

# Loreto College Mullingar

## Our Self-Evaluation Report and Improvement Plan

### 1. Introduction

This document records the outcomes of our last improvement plan, the findings of this self-evaluation, and our current improvement plan, including targets and the actions we will implement to meet the targets.

#### 1.1 Outcomes of our last improvement plan from 2014 to 2018

- Target 1. Re: Student attitudes to maths.  
This target was multifaceted and while fewer students claimed to like maths, there was a notable increase of students who responded as understanding maths when they work in small groups.  
Continuing focus on an embedded numeracy strategy aims to show an increase in positive attitudes towards maths.
- Target 2: Re: Use & understanding of mathematical language  
There was a decrease in the percentage of students who said they were good at explaining maths in their own words.  
A greater focus on the use of oral communication of numeracy in class is necessary.
- Target 3. Re: Attainment in State Exams  
To improve learner outcomes in State Exams and increase uptake of subjects at higher level  
This needs to be reviewed in September 2018 based on State Exam results

It is important to note that while the initial questionnaire of 2014 emphasised maths, the progression of SSE in the school gave a greater significance to numeracy in general. For the purposes of SSE, it was necessary to re-administer the same survey to both students and staff.

Overall attitudes to numeracy in the school have improved as per teacher observation.

#### 1.2 The focus of this evaluation

We undertook self-evaluation of teaching and learning during the period September 2017 to January 2018. We evaluated the following aspect(s) of teaching and learning:

- Learner experiences: Students reflect on their progress as learners and develop a sense of ownership of and responsibility for their learning
- Learner outcomes: Students expectations of achievement
- Teachers collaborative practices: Working together and sharing expertise.

### 2. Findings

#### 2.1 This is effective / very effective practice in our school

- Feedback on progress in class is, in general, informative and frequent.
- Students know their own strengths and weaknesses although not necessarily as learners, primarily on a personal level.
- Students consider the consequences of their actions.
- Goal setting is regular among the students on a casual basis.

#### 2.2. This is how we know

- Dot survey conducted of teaching staff, linked to Junior Cycle key skills
- Google form questionnaire of three class groups of first year students
- Wellbeing survey of students
- Focus groups of 16 students and 6 teachers to ascertain greater detail and attitudes.

### 2.3 This is what we are going to focus on to improve our practice further

- Use of digital technology to assist teaching and learning.
- Setting and achieving goals for students and the monitoring of same.
- Student reflection on and responsibility for their own learning.

### 3. Our improvement plan

On our SIP 2017-2021 we have recorded:

- The **targets** for improvement we have set
- The **actions** we will implement to achieve these
- **Who is responsible** for implementing, monitoring and reviewing our improvement plan
- How we will measure **progress** and check **outcomes** (criteria for success)

As we implement our improvement plan we will record:

- The **progress** made, and **adjustments** made, and **when**
- **Achievement of targets** (original and modified), and **when**
- organisation of work, reflection, goal setting and achievement.

