

Newpark Comprehensive School Board of Management Agreed Report for School Community November 2025

In Memoriam

The Board acknowledges the recent death of Mr. Michael Johnston. Michael was a former long serving Chairperson of the Board of Management of Newpark and a founding member of the Dalkey School Project. The Board extends its condolences to Ms Pat Johnston, Michael's widow, and to the wider Johnston family.

Admission to First Year, 2026/2027

As per the school's *Annual Admission Notice in respect of admissions to the 2026/2027 school year*, applications for admission closed on 24 October 2025. The school received 650 applications by this date. The total number of applications received last year was 668 by the closing date. Outcome letters will be emailed to all applicants before Friday 14 November 2025.

Parent Teacher Association

The PTA Annual General Meeting took place on 8 October 2025 and included reports from the PTA Chairperson, PTA Treasurer, and the annual report from the Principal outlining key developments and achievements in the outgoing academic year. The Board expresses its appreciation to all members of the PTA who volunteer their time in support of the school.

Student Voice

The prefects continue to support their first year 'buddies'. Their most recent meet up focused on locker management and school bag organisation. This was planned in conjunction with the teachers' *Community of Practice*, evidencing commendable interconnected practice. The Student Council, Cultural Council and Sports' Council continue to convene regularly. The Board compliments the councils and their facilitating teachers for their commitment to student voice and school improvement.

Sports Centre

The Sports Centre was once again shortlisted for the Overall Leisure Winner 2026 at the recent *Ireland Active* awards. While the top award could not be replicated again this year, the centre was shortlisted to the final six out of seventy centres and earned the gold standard award. The Board acknowledges the management and staff of the centre on this achievement.

Co-curricular Activities

From a ECA (Sports) perspective, there was a presentation in September from *Her Sport* for second- and third-year girls. The workshop highlighted the benefits of staying in sport, balancing sport and school and about breaking barriers for female athletes. There is an increase in first year girls' teams playing hockey this year which is heartening to see. The senior girls' hockey team won the round one Senior Trophy game against St Raphaela's. The senior boys qualified again this year for the All-Ireland finals in Limerick from 22 to 24 October 2025. The team's performances and the manner in

which the team represented the school was exceptional. The boys received warm congratulations from the school community on their return. The school hosted the senior girls' and boys' basketball All-Ireland quarterfinals in October 2025. The senior boys won both their matches and now progress to the All-Ireland semi-finals in December 2025. The senior girls had a fine win against Rathdown recently and have also progressed to the league quarter final. From an ECA (Arts/Culture) perspective, Gold Week returned for 2025, organised by sixth year students and raising funds for *Childhood Cancer Ireland*. Battle of the Bands 2025 was won by *Buxtehude 7*, a group of fourth year students, in a close competition with some fabulous prizes at stake. The third Newpark Model United Nations conference, *ParkMUN* took place successfully on 7 and 8 November 2025. Rehearsals are underway for the senior play, *Twelfth Night*, which will be performed in the Hunter Theatre from 4 to 6 December 2025. The annual Christmas Fair organised by the PTA takes place in the school on Saturday 29 November from 12 noon to 4pm. The annual Carol Service takes place in the school on Wednesday 10 December 2025. The Board congratulates all involved in these activities and looks forward to the remaining upcoming events as the current term concludes.

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

0065/2025

Information for post-primary schools, special schools and other educational settings on curriculum and assessment related developments at Senior Cycle Level 1 and Level 2 Learning Programmes

[Senior Cycle Level 1 and Level 2 Learning Programmes](#)

0068/2025

Senior Cycle Redevelopment (SCR) Implementation Support Measures

[Senior Cycle Redevelopment \(SCR\) Implementation Support Measures](#)

0069/2025 Assessment of Need

Information for schools of developments on foot of recent court cases relating to the AON process

[Assessment of Need](#)

0070/2025 Postgraduate training programme for teachers

NQF Level 9 Graduate Diploma in Social Personal and Health Education/Relationships and Sexuality Education (SPHE/RSE) Programme 2026

[NQF Level 9 Graduate Diploma in Social Personal and Health Education/Relationships and Sexuality Education \(SPHE/RSE\) Programme 2026](#)

S63/25

RACE application process: Reasonable Accommodation Leaving Cert Leaving Cert Applied Junior Cycle 2026

[SEC - RACE IFS 2026.indd; Candidates - State Examination Commission](#)

S73/25 LC Confirmation of entry

Advice on the continued use of the LC portal for candidates to register and activate their account and confirm their subject entries and levels.

S76/25

Circular S76/25 which contains important information in relation to the Leaving Certificate Oral examinations 2027 and 2028.

[EN-SC-69349376.pdf](#)

END