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

In Memoriam
The Board acknowledges the death of Dr John Harris on 19 June 2026. John was principal of Newpark through its formative years in the 1970s. He worked on secondment for a time as an advisor to then Education Ministers Gemma Hussey and John Boland in the 1980s. John became principal of Sandford Park in 1990 before taking over as principal of Wesley College in 1996, where he stayed until his retirement in 2003 before taking up positions on Wesley's Boards of Management and Governors. The Board extends its condolences to John's wife Barbara, his family, friends, and former colleagues on staff.

Admission to First Year 2027/2028
The *Annual Admission Notice in respect of admissions to the 2027/2028 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 2027/2028 on 1 October 2026 and will cease accepting applications on 21 October 2026.

Child Safeguarding, 2026/2027
The Board adopted the *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025,* as per Circular Letter 0041/2025. Accordingly, the Board reviewed and agreed, the *Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment, 2026/2027*, to include the *Student Friendly Child Safeguarding Statement, 2026/ 2027*. The relevant documents will be prominently displayed in the school, as per guidelines, and on the school website. The Board is satisfied that appropriate consultation with school stakeholders has been engaged and all members of the school community remain welcome to submit feedback in relation to the *Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment 2026/2027* and to the school's compliance with *Child Protection Procedures for Schools 2025*, as outlined on the school website.

Sustainability Policy Statement, 2026
The Board reviewed and approved the *Sustainability Policy Statement*. The Board acknowledges all involved in this review for their assistance and for their consideration in drafting the policy in line with the *Second National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development – ESD to 2030*. The policy will be published on the school website and a link to the policy on the Department of Education's online mapping tool for such policies has been requested.

State Examinations, 2026
The Board acknowledged the success and achievement of students in the Leaving Certificate 2026. The Board noted an increase in the number of grades achieved by students in excess of H4 and an increase in students achieving in excess of 400 CAO points, contrary to national trends. The Board also noted the significant number of distinction grades achieved in Leaving Certificate Applied. The Board acknowledges teachers for their contribution to the achievements of students in the Leaving Certificate examinations 2026.

Climate Action Summer Works Scheme
The tender process for the new science laboratory funded under the Climate Action Summer Works Scheme has now concluded and the Department has confirmed all necessary funding. The Board wishes to express its appreciation to the Minister and her Department for this funding and looks forward to engaging with the contractor to proceed with these works expeditiously.

Adult Education
Adult education evening classes for 2026/2027 are currently on hold. It is hoped to have a return of classes after the autumn term. The Board acknowledges the patience and goodwill of all patrons.

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, teachers, coaches and facilitators involved in the coordination and participation of the wide variety of activities available and initiated.

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

0046/2026
https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/circulars/post-graduate-diploma-programme-of-teacher-professional-learning-for-special-education-teachers-20262027/
0054/2026
https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/circulars/leave-schemes-for-registered-teachers-employed-in-recognised-primary-and-post-primary-schools/
0063/2026
https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/circulars/national-council-for-special-education-parents-notify-process-to-determine-the-level-of-need-for-special-education-places-for-the-20272028-school-year/
0066/2026
https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/circulars/interim-senior-cycle-redevelopment-scr-implementation-support-measures/
0067/2026
https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/circulars/home-tuition-no-school-place-nsp-20262027/
0068/2026
https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/circulars/home-tuition-children-in-carecic-20262027/
0069/2026
https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/circulars/home-tuition-maternity-related-absencemra-20262027/
0072/2026
https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/circulars/guidance-in-post-primary-schools-2026/

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