinsale College over the past number of years.

**Thanks to the staff**

The Director commended the staff and students who have cooperated so well with the COVID-19 situation. Teaching staff have been amazing and have embraced the IT skills with Teams and Moodle so well and done their very best to ensure that the College has maintained its human connection with the students during these difficulty times.