

Newpark Comprehensive School Board of Management Agreed Report for School Community January 2026

In Memoriam

The Board acknowledges the death of Ms. Geraldine Murphy, former teacher, and guidance counsellor in the school. The Board extends its condolences to Geraldine's family, friends, and former colleagues on staff.

The Board acknowledges the death of Mr. Eoin McGee, father to Conor (5FFM) and Sarah (Class of 2025). The Board extends its condolences to Conor, Sarah and the wider McGee family.

The Board acknowledges the sudden and tragic death of Isabel Iordanova-Corryero (1MKS) on 19 November 2025. The Board extends its condolences to Isabel's parents, Iordanka and Miguel, her brother Constantine (Class of 2020), the wider Iordanova and Correyero families and all Isabel's friends and peers.

The Board acknowledges the sudden and tragic death of Odie Bolger (6TMC) on 21 January 2026. The Board extends its condolences to Odie's parents, Lorna and Dan, his siblings, Amelia (Class of 2023), Ned (Class of 2024), Kitty (4TF), Ethan (2HCE), the wider Bolger and Kelly families and all Odie's friends and peers.

'Pack it light, wear it right'

The Board acknowledges the *Community of Practice* for its findings and recommendations on the weight of student schoolbags, particularly in junior cycle. This launched the current campaign to 'pack it light, wear it right'. The Board recommends the strategies for lighter school bags outlined in this campaign to all stakeholders in the interests of student wellbeing.

TCD Entrance Exhibition Awards & UCD Entrance Scholars Awards

The Board acknowledges Sarah Glanville and Oscar Rowe (Class of 2025) on their recent award of an Entrance Exhibition by Trinity College Dublin. Entrance Exhibitions reward academic achievement of new undergraduate entrants to Trinity College Dublin. They are awarded to the student(s) accepted into the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme who achieves the highest points among Trinity entrants from their secondary school.

The Board acknowledges Aoibhinn Pierce, Mark Maybury and Molly Sweeney (Class of 2025) on their upcoming UCD Entrance Scholars Awards for academic high achievement. UCD's top tier of awards is delivered through the UCD Ad Astra Academy, which supports an exceptional group of high-achieving and highly talented students, including Academic, Elite Athlete and Performing Arts scholars.

State Examinations - Mocks

Mock Leaving and Junior Certificate examinations are being held over nine days from Tuesday 3 February to Friday 13 February 2026. Based on the review of the previous year, all mock examinations are being held in the gym for their duration.

State Examinations - Assessment Adjustments, 2027

In April 2024, the then Minister for Education announced that a phased return to normal results would begin with Leaving Certificate 2025. As part of this measured approach, the level of postmarking adjustment applied in 2025 was slightly reduced. The Minister has confirmed that a post-marking adjustment will again be applied to results in 2026, to bring results to a point just under 2020 levels. Aggregate results are expected to reduce by a similar level in 2027. It is hoped it may not be necessary to apply a post marking adjustment in 2027.

In relation to Junior Cycle, one Classroom Based Assessment (CBA) and no Assessment Task applies for current first, second- and third-year students. In due course, the outcome of the UL *Longitudinal Study of Junior Cycle* will clarify the position for first year students who enter in September 2026, i.e., who are due to finish Junior Cycle in June 2029.

Climate Action Summer Works Scheme

Following assessment of the school's application for grant funding under the Climate Action Summer Works Scheme (CASWS) (Circular Letter 0029/2025), for a science laboratory development in room G13, the Department of Education and Youth has approved, in principle, an all-in grant. This will bring the number of science laboratories in the school to six and represents a welcome climate positive development for the school as it continues to grow and flourish.

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

0071/2025

Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate Irish Examination in June 2027 and June 2028 [Link \(pdf\)](#)

0072/2025

Enhancement to Irish Sign Language (ISL) Scheme provision [Link \(pdf\)](#)

0001/2026

Changes to 1:50,000 Discovery Series Maps [Link \(pdf\)](#)

0002/2026

Application of Bonus marks for all components of State examinations through Irish to be examined in Leaving Certificate 2027 and in subsequent years [Link \(pdf\)](#)

0003/2026

Teacher Fee Refund Scheme 2025 [Link \(pdf\)](#)

0014/2026

Grant Scheme for ICT Infrastructure [Link \(pdf\)](#)

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