

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Introduction:

This D.E.I.S. Plan is a new document, designed to continue the work and progress of previous D.E.I.S. Plans. It is detailed in its targets and the activities envisaged enabling us to meet the specified targets and it sets out clearly the school personnel with defined responsibilities. Having said that, all school staff has a responsibility to support and implement the school's D.E.I.S. Plan, as appropriate.

Under the eight areas of activity and commitment, various short and long term activities are prescribed and required. This is a working document, through which the school sets targets, sets new targets and, hopefully, evolves in its approaches and achievements in meeting the needs of the most important members of the school community – the students.

In keeping with Department of Education and Skills policy, all targets set out in this document are meant to be S.M.A.R.T. – Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-Bound.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Area 1: Retention

<i>Target</i>	<i>Target Group</i>	<i>Activity / Activities</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>
Record Enrolment Figures Annually	All Year Groups	Comprehensive information is retained and submitted to D.E.S.	Principal and School Secretary keep records.
Record Departing Students Figures Annually	All Year Groups	Records updated on school administration package.	Principal and School Secretary keep records.
To record and analyse retention data since 2004 year of entry	All Year Groups	Records updated on school administration package. Historical records maintained by Deputy Principal.	Deputy Principal, Principal and School Secretary keep records.
Activities undertaken to improve retention rates: Expansion of Curriculum; Reduced Timetable, etc.	All Year Groups	Expansion of Curriculum for all Students; Free Choice of Optional Subjects; Reduced timetable for some students; Learning Support for Some Students.	School Completion Programme Coordinator, Home School Community Liaison Officer, Year Heads, Deputy Principal, Principal work with Guidance Counsellor and Others.

Comment:

We believe, as a school, that our retention rates to Junior Cert. and Leaving Certificate are a success. Very few students leave the school and those who do so, normally, go on to be educated elsewhere.

Comprehensive figures / records have not been retained previously. The charts below will be used henceforth to track and record patterns of retention.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Retention to Junior Certificate

Of the students who entered First Year in the school, how many dropped out of school (i.e. left and did not go to another school) at each of the following stages in Junior Cycle?

	Year of entry to 1 st Year: 2013	Year of entry to 1 st Year: 2014	Year of entry to 1 st Year: 2015	Year of entry to 1 st Year: 2016
Number of Students that started 1st Year	32	35	32	24
Stage in Junior Cycle	No. that dropped out at each stage	No. that dropped out at each stage	No. that dropped out at each stage	No. that dropped out at each stage
A. Junior Cycle, Year 1	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
B. Junior Cycle, Year 2	<i>0</i>	<i>3 (2 join another school)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
C. Junior Cycle, Year 3	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
D. Junior Certificate examination	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Total that did not reach Junior Certificate milestone (A+B+C+D)	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Junior Cycle Drop-out Rate <i>Total (A+B+C+D) as % of number that started 1st Year</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Junior Cycle Retention Rate <i>100% minus drop-out rate %</i>	100%	100%	100%	100%

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Retention to Leaving Certificate

Of the students in the school who sat the Junior Certificate examination, how many dropped out (i.e. left and did not go to another school or training institution) at the following stages in Senior Cycle?

	Junior Certificate Examination 2013	Junior Certificate Examination 2014	Junior Certificate Examination 2015	Junior Certificate Examination 2016
Number of Students that sat the Junior Certificate Examination	29	27		
Stage in Senior Cycle	No. that dropped out at each stage	No. that dropped out at each stage	No. that dropped out at each stage	No. that dropped out at each stage
Completion of Junior Certificate	<i>did not enter Senior Cycle</i> 1	<i>did not enter Senior Cycle</i> 0	<i>did not enter Senior Cycle</i> 0	<i>did not enter Senior Cycle</i> 0
Leaving Certificate Year 1 <i>(including LC, LCVP & LC Applied)</i>	<i>dropped out during/at end of 5th year</i> 1 = 3%	<i>dropped out during/at end of 5th year</i> 0	<i>dropped out during/at end of 5th year</i> 0	<i>dropped out during/at end of 5th year</i> 0
Leaving Certificate Year 2 <i>(including LC, LCVP & LC Applied)</i>	<i>dropped out during 6th year</i> 0	<i>dropped out during 6th year</i> 1	<i>dropped out during 6th year</i> 0	<i>dropped out during 6th year</i> 0
Leaving Certificate Examination <i>(including LC, LCVP & LC Applied)</i>	<i>completed 6th year but dropped out without sitting examination</i> 0	<i>completed 6th year but dropped out without sitting examination</i> 1	<i>completed 6th year but dropped out without sitting examination</i> 0	<i>completed 6th year but dropped out without sitting examination</i> 0
Total that left post-Junior Certificate without reaching Leaving Certificate milestone	2 = 6%			
Total as % of number that sat Junior Certificate examination	6%			

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Beginning in the school year 2012 – 2013, there has been a notable expansion of the Curriculum on offer to students.

- The time allocated for teaching and learning has been extended to 28 hours weekly for students. This is in keeping with the D.E.S. policy / circular letter and one of the findings in the W.S.E. / M.L.L.
- Some curricular changes have been introduced: Art is a core subject for 1st Years 2012 – 2013; History and Geography are both core subjects at Junior Cycle; French and Technical Graphics are optional subjects for 1st Years this year and Art is an option on the Senior Cycle curriculum. *Geography is an optional subject at Senior Cycle. Business is now a timetabled Leaving Cert. subject.*
- Music was introduced in 2013 – 2014 for Junior students and in 2015 – 2016 for senior students.
- Leaving Cert. Geography was reintroduced for 2015 - 2016.
- There is no formal P.E. but sport / exercise is provided for within the timetabled curriculum.
- Time allocated for 1st Year Religion has been doubled.

A Free Choice re: optional subjects was offered to Incoming 1st Years (September 2013, September 2014, September 2015) and to 5th Years (September 2013, September 2014, September 2015), also. This will continue in future school years.

There is now a more professional presentation of school – new school folders and prospectus has been published; the school website has been updated; the Principal visits the main five feeder national schools prior to enrolment and return visits take place prior to the Summer to facilitate the exchange of the “Student Passport” into 2nd level.

Target: To maintain a Retention rate above 95% to Junior Cert. and above 90% to Leaving Certificate level, for the next three school years beginning with 2015 - 2016.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Area 2: Attendance

<i>Target</i>	<i>Target Group</i>	<i>Activity / Activities</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>
Record Student Absenteeism Daily	All Year Groups	Twice Daily Roll Calls provide the necessary information.	Principal and S.C.P. Support Worker keep good records weekly.
Collate Student Absenteeism Figures Weekly / Term by Term / Annually	All Year Groups	Twice Daily Roll Calls provide the necessary information.	Principal and S.C.P. Support Worker keep good records on an ongoing basis.
Work with Parents / Guardians re: Issues Arising from the Above Figures	All Year Groups	Year Heads, Deputy Principal, Principal and the Home School Community Liaison Officer engage with parents / guardians in writing, by telephone, by meetings and by home visits (H.S.C.L. only).	Year Heads, Principal and S.C.P. Support Worker keep good records on an ongoing basis. H.S.C.L. Officer visits homes to discuss matters with students / parents / guardians. Targeted students' attendance has improved.
Report as Required figures / concerns to N.E.W.B.	All Year Groups	Twice Daily Roll Calls provide the necessary information.	Principal and S.C.P. Support Worker keep good records weekly / monthly / term by term. Records are normally made online and on time.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Comment:

The chart below sets out information about student attendance in recent years:

	2009/ 2010	2010/ 2011	2011/ 2012	2012/ 2013	2013/ 2014	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018
Total enrolment as at 30/09	134	150	154	154	159	169			
Sum total of all student absences	2954	3066	3527	2422	2365				
No. of students with 100% attendance	4	4	0	0	3				
No. of students absent 20 days or more	49	59	69	50	40				
No. of students expelled	0	0	0	1	0	0			
No. of students suspended	28	22	12	23	27				
Average No. of Days Missed Per Student	22	20	23	16	15				

The above figures show a very significant improvement in student attendance, with students benefitting from an extra 1100 school days (over 6,500 class contact hours) of tuition in 2012 – 2013, compared with the previous school year. Perhaps, this is, in part at least, due to an improved school climate and atmosphere, as well as to the curricular changes made in recent school years.

Also, in 2012 – 2013, the school gave N.E.W.B. sponsored certificates to twenty two (22) students who missed five days or less in the academic year: 1st Year - 6; 2nd Year - 2; 3rd Year - 9; 5th Year - 1; 6th Year – 4 (Total: 22).

In 2013 – 2014, the school gave N.E.W.B. sponsored certificates to twenty six (26) students who missed five days or less in the academic year: 1st Year - 9; 2nd Year - 6; 3rd Year - 2; 5th Year - 8; 6th Year – 1 (Total: 26).

In 2014 – 2015, the school gave N.E.W.B. sponsored certificates to thirty six (36) students who missed five days or less in the academic year: 1st Year - 10; 2nd Year - 8; 3rd Year - 5; 5th Year - 6; 6th Year – 7 (Total: 36).

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

In 2013 – 2014, the school’s Student Code of Behaviour specified an automatic suspension for smoking. More than half of the student suspensions were for a smoking offence. The Board of Management changed that rule for 2014 – 2015 and subsequent years, deeming smoking an offence that may result in suspension. The Principal had / has discretion in this matter.

- The school hosts a Breakfast Club each morning.
- At the end of the school year, there are Awards for attendance.
- The S.C.P. Coordinator and H.C.S.L. Officer track and follow up non attendance and link monthly with the Educational Welfare Officer from N.E.W.B. They, also, provide specific programmes / events to deal with current issues for students – relationships / substance awareness, etc.

Targets:

To maintain the average numbers of days lost by students to 15 or less in the three school years, beginning with 2015 - 2016.

Noting the link between suspension and poor attendance, to maintain the number of students suspended at 16 or less in the three school years, beginning with 2015 - 2016.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Area 3: Literacy

<i>Target</i>	<i>Target Group</i>	<i>Activity / Activities</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>
Gather and collate reports before entry	Incoming 1 st Years	Principal meets with national school principals and parents / guardians between January and May to gather information.	This work is ongoing and is completed by August annually.
Apply to N.C.S.E. for appropriate resources for students	Incoming 1 st Years and, if appropriate, transfer students	The Principal completes the application forms and submits them to the S.E.N.O.	This work is ongoing and was completed by March annually.
Gather and review STEN scores from national schools	Incoming 1 st Years	The Principal requests this information after students are enrolled in the school.	This work is ongoing and is completed by August annually
Prepare list and copies of reports for teachers to review and use in their teaching	Incoming 1 st Years and, if appropriate, transfer students	The Principal and the school's Special Needs Assistants prepare copies of the reports, etc. for staff to view as required.	This work is completed before the start of the school year for Incoming students. It is already completed for existing students.
Provide additional supports to students through "Fast Forward" Programme	To date, Junior Cert. students only (3 – 5 students annually).	The S.C.P. Support Worker meets and works with students on a daily basis.	This work is ongoing.
Review the progress of students with special educational needs and adapt to suit current needs	Students in all Year Groups	The Principal, Deputy Principal and Year Heads carry out this work on an ongoing basis. They are often advised / supported by the S.C.P. Coordinator and H.C.S.L. Officer.	This work is ongoing.
Adopt philosophy that “	All Year Groups	Each teacher and subject	This work is ongoing.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Literacy is Everyone's Responsibility"		department is expected to fulfil the minimum demands of the school's "Draft" Literacy Policy.	
Develop and Implement Literacy Policy	All Year Groups	The Literacy Group, established by the Principal, devised a Draft Literacy Policy, with appropriate consultation. This Draft Literacy Policy was given to the Board of Management for consideration / approval in May 2013.	The Policy has been approved by the Board.

Comment:

To support the educational needs of certain students, the school provides resource teaching and small withdrawals as required. Furthermore, exam accommodations / reasonable accommodations are provided in school exams and mock exams, as well as in state exams in June.

Target:

To gather baseline data re: student literacy and to set targets for improvement in each of the next three school years, beginning with 2015 – 2016.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Area 4: Numeracy

<i>Target</i>	<i>Target Group</i>	<i>Activity / Activities</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>
Gather and collate reports before entry	Incoming 1 st Years	Principal meets with national school principals and parents / guardians between January and May to gather information.	This work is ongoing and is completed by August / September annually.
Apply to N.C.S.E. for appropriate resources for students	Incoming 1 st Years and, if appropriate, transfer students	The Principal completes the application forms and submits them to the S.E.N.O.	This work is ongoing and is completed by March annually.
Gather and review STEN scores from national schools	Incoming 1 st Years	The Principal requests this information after students are enrolled in the school.	This work is ongoing and is completed by August annually
Prepare list and copies of reports for teachers to review and use in their teaching	Incoming 1 st Years and, if appropriate, transfer students	The Principal and the school's Special Needs Assistants prepare copies of the reports, etc. for staff to view as required.	This work is completed before the start of the school year for Incoming students. It is already completed for existing students.
Review the progress of students with special educational needs and adapt to suit current needs	Students in all Year Groups	The Principal, Deputy Principal and Year Heads carry out this work on an ongoing basis. They are often advised / supported by the S.C.P. Coordinator and H.C.S.L. Officer	This work is ongoing.
Adopt philosophy that “Numeracy is Everyone’s Responsibility”	All Year Groups	Each teacher and subject department is expected to fulfil the minimum demands of the school’s “Draft” Numeracy Policy.	This work is ongoing.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Develop and Implement Numeracy Policy	All Year Groups	The Numeracy Group, established by the Principal, devised a Draft Numeracy Policy, with appropriate consultation. This Draft Numeracy Policy was given to the Board of Management for consideration / approval in March 2014.	The Policy has been approved by the Board.
--	------------------------	--	---

Comment:

To support the educational needs of certain students, the school provides resource teaching and small withdrawals as required. Furthermore, exam accommodations / reasonable accommodations are provided in school exams and mock exams, as well as in state exams in June.

Target:

To gather baseline data re: student numeracy and to set targets for improvement in each of the next three school years, beginning with 2015 – 2016.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Area 5: Examination Attainment

<i>Target</i>	<i>Target Group</i>	<i>Activity / Activities</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>
Collate School Figures re: Junior Cert. And Leaving Certificate Results / Attainment	3 rd Years and 6 th Years Annually	On the day, the State Examinations Commission issues the results, the Principal collates the figures for each teacher and each subject department.	This work was done for the first time in August and September 2012 and is now an annual event.
Compare School Figures re: Junior Cert. And Leaving Certificate Results / Attainment with National Figures	3 rd Years and 6 th Years Annually	On the day, the State Examinations Commission issues the results, the Principal collates the figures for each each subject department.	This work was done for the first time in August and September 2012 and is now an annual event.
Invite Comments / Observations from Teachers / Subject Departments re Same	Teachers in all Subject Departments	On the first day that the school reopens, subject departments meet and review the results and provide written reports / observations to the Principal.	This work was done for the first time in August 2012 by subject departments and is now an annual event.
Make Report to C.E.O. and Board of Management re: above figures	3 rd Years and 6 th Years Annually	Full report to be written, with both subject department observations and his own views prepared for the C.E.O. by the Principal.	This work was done for the first time in August and September 2012 by the Principal. It is now an annual event.
Set School Targets re: Junior Cert. And Leaving Certificate Results / Attainment and Monitor Achievement of	All Year Groups	Subject Departments to meet and, in consultation with the Principal, set new targets at start of each year, having reviewed the success or otherwise of existing targets.	This work was done for the first time in 2014 - 2015 by subject departments.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

These Targets			
Develop and Implement a Student Attainment Policy	Whole staff and Teachers in all Subject Departments	Planning Committee to prepare drafts, seek opinions / views, etc. before creating a “Draft Student Attainment Policy”.	This work was done for the first time in 2014 - 2015 by the School’s Policy Development / Planning Committee, in consultation with the school’s partners, before being submitted to the Board of Management for review / amendment / approval.

Examination Attainment at Junior Certificate

Of those who sat the Junior Certificate examination, how many attained fewer than 5 Grade Ds on Ordinary Level papers? How many attained fewer than 5 Grade Ds on a combination of Ordinary and Foundation level papers? How many sat no Higher Level papers?

Junior Certificate Examination	Year of Examination 2013		Year of Examination 2014		Year of Examination 2015		Year of Examination 2016	
Attained fewer than 5 Grade Ds on Ordinary Level papers	<i>No. of candidates</i> 1	<i>% of all candidates</i> 3	<i>No. of candidates</i> 0	<i>No. of candidates</i> 0	<i>% of all candidates</i> 0	<i>% of all candidates</i> 0	<i>No. of candidates</i> 0	<i>% of all candidates</i> 0
Attained fewer than 5 Grade Ds on a combination of Ordinary and Foundation level papers	<i>No. of candidates</i> 1	<i>% of all candidates</i> 0	<i>No. of candidates</i> 0	<i>No. of candidates</i> 0	<i>% of all candidates</i> 0	<i>% of all candidates</i> 0	<i>No. of candidates</i> 0	<i>% of all candidates</i> 0
Sat no Higher Level papers	<i>No. of candidates</i> 8	<i>% of all candidates</i> 27%	<i>No. of candidates</i> 14	<i>No. of candidates</i> 14	<i>% of all candidates</i> 52%	<i>% of all candidates</i> 52%	<i>No. of candidates</i> 14	<i>% of all candidates</i> 52%

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Examination Attainment at Leaving Certificate

Of those who sat the Leaving Certificate examination, how many attained fewer than 5 Grade Ds on Ordinary Level papers? How many attained fewer than 5 Grade Ds on a combination of Ordinary and Foundation level papers? How many sat no Higher Level papers?

Leaving Certificate Examination	Year of Examination 2013		Year of Examination 2014		Year of Examination 2015		Year of Examination 2016	
	<i>No. of candidates</i>	<i>% of all candidates</i>	<i>No. of candidates</i>	<i>% of candidates</i>	<i>No of all candidates</i>	<i>% of all candidates</i>	<i>No. of candidates</i>	<i>% of all candidates</i>
Attained fewer than 5 Grade Ds on Ordinary Level papers	6	22%	2	2				
Attained fewer than 5 Grade Ds on a combination of Ordinary and Foundation level papers	6	22%	2	2	7			
Sat no Higher Level papers	15	55%	12	12		44%	12	44%

Comment 1:

For the first time, the 2012 – 2013 school year saw significant data gathering and analysis of State Examination results. Figures going back to 2004 were gathered and collated and are available to school management.

Comment 2:

For the first time, the 2012 – 2013 school year saw significant progress as outlined above. In the 2013 Leaving Cert. exam, the figure taking no Higher Level papers was reduced from 72% to 55%. This figure has come down again in 2014.

This work has been developed and expanded on an ongoing basis into recent years and will continue for future years.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Target:

To provide Study Skills Advice Workshops for exam classes in all school years.

To implement the school's Student Attainment Policy.

To increase and maintain the number of students taking at least one Higher Level Paper in the Leaving Cert. exam to at least 67%.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Area 6: Educational Progression

<i>Target</i>	<i>Target Group</i>	<i>Activity / Activities</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>
Record destination of Leaving Cert. Classes Groups	6 th Years Annually	The Guidance Counsellor tracks student progression annually and submits a report to the Principal.	This work was done for the first time in August – November 2012 and staff were informed of the destination of our most recent graduates.
Compare destination figures with other schools	6 th Years Annually	The Principal compares / reviews this information.	This work is ongoing.
Set Targets for Educational Progression	Senior Cycle Students	The Guidance Counsellor and Principal (himself, a former Guidance Counsellor) work with the students to set targets / make plans for life after the Leaving Cert. – work or education or both.	This work is ongoing.
Review the achievement of those targets	Recently Graduated Students	The Principal compares / reviews this information.	This work is ongoing.
Record destination of Post Leaving Cert. Class Group	P.L.C. Students Annually	The Guidance Counsellor tracks student progression annually and submits a report to the Principal.	This work was done for the first time in August – November 2012 and staff were informed of the destination of our most recent graduates.
Compare destination figures with other P.L.C. Centres	P.L.C. Students Annually	The Principal compares / reviews this information.	This work is ongoing.
Set Targets for educational Progression	P.L.C. Students Annually	The Guidance Counsellor and Principal (himself, a former Guidance Counsellor) work	This work is ongoing.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

		with the students to set targets / make plans for life after the Post Leaving Cert. Course – work or education or both.	
Review the achievement of those targets	P.L.C. Students Annually	The Principal compares / reviews this information.	This work is ongoing.

The Curragh Post Primary School and the Business in the Community Initiative

Our school participates in the “Business in the Community Initiative”. Through this career and vocational development initiative, our Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme students get the opportunity to learn about business, employment, careers and personal skills and attributes that may enhance their self esteem and their readiness for independent learning and living and participating in the world of employment.

Since 2013 – 2014, we have been positively involved in the Skills@Work (5th Years) and Student Mentoring (6th Years) Programmes.

Our school’s business partner is Horse Racing Ireland. We are indebted to Mr. David Wright (Human Resources Manager, Horse Racing Ireland) and Ms. Clodagh Gorman (Business in the Community) for the contribution they are making to our students, school and staff through their insightful leadership and involvement with Curragh Post Primary School.

Maynooth Access Programme

NUI Maynooth (now Maynooth University) established the Maynooth Access Programme Second Level Programme in 1998. The programme aims to increase the participation rates at third level of under-represented socio-economic groups through targeted, developmental work with twenty designated second level schools, students, communities, parents, teachers and other Higher Education Access Offices. Approximately 3,000 students participate in Second Level Programme activities each year.

Aims of MAP Second Level School Programme

- To increase the number of students who complete their second level studies to the best of their ability and proceed to third level education.
- To encourage parental involvement in the educational careers of young people attending MAP schools and to increase family awareness of the benefits of completing senior cycle education and continuing to third level education and
- to promote positive community attitudes toward education and to establish links with community based organisations working to combat educational disadvantage.

Schools Outreach Projects and Programmes

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

- Take 5
- Science Practical Days
- English Revision Course for Leaving Certificate
- Special Achievement Awards
- Inspirational 6th Year Student & School Staff Awards
- Computer Science Camp.

Every year, the Curragh Post Primary School participates in this excellent programme – our students find it challenging, exciting, supportive and enjoyable. We are grateful to the staff in Maynooth University who share their knowledge and skills with our students and who encourage them to engage in education related events in both the short and long term.

Comment:

The information set out below was centrally collated and reviewed for the first time in September 2012.

Leaving Cert. Class & PLC Class 2011 – 2012: Destination of Students -

	2012	
	LC	PLC
<i>No. Enrolled</i>	29	23
University	1	1
I.T.	1	6
P.L.C.	13	2
Army	5	1
Employment	1	6
Unemployed	5	2
Motherhood	3	2
Emigrated	0	1
Unknown	0	2

This information will be added to and responded to as the years progress.

Target: To increase and maintain student progression to further education courses to at least 50%, beginning in the 2015 – 2016 school year.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Area 7: Partnership with Parents / Guardians

<i>Target</i>	<i>Target Group</i>	<i>Activity / Activities</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>
Inform Parents / Guardians about School Policy / Practices / Procedures / Events	Parents / Guardians of Students in all Year Groups	Host Information Evenings for Incoming 1 st Years and current 3 rd and 6 th Years; Publish and publish monthly newsletters; Put newsletters and policies and draft policies on school website.	All of these activities are being done – mainly by the Principal, in consultation with other members of staff.
Consult with Parents / Guardians about Policy Development	Parents / Guardians of Students in all Year Groups	Post home and / or post on school website draft policies and invite parental / guardian suggestions / websites.	This is being done by the Principal.
Establish / Maintain Vibrant Parents' Council	Parents / Guardians of Students in all Year Groups	Set up Parents' Council	This work is ongoing.
Liaise with / Consult / Involve Parents / Guardians of Students at Risk / Vulnerable Students / etc.	Parents / Guardians of Students in all Year Groups, as appropriate	The Principal, Deputy Principal, Guidance Counsellor, S.C.P. Coordinator, H.C.S.L. Officer and Year Heads carry out this work on an ongoing basis.	This work is ongoing.
Write to parents / guardians in advance of each parent – teacher meeting and try to improve attendance at P.T. Meetings	Parents / Guardians of Students in all Year Groups	The Principal writes to parents / guardians in advance of each parent – teacher meeting.	This ongoing work has been successful and has led to improved attendance at P/T Meetings. Also, the attendance of 3rd, 5th and 6th Year students at these meetings has been very successful and well received.
Use, as appropriate, the skills and	Parents / Guardians of Students in all Year Groups	The Principal primarily encourages the H.S.C.L. Officer	This ongoing work is a real strength of the school.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

<p>contacts of the Home School Community Liaison Officer</p>		<p>to do this. He does his job enthusiastically and very thoroughly.</p>	
<p>Establish a referral “chain of command” for the H.S.C.L. Officer</p>	<p>Teachers / Parents / Guardians of Students in all Year Groups</p>	<p>Parents / guardians feel free to contact the H.S.C.L. Officer as they need advice / support. Teachers regularly seek his advice and involvement.</p>	<p>This ongoing work is a real strength of the school.</p>
<p>Provide suitable (short term) courses for parents / guardians</p>	<p>Parents / Guardians of Students in all Year Groups</p>	<p>The Principal primarily encourages the H.S.C.L. Officer to do this. He does his job enthusiastically and very thoroughly.</p>	<p>This ongoing work is a real strength of the school.</p>
<p>Use school website to communicate information about the school</p>	<p>Parents / Guardians of Students in all Year Groups</p>	<p>The Principal and a teacher edit and add to the school website on a weekly basis. The website is up to date and very informative.</p>	<p>This ongoing work begun in September 2012 is a real strength of the school.</p>

Comment:

The school is developing and strengthening its work on this strand of the D.E.I.S. Plan, particularly since 2012 – 2013.

Target: To maintain attendance of parents / guardians at parent teacher meetings at at least 75%.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Area 8: Partnership with Other Schools and Statutory / Voluntary Agencies

<i>Target</i>	<i>Target Group</i>	<i>Activity / Activities</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>
Visit Feeder Catchment Primary Schools Prior to 1st Year Enrolment	Feeder National Schools	Principal meets with national school classes and talks to students and gives out letter / documents, etc.	This work is ongoing and will be completed by April annually.
Gather Information from Primary Schools Prior to 1st Years Attending	National Schools' Principals	Principal meets with national school principals to gather information.	This work is ongoing and will be completed by early April annually.
Report as Required to TUSLA / N.E.W.B. / E.W.O.	Students in all Year Groups	The Principal and S.C.P. Support Worker keep good records and make the returns as required. In addition, the S.C.P. Coordinator and H.S.C.L. Officer attend monthly meetings and are in regular contact with the E.W.O.	This work is ongoing and is always carried out on time.
Participate as fully as possible in School Completion Project Meetings	Students in all Year Groups	The Principal primarily encourages the S.C.P. Coordinator to do this. She does this job enthusiastically and very thoroughly.	This ongoing work is a real strength of the school.

Liaison / Cooperation with External Agencies (Community, Voluntary and Statutory)

With which external agencies does the school liaise and cooperate?
 What issues relevant to DEIS are addressed in partnership with these agencies?
 How effective is the partnership in addressing the issues?

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

External Agencies	DEIS Issues addressed with each agency	Effectiveness of partnership with each agency
National Education Welfare Board – N.E.W.B. / T.U.S.L.A.	Attendance and Retention	Very Effective
J.L.O. and Garda Diversion Programme	Attendance and Retention	Effective
H.S.E. Social Work Dept.	Participation, Attendance and Retention	Very Effective
K.Y.S. (Kildare Youth Services)	Participation	Effective
C.A.M.H.S. (Child and Adult Mental Health Services)	Participation and Retention	Needs based, can be difficult to access services
HALO (Addiction Services for Adolescents)	Participation and Retention	Engages and supports work with S.C.P. for individuals
C.K.L.P. (Co. Kildare Leader Partnership)	Participation and Retention	Bursary grants available; Co facilitates programme – Ignite; Assists with volunteers
K.S.P. (Kildare Sports Partnership)	Participation and Engagement	Trains active Junior leaders; Grant aids and supports holiday programmes
K.C.C. (Kildare County Council)	Participation and Engagement	Grant aids and supports holiday programmes; Schools’ supports programmes.

Comment:

The school is developing and strengthening its work on this strand of the D.E.I.S. Plan, particularly since 2012 – 2013.

Curragh Post Primary School: DEIS Plan 2015 - 2018

Target: To maintain and strengthen relationships with external partners in 2015 – 2016 and in future school years.

Conclusion:

This D.E.I.S. Plan gives a flavour of the many responses of our school to meeting the needs of the developing students / teenagers / young adults in our care. As such, it is a person centred document, committing us to act with imagination and resolve under the eight areas of activity outlined.

Approved by Board of Management: September / October 2015