

Ballinode Community College



DÉIS Plan 2019 - 2022

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:

1. Through the implementation of research-based topics across all subject areas students were given the opportunity to engage in group work and to learn independently through investigative/self-directed approaches
2. Students demonstrate high levels of interest and participation in learning
3. Students need development on applying skills learned in one context to another context
4. A whole school policy on assessment needs to be developed
5. Homework needs to be a priority
6. Students do not feel they are being rewarded for good work and good behaviour by their teachers

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

- Students surveyed on Student Well-Being in our school
- Teachers surveyed on Learner Experiences and Teachers' Collective/Collaborative Practice

This is what we are now going to work on:

1. Assessment
2. Homework
3. Well-Being

This is what you can do to help:

1. Communicate with school through journal and school office
2. Support your son/daughter with homework
3. Ensure effective routine at home
4. Access homework club and other school supports

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

- (i) The Department requires all post-primary schools to have 167 school days each year and a 28-hour school week
This year we had 167 school days, from 29/08/17 to 01/06/18. Our school week is 28 hours
- (ii) The Department sets out a standardised school year and school holidays
This year we took all our school holidays within the permitted time Yes No
- (iii) The Department sets out arrangements for parent/teacher meetings and staff meetings
This year we had 3 parent/teacher meetings and 3 staff meetings, all in line with the Department regulations

Looking after the children in our school

The Department requires schools to follow the *Child Protection Procedures* it has set down

- (i) Our board of management has agreed in writing to do this Yes No
- (ii) All teachers know about the *Procedures* and we have told all parents about this and how we follow them Yes No
- (iii) Our Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is David Mc Guinness and our Deputy DLP is David Downey

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

- (i) We have an admissions policy and it is published Yes No
- (ii) We reviewed (and updated) our admissions policy on 20/06/17
- (iii) We keep accurate attendance records and report them as required Yes No
- (iv) We encourage high attendance in the following ways:
1. Notify parents at 10 days
 2. HSCLO visit

3. Monitoring and intervention through care team
4. School meeting with parents at 20 days with EWO

This is how you can help:

1. Follow advice from HSCLO (routine and practice)
2. Ensure 100% attendance where possible
3. Explain all forced absences

Positive behaviour for a happy school

- (i) The Department requires schools to have a code of behaviour, and asks us to consult parents and students about it. We do this Yes No
- (ii) Our code of behaviour describes and supports positive behaviour Yes No
- (iii) We have a very clear and high-profile anti-bullying policy in our school Yes No