

Mount Carmel Secondary School

King's Inns Street

Dublin 1

DEIS Plan

(SUMMARY REPORT)

September 2018 – May 2021



Area of Focus: Educational Attainment

In the last year, we have looked at **educational attainment** in our school to find out what we are doing well. This is what we discovered works well in our school:

- **A broad range of programmes available to students (LCA, TY, JCSP, JC and LC)**
- **Specialised rooms for different subject areas (Art, Home Economics, Science and Music)**
- **Curriculum Support for students**
- **JCSP Library available to all students**
- **Homework Club available for 1st Year students**
- **Drop Everything and Read**
- **Study Skills Seminars**
- **Full-time Guidance Counsellor**
- **Assistant Principal with the responsibility for a Culture of Study**
- **EAL and SEN Coordinator**

This is what we did to find out what we were doing well, and what we could do better:

- **Investigated the number of students taking higher level subjects**
- **Investigated our level of school retention**
- **Investigated the level of progression to third level**
- **Formed a focus group to identify areas of strength and weaknesses**

This is what we are now going to work on:

- **The number of Junior Certificate students undertaking higher level in English, Irish and Maths.**
- **The number of Leaving Certificate students undertaking higher level subject.**

This is what you can do to help:

- **Encourage your daughter to higher level subjects where possible.**
- **Monitor your daughters school reports.**
- **Attend Parent-teacher meetings to gauge your daughters' progress.**

Area of Focus: Attendance

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 works well in our school:

- **Prize-Giving Ceremony**
- **Friendly welcoming atmosphere**
- **Clean and warm environment**
- **HSCL Teacher**
- **Tutor and Year Head System**
- **A small school community**
- **Guidance Counsellor**
- **Life skills worker**
- **School Completion Programme**
- **Key Workers**
- **Handouts available in classrooms for absent students**
- **Open-door policy at senior management level for all students**
- **Regular phone calls home regarding attendance which fostering positive relationships**

This is what we did to find out what we were doing well, and what we could do better:

- **Collected data on overall school attendance**
- **Collected data on attendance in exam years**
- **Formed a focus group to identify areas of strength and weaknesses**

This is what we are now going to work on:

- **The attendance of 3rd Year students**
- **The attendance of a target group of 3rd Year students.**

This is what you can do to help:

- **Send your daughter to school every day.**
- **Submit a note for any school days missed.**
- **Submit any medical certificates in relation to your daughter's absences.**
- **Let the school know of any planned absences.**

Area of Focus: Literacy

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 works well in our school:

- **JCSP**
- **Paired Reading**
- **Oral presentations**
- **Graffiti Workshop**
- **Storytelling workshop**
- **Spelling Bee (TY to First Years)**
- **Accelerated Reader Programme**
- **Students communication skills are encouraged through clubs (Lego lunchtime, Games club, Homework club, Film club)**

This is what we did to find out what we were doing well, and what we could do better:

- **Surveyed students about their attitudes to literacy**
- **Formed a focus group to identify areas of strength and weaknesses**

This is what we are now going to work on:

- **Oral presentation as part of Christmas / summer exams.**
- **Reading aloud in class.**

This is what you can do to help:

- **Encourage your daughter to read at home**
- **Encourage your daughter to practise her presentation skills**

Area of Focus: Numeracy

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 works well in our school:

- **Every classroom contains a numeracy noticeboard**
- **Many teachers ask students to figure out their own results in percentage form**
- **Maths for Fun**
- **Maths Week (including game and prizes for students)**
- **DIT Maths Grinds**
- **Floating teacher in the Maths Department**
- **Extra Maths classes after school**
- **4 Teachers fully qualified to teach Maths to Higher Level Leaving Certificate**
- **Entrance test for Maths students**
- **Maths homework club on Thursday**
- **Parallel teaching of Maths with 1st Years**

This is what we did to find out what we were doing well, and what we could do better:

- **Surveyed students on their attitudes to numeracy**
- **Formed a focus group to identify areas of strength and weaknesses**

This is what we are now going to work on:

- **The use and direction of numeracy boards in classrooms**
- **The numeracy information available in students' journals**
- **Making everyday number more visible and fun the school environment**

This is what you can do to help:

- Encourage your daughter to complete all her maths homework
- Help your daughter to read the analog clock
- Encourage your daughter to calculate everyday numbers without the use of her phone etc.

Area of Focus: Partnership with Parents and the Community

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 works well in our school:

- **Full-time HSCL Coordinator**
- **Parent Classes such as: Cookery, Exercise Classes, Book Club, Extra English Classes**
- **Parents' Room – kitchen, recreational area and office space**
- **Home Visits (HSCL)**
- **Newsletter to Parents**
- **School Website, School App, Facebook, Twitter**
- **School Reports sent home regularly**
- **Phone calls, letters and texts sent regularly to parents**
- **Biennial School Musicals**
- **Graduation Ceremonies**
- **Localise**
- **Charities – Trick or Treat for Temple Street**
- **Team Hope – Shoe box Appeal**
- **LGFA – Ladies GAA**
- **School Completion Programme (SCP) – Life skills coach, Key workers**
- **School Open night**
- **Careers Night**
- **Programme information Night – TY, LCA, LC, 1st Years**
- **BITC – Mentor scheme with Cornmarket Financial/Work placement – Matherson's Law Firm**
- **Junior Achievement (Barclays, BNY Mellon) – TY**
- **NFTE – Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship**
- **D.I.T – work placements and programmes, tuition**
- **Trinity – TAP, 21st Century Teaching and Learning**
- **JCSP Library network**
- **Grandparents Day**
- **Bradóg – afterschool clubs, life skills**
- **Ilac Library – Violin Programme, Talks**
- **St. John's Educational Centre, Glasnevin.**
- **Morton Stadium, Santry**
- **Smithfield Community Astro turf pitch**

This is what we did to find out what we were doing well, and what we could do better:

- **Surveyed parents on their attitudes towards the school**
- **Formed a focus group to identify areas of strength and weaknesses**

This is what we are now going to work on:

- **Attendance at Parent Teacher meetings by making it more positive experience.**
- **Establishing Parents' Council.**

This is what you can do to help:

- Attend all of your daughter's parent teacher meetings
- Get involved in the Parents' Council if you can
- Call the school and speak with the staff if there is any issue
- Attend a parents' class
- Teach a parents' class
- Contact the HSCL teacher if you would like to become more involved in school life

Area of Focus: Transitions

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 works well in our school:

- **1st year:** College workshops, e.g., product design, electrical engineering in TUD Grangegorman
- **2nd Year:** Workshops during Careers Week: mapping out pathways to College & aspirational career activities
- **3rd Year:** Choices Evening; Guidance information sessions - awareness of options & progression routes
- **TY:** STEM workshops; Career presentations; Career Portal workshops; Apprenticeship workshops, Barclays Mentor sessions; Google Work Experience; Weekly Guidance classes
- **5th year:** STEM workshops; Careers Portal; Career presentations; Women in Technology event in TUD; Women in Aviation event in Dublin Airport; Women in Apprenticeship events; College speakers; Weekly Guidance classes.
- **6th year:** CAO application workshops; Hear and Dare (Access to College workshops); Intreo Life Skills Workshops; College speakers; STEM Workshops; Careers Portal; Apprenticeship Open Days and Workshops; Higher Options; promotion and attendance of College and University Open Days; preparation for college interviews; Further Education Application Process.
- **Whole School:**
 - Links forged with Trinity Access Programme and TUD Access Programme, focusing on all year groups.
 - College Awareness Week and Careers Evening (Colleges and Career talks)
 - Links forged with INTREO - apprenticeships and vocational progression
 - Trips to Google Headquarters, Colleges, Universities and workplaces to promote progression for all year groups.
 - Past Pupil speakers from Universities and Colleges
- Full-time career guidance teacher
- JCSP programme
- Careers week every November

This is what we did to find out what we were doing well, and what we could do better:

- **Formed a focus group to identify areas of strength and weaknesses**
- **Collected data on the transition of 6th Years to third level education.**
- **Collected data on the transition of JCSP target students to third level education.**

This is what we are now going to work on:

- **Teacher-Mentoring Programme with a focus on third level applications**
- **Promotion of apprenticeships**
- **Expansion of careers night to include third year students**
- **Promotion of careers to all JCSP students with focus on target JCSP Students**

This is what you can do to help:

- Help your daughter research 3rd level courses
- Support your daughter in her course choices
- Seek advice from the school if you are unsure how to help your daughter
- Attend the programme choice meeting with your daughter

Area of Focus: Retention

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 works well in our school:

- **Tutor System**
- **Guidance**
- **SNAs**
- **Breakfast Club**
- **Homework Club**
- **Fitness Classes**
- **School Trips**
- **Rainbows**
- **Lego Lunchtime in the Library**
- **School Completion Programme**
- **School Programmes: JCSP, LCA, TY,**
- **HSL Teacher**
- **Life Coaching**
- **After-School Study**
- **Mentoring Programme**

This is what we did to find out what we were doing well, and what we could do better:

- **Collected data on school retention**
- **Formed a focus group to identify areas of strength and weaknesses**

This is what we are now going to work on:

- **Use SCP indicators to identify students at risk of early school leaving**
- **Profile students who are at risk.**
- **Work with the Attendance Subcommittee to put a plan in place for target students.**
- **Compile a data base of students who have left the school**

This is what you can do to help:

- **Speak to your daughter about the benefits of staying in school**
- **Encourage your daughter to take part in the all extra-curricular activities**
- **Encourage your daughter to foster positive relationships with her peers**