

Our Self Evaluation Report and Improvement Plan for 23/24

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your support and participation in our school community. At Coáiste Mhuire Co-Ed, our core business is providing excellence in education, and your feedback plays a vital role in shaping and improving how we operate. We believe that by actively listening to our parents, we can better understand your needs and aspirations for your children.

During this year we have had feedback from our teachers and your students which has provided valuable insights into various aspects of our school, including teaching methods, curriculum, extracurricular activities, and overall school environment. We are committed to using this feedback to drive positive changes and enhance the educational experience for every student.

It is through our collaboration with parents like you that we can continue to foster an environment that promotes growth, learning, and success. Your involvement and partnership are integral to the success of our school and the well-being of our students. Together, we can create an educational environment that nurtures excellence and lives our mission of allowing every student to reach their full potential.

Should you have any further questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We value your partnership and look forward to continuing this journey together.

In the last year we have looked at teaching and learning in our school to find out what we are doing well.

This is what we discovered we are doing well

Numeracy

Over 73% of our students feel confident in problem solving which is an improvement on last year but this can improve further with more of an emphasis on Read, Write, Try.

53% of students in LCA/target groups feel confident using their basic numeracy skills in a real life setting. We intend on developing this more with exposure to more real world numeracy questions.

Literacy

In a focus group of students, they felt that their oral presentation skills had improved and teachers felt that the first year oral presentation component was a good addition but could improve. We intend to develop a workshop for first year students which we will share with parents.

- We want a bigger proportion of students to feel confident in oral presentations which is why all first years focused on this as an assessment tool in 23/24. LCA English and Communication, and Junior Cycle English students must complete oral presentations as part of their junior and leaving certificate programmes. The final date on this area will be assessed from 2nd Year English CBA's and LCA2 English and Communication Interviews.
- Feedback from the English CBA SLAR noted that doing a first year presentation gave students confidence and normalised presentations in front of peers.

Attainment

Excellence in education is a core value of our school and we have continued to work on the following areas this year.

Target grades:

96% of students say that they input their target grades and 81% of students say that teachers discuss target grades after the exam (however on analysis it was identified that transition years have skewed that data and there is scope for improvement in LCA). We need to continue to inform you when target grades are due and we provide more information at our parent study skills workshop.

Exam key words:

68% of students are confident in fully understanding exam questions which is a slight improvement on last year. Over 80% understand the target exam keywords. This is an area for improvement.

Learning Intentions:

A very high number of students (96%) say that teachers share learning intentions and success criteria with them in class. This gives us confidence that our actions in this area are effective.

Questioning:

This year we have really focused on effective questioning in class. Students report that when teacher are clear it really helps them but we acknowledge that we have room for improvement at a student level in this area. We will continue to embed this with our staff and add a student centered action.

Attainment in state examinations:

All subject departments have set ambitious targets for their students in state examinations.

Transitions

We continue to run our transition programme for students entering first year. This is a very successful programme as the data shows.

- Over 70% of first year parents are engaged with the student induction programme and have attended the JCSP christmas celebration.
- 82% of first years thought belonging plus was very beneficial

Partnership with parents

Thanks to all parents who attended parent teacher meetings. Attendance at parent teacher meetings continues to be excellent.

This is what we have decided to focus on for improvement:

- We want more students to feel confident in problem solving, which is why we are going too focus on the use of Read Write Try with our 2nd year students with additional needs. This will support students to be more confident in understanding exam questions. We will also offer targeted support to 1st and 2nd years.
- Learning intentions and success criteria is the foundation of formative assessment. We will continue to embed Effective questioning in the new academic year and also work with students in this area.
- We hope to improve our overall attendance.

This is what you can do to help

- Please make sure you can log in to compass - this will help with attendance and will help you to keep informed about the events in our school.

- Continue to discuss target grades with your child and encourage them to work towards the targets set so that they optimise their potential. Please discuss grades after academic tracking and ask if they used Read Write Try, exam keywords and Cops when doing their academic work.

- We will run a parent attainment workshop early in the next academic year - we would really appreciate it if you could attend.

- Encourage your child to attend school, use compass to leave notes when they are absent and contact the school if you are concerned about your child's attendance.

- Please continue to come to parent teacher meetings and celebrations throughout the year.