

## **Report to Staff and Parents following Board of Management Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

### **Remote Learning**

The school is now managing teaching and learning remotely. Remote teaching and learning began on 12<sup>th</sup> January. Students are getting classes online and live as per their timetables.

### **Parent/Teacher Meetings**

The school is unable to hold Parent/Teacher/Student meetings this year. Staff are currently entering comments for second years. These will be published to parents online.

### **Staff CPD**

The ETB has signed the school up to an online training programme – Wriggle Connect which has been rolled out to all staff.

### **Teaching and Learning**

Given that the school is working remotely at the moment the focus is on remote learning and remote learning strategies. There is a planned staff meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> January where the teaching and learning group will be training on an exam answering technique.

### **Pre-Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate Exams**

The board had a discussion on the issues relating to the running of the state exams and also the running of the pre exams given the lockdown situation. It was agreed that a lot of this is out of managements hands and will depend on when we return to school

### **VSware App**

In order to continue to improve communication with parents the school has rolled out a new app for VSware with parents which will mean they can now add in notes on attendance and receive communications through push notifications instead of text.

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

All building works being undertaken in the school have been determined as essential by the government. The building of the four new classrooms and the work of the design team for the big extension is continuing during the lockdown.

### **Sports Capital Grant**

The Board of Management has agreed to apply for Sports Capital Funding in conjunction with Bandon GAA to improve sporting facilities in the school to the benefit of both the school and Bandon GAA.

**Report from Kinsale College**

### **Online teaching**

All teachers are teaching remotely at present in line with guidance. Teachers are focusing on getting the theory elements of courses with the hope of being allowed back to some site activities in the Spring.

### **Enrolment**

The college has begun the process of marketing the college for students for September 2021. Online applications are now open.

### **One stop shop for all ETB adult courses.**

The government has announced a new website where learners can access courses from one website. It is called the right course and also allows learners to access adult guidance services.

### **Wriggle platform**

Wriggle online professional development platform is now available to all our Kinsale College teaching staff to support with online learning and IT upskilling. This has been made available from this week.

### **Mental health issue**

The college is currently supporting a large number of students who are experiencing mental health issues at this time. We are offering online counselling and daily check in with students to ensure they are doing ok at this very challenging time.

### **Thanks to staff**

Liz Moynihan would like to pay tribute to the amazing staff who have done their utmost to keep a positive connection and learning environment for students at this time. The college ethos of kindness to staff and learners at this time is wonderful to see in action and amazing to work with such a positive, hardworking group of people.