

Newpark Comprehensive School Board of Management Agreed Report for School Community September 2023

Leaving Certificate

The Board acknowledges the considerable success and achievement of students in the Leaving Certificate 2023. The Board welcomes the continued upswing in students' results and congratulates students from the Class of 2023 on both their objective and subjective successes. The Board acknowledges and thanks teachers for their contribution to the achievements of students in the Leaving Certificate examinations 2023 and all those involved in the facilitation of the examinations.

Child Safeguarding

The Board formally adopted *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)*, as directed in Circular Letter 0036/2023 at its first meeting after 1st September 2023. The Board conducted its annual review of the School's Child Safeguarding Statement & Risk Assessment and adopted a revised document for the academic year 2023/2024. This document is published on the School website and on the noticeboard in the School lobby. All members of the School community are hereby notified of the updated document. Both the Student Council and the Parent Teacher Association are invited to submit feedback in relation to the School's compliance with *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools (revised 2023)*.

Admission to First Year 2024/2025

The *Annual Admission Notice in respect of admissions to the 2024/2025 school year* is published on the School website, along with application information for the forthcoming school year. The School will commence accepting applications for admission to first year 2024/2025 on 2nd October 2023 and cease accepting applications on 27th October 2023.

Leadership & Management Needs and Priorities

The Board initiated a review of the Leadership and Management Needs and Priorities of the School, as per section 4.1, Circular Letter 0003/2018. The last review was conducted in term one 2021 and was ratified by the Board on 13th October 2021.

Hockey Pitch Redevelopment

The Board is pleased that the hockey pitch redevelopment project is nearing completion and looks forward to both students and hockey club members having the opportunity to play on a world class, FIH certified, water-based surface. The Board also welcomes the completion of the fencing, irrigation and other ancillary environmental works to the facility.

School Self-Evaluation

In line with Circular Letter 0056/2022, areas of focus for 2023 to 2026 continue from 2022/2023 with *Effective Use of Technology to Improve and Support Learning and Teaching in the School* and with *Managing Student Anxiety within the School Community*, with the addition from 2023/2024 of *Collaboration in Teaching, Learning, Assessment and Reporting (TLAR)*.

Adjustment to State Examination Assessment Procedures, 2023/2024

The Minister for Education recently announced the continuation of adjustments to assessment arrangements for students due to sit state examinations in 2024, to take account of the disruption to their learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. This document is published on the School website.

Co-Curricular Activities

Initial schedules for the forthcoming academic year for both ECA (Sports) and ECA (Clubs and Societies) are published on the School website. The Board compliments all students and teachers involved in coordination and participation both on the variety of activities available and the speed at which these activities have been initiated.

Department of Education circular letters since the last meeting of the Board:

0029/2023

[Brief absences for staff other than persons employed as teachers and SNAs employed in ETBs](#)

0030/2023

[Home tuition grant scheme maternity related absences component](#)

0031/2023

[Home tuition grant scheme for children without a school place](#)

0032/2023

[Supervision and substitution scheme opt-in for principals and deputy principals with effect from 1-9-22](#)

0033/2023

[Carers leave scheme for SNAs employed in recognised primary and post-primary schools](#)

0034/2023

[Deis delivering equality of opportunity in schools action planning and grant allocation for all deis schools](#)

0035/2023

[Teacher supply post primary teaching hours extension scheme 2023-24](#)

0036/2023

[Publication of child protection procedures for primary and post primary schools revised 2023](#)

0037/2023

[Partial absences for medical related service appointments for post-primary teachers](#)

0038/2023

[Building momentum a new public service agreement 2021-22 implementation of sectoral bargaining with effect from 1-2-22 payment of pmehdip allowance to post-primary teachers on the pre-2011 teacher pay scale](#)

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