



**Scoil Náisiúnta Naomh Fheargus,
An Gleann,
Co. Luimnigh.**

**St.Fergus' National School,
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OUR SELF-EVALUATION REPORT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Literacy and Numeracy March 2020

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:

Literacy

- Standardised test results show that teaching and learning in the areas of Spelling and Vocabulary remain good. The average increase in spelling age across tracker students was 1yr and 2 months.
- Spelling and Vocabulary are specifically taught in our school and is assigned set time in class timetables through the school.
- Teachers feel that Literacy is taught to a high standard within the school and that we are differentiating where necessary for the needs of each child. Test results corroborate this belief.
- Assessment of Learning and Assessment for learning in literacy are used by the teachers in our school.
- A positive attitude towards Literacy is also fostered.
- Most children in the school state that they like reading.
- The introduction of guided reading and pupils reading at a level at which they can engage has had a positive impact on reading levels within the school.

Numeracy

- Standardised test results show that teaching and learning in the area of Numeracy remains good.
- Tables are specifically taught in most classes in our school and is assigned set time in class timetables through the school.
- Teachers feel that Numeracy is taught to a high standard within the school and that we are differentiating where necessary for the needs of each child. Test results corroborate this belief.

- Assessment of Learning and Assessment for learning in Numeracy are used by the teachers in our school.
- Station Teaching is used in the Junior Classes to encourage interaction and fun in the area of Numeracy.

Areas of Focus going forward:

Literacy

Following Classroom Teacher observation and study by S.E.T.s of Comprehension Scores through the school, we believe that Comprehension skills and more specifically, the retelling and sequencing of a story will be the focus of our S.S.E. for the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 school years.

Numeracy

The strand Measures-explicitly Time-and the teaching of Tables will to be a focus in the school years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.

This is what we are now going to work on:

Literacy

- * Retelling of stories-sequencing of stories, putting stories back together, drawing the sequence of a story,
- *Spelling rules
- *Idioms
- *Spelling/Vocabulary Apps

Numeracy

- *Teaching of tables
- *Focus on the curricular area of Measures i.e. time, money and length
- *Apps for Tables

This is what you can do to help:

Literacy:

*Play word/spelling games with your child/ren- e.g. Scrabble, word searches, crosswords

*Use technology to play spelling/word games-e.g. Wordscapes

*Read to and with your child, no matter what age they are. Ask them to retell the story in sequence to you, ask them questions about the book

Numeracy:

* Allow your child access to “real Maths” e.g. handle money in the shop, tell the time, calculate time of tv programmes, between programmes

*Use online games to help with tables e.g. ie.ixl.com, topmarks.co.uk

*Play number games with your child e.g. Suduko, PrimeClimb

*Practise your child’s tables as part of homework

Here is some information about how we are carrying out our work and about what the Department of Education and Skills requires us to do.

School time and holidays

The Department requires all primary schools to have **183 school days** each year.

Last year we had 182 school days out of 183-one exceptional closure due to red weather warning.

The Department sets out a **standardised school year and school holidays**.

This year we took all our school holidays within the permitted time.

The Department sets out arrangements for **parent/teacher meetings and staff meetings**. This year we had parent/teacher meetings and staff meetings, all in line with the Department’s regulations.

Looking after the children in our school

The Department requires schools to follow the *Child Protection Procedures* it has set down. Our board of management has agreed in writing to do this.

All teachers know about the *Procedures* and we have told all parents about them and how we follow them.

Our Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Mrs Deirdre Kennelly

and our Deputy DLP is Mrs Rosie Ambrose

Enrolment and attendance

The Department requires schools to have and publish an admissions policy, to record and report attendance accurately, and to encourage high attendance and participation.

We have an admissions policy and it is published.

We are currently reviewing our admissions policy as per directive to all schools by DES.

We keep accurate attendance records and report them as required.

We maintain a high attendance in the following ways.

Positive behaviour for a happy school

The Department requires schools to have a code of behaviour, and asks us to consult parents and children about it. We do this.

Our code of behaviour describes and supports positive behaviour.

We have a very clear and high-profile anti-bullying policy in our school.

Signed: Tommy Barrett

Date: 11/3/2020

CHAIRPERSON Board of Management

Signed: Deirdre Kennelly

Date: 11/3/2020

PRINCIPAL