

## **Newpark Comprehensive School Board of Management Agreed Report for School Community March 2024**

### **Arts Policy Review**

The Board reviewed the work of the Policy Review Group assigned to this review and approved the revised document Arts Policy, 2024. The Board noted that the School is well renowned for its specialism in the arts. The Board acknowledged all members of the Policy Review Group for their assistance with the consultation process for this review and for their consideration in redrafting the School's Arts Policy. The policy is available on the School website.

### **University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin Awards, 2023**

Nine students from the Class of 2023 received UCD Entrance Scholar awards. Entrance Scholar awards are presented to first year students who achieve 560 points or more in their Leaving Certificate in recognition of their academic accomplishment to date. The students were Ciara Behan, Emmet Hodkinson, Edith Kelly, Keziah Langrell, Gavin Mac Aonghusa, Conor Murphy, Andrew Paul, Matthew Sherlock-Robertson and Anoush Turner. The School was presented with a commemorative plaque. Four students from the Class of 2023 received Trinity College Entrance Exhibition awards. The students were Lelio McManus, Isobel McSweeney, Adam Merebet and Elliot Burns. The Board acknowledges and congratulates all students on their respective awards.

### **Academic Calendar Year, 2024/2025**

In line with Circular 0072/2022, the School must be open for 166 days in the academic year and must observe the standardised breaks at Christmas, Easter and mid-term in the first and second terms of the school year. For the academic year 2024/2025, the School will open on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2024 and close on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Along with the standardised breaks, it was agreed that the School will close on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024 and Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

### **Student Voice**

The Board welcomed an update from the meeting of the Subcommittee for Student Voice held in February, where reports were delivered by representatives of the Student Council, Cultural Council and Sports Council and by both Head Students. The Board acknowledges the School's active participation in the Association of Community & Comprehensive Schools' national student voice initiative and the School's ongoing participation in the Foróige leadership programme.

### **Celebration of 50 years**

The fiftieth anniversary photograph is now hanging proudly in the GPA stairwell and has been warmly received within the school community. The Board acknowledges all involved in bringing this timely and appropriate commemorative piece to fruition.

### **Co-curricular Activities**

The Board acknowledges the participation and success of the School's hockey, rugby and basketball teams so far, this academic year. In particular, the Board wishes both the senior girls' hockey team

and the senior boys' rugby team good luck in their respective upcoming finals. The Board also wishes to acknowledge all students involved in fund raising activities this term, in particular the Student Council and Cultural Council for its joint organizing of the *Variety Show* in February, raising significant funds for UNICEF.

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

0007/2024

Leave Entitlements for School Secretaries employed in Recognised Primary and Voluntary Secondary and Community and Comprehensive Schools

<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/a0040-leave-entitlements-for-school-secretaries-employed-in-recognised-primary-and-voluntary-secondary-and-community-and-comprehensive-schools/>

0009/2024

Staffing Arrangements in Community and Comprehensive Schools for the 2024/2025 school year

<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/96f40-staffing-arrangements-in-community-and-comprehensive-schools-for-the-202425-school/>

0012/2024

The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) – Responsibilities of Data Controllers in respect of the Occupational Health Service (OHS)

<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/89e9d-the-general-data-protection-regulations-gdpr-responsibilities-of-data-controllers-in-respect-of-the-occupational-health-service-ohs/>

0013/2024

Sick Leave Scheme for Registered Teachers Employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools

<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/bea54-sick-leave-scheme-for-registered-teachers-employed-in-recognised-primary-and-post-primary-schools/>

0014/2024

Sick Leave Scheme for Special Needs Assistants Employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools

<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/b962e-sick-leave-scheme-for-special-needs-assistants-employed-in-recognised-primary-and-post-primary-schools/>

0015/2024

Domestic Violence Leave for School Secretaries covered by the terms of the 2022 Workplace Relation Commission (WRC) Agreement, employed in Recognised Primary and Voluntary Secondary and Community and Comprehensive Schools

<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/3a25a-domestic-violence-leave-for-school-secretaries-covered-by-the-terms-of-the-2022-workplace-relation-commission-wrc-agreement-employed-in-recognised-primary-and-voluntary-secondary-and-community-and-comprehensive-schools/>

0016/2024

Unpaid Leave for Medical Care Purposes for School Secretaries covered by the terms of the 2022 Workplace Relation (WRC) Agreement, employed in Recognised Primary and Voluntary Secondary and Community and Comprehensive Schools

<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/00bbe-unpaid-leave-for-medical-care-purposes-for-school-secretaries-covered-by-the-terms-of-the-2022-workplace-relation-wrc-agreement-employed-in-recognised-primary-and-voluntary-secondary-and-community-and-comprehensive-schools/>

0017/2024

Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate English Examination in 2026

<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/c8cb0-prescribed-material-for-the-leaving-certificate-english-examination-in-2026/>

S62/23

Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied Reasonable Accommodations 2024

<https://www.examinations.ie/misc-doc/EN-SE-36827913.pdf>

S72/23

Important Information in relation to Leaving Certificate Practical Coursework uploaded through the Schools Portal

<https://www.examinations.ie/misc-doc/EN-SE-95848862.pdf>

S02/24

Use of Bilingual Dictionaries in the 2024 Certificate Examinations

<https://www.examinations.ie/misc-doc/EN-SE-18617001.pdf>

S12/24

Leaving Certificate (Established) Examinations 2024; Oral Examinations in Irish and Modern Foreign Languages

[https://www.examinations.ie/schools/cs\\_view.php?q=c6e7ab01e1146845d4f3804d0480ec9ba6641d91](https://www.examinations.ie/schools/cs_view.php?q=c6e7ab01e1146845d4f3804d0480ec9ba6641d91)

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