



Newpark
Comprehensive School

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Blackrock, Co. Dublin

Roll Number: 81001I

School Improvement Plan Summary

Evaluation Period: September 2019 to March '20

Plan Issue Date: May '19

Summary School Improvement Plan

1. Introduction

1.1 The focus of the evaluation

As part of our ongoing work in the school we conducted a school self-evaluation of student reflection and goal-setting. We evaluated aspects of teaching and learning and found students had engaged in a variety of activities such as self-assessment, peer-assessment, keeping learning journals and thinking time to reflect on their progress.

This school improvement plan sets out the actions that we will undertake in the school over the next year to ensure students will have opportunities to use reflection on their behaviour and attitude to learning to enable them to set meaningful personal goals.

2. Summary of school self-evaluation findings for this period of time.

2.1 Our school has strengths in the following areas:

- The majority of students had engaged in reflective practices of self-assessment (74%) and peer assessment (64%) activities.
- Senior cycle students reported they were able to set meaningful goals for themselves and knew how to reach their goals (59%)

2.2 External Evaluation

2.2 English Subject Inspection

- The English classes observed ranged from good to exemplary with particular note made that our students understood the concept of Success Criteria and how to use S.C. to improve their work. This was an area we prioritised for S.S.E. and School Improvement in recent years and it is pleasing to have it recognised and validated through external evaluation.
- The inspector also noted the active learning through group work and that students were highly engaged and lessons were evidently enjoyable.

We know we have these strengths because the data within the school has been analysed from student surveys and because an external examiner evaluated the work of the English Dept.

2.2 Our school has decided to prioritise the following area for development:

- Increase the number of students, particularly in the Junior Cycle, who report that they reflect on their behaviour and attitude to learning, and are able to set meaningful personal goals as a result of their reflection.

We have decided to prioritise this area because our research indicates there is room for improvement in this area of reflection leading to setting of personal goals.

2.3 Newpark has set the following targets for improvement which are related to students' achievement and has identified the following actions which will ensure those targets are reached by March '20

Evaluation Theme – Improving Teaching and Learning with a focus on Reflection

Targets for Improvement	Actions	Measurable Outcomes
60% of students will report they reflect on their behaviour and attitude to learning, and are able to set meaningful personal goals as a result of their reflection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief staff session in August '19 to outline improvements made to date through S.S.E. and S.I.P. and to build on the concept of using reflection to help students set goals for themselves. • Staff session early Nov. '19 for teachers to present goal setting practices to staff and to develop the idea of goal setting using S.M.A.R.T. targets with a specific emphasis on J.C. Incorporate subject dept. meetings to develop subject specific tools to help students use reflection to set goals. • SPHE in second and third year to support students in goal setting through reflection. • Regular reminders to teachers to facilitate students in setting personal goals and allowing students to revisit their goals to see if they have achieved them using measurable outcomes. Inform parents of the initiatives on parent nights and encourage them to help their children to use reflection to set personal goals. 	When surveyed again 60% of students will report they reflect on their behaviour and attitude to learning, and are able to set meaningful personal goals as a result of their reflection

As a parent you can help us by:

- Checking the student journal regularly.
- Talking to your child about how they feel they're progressing in school and what they hope to achieve and how they might get there.
- Checking the feedback on written work, talking to your child about it AND HELPING THEM TO SET IMPROVEMENT TARGETS.
- Attending parent/teacher meetings.

2.4

We will know we have achieved our improvement targets when the measurable outcomes in the above table have been met.