



Sacred Heart Secondary School

Clonakilty

Co. Cork

62170b

School Self-Evaluation Report

June 2020

School Self-Evaluation Report

1. Introduction

1.1 The Focus of the Evaluation

A school self-evaluation of teaching and learning, in relation to the review of ICT use at Sacred Heart Secondary School, commenced in September 2019. At the beginning of the school year, a new committee was formed consisting of Ann Marie Brosnan - Principal, Brendan Walsh - Deputy Principal, David Pegler, Marie O Flynn, Elaine Galvin and Colm Kiely.

The focus of the evaluation for the year 2019-2020 was to meet the targets set in June 2019 which were to be fully completed by June 2020.

Targets for June 2020

1. To purchase a total of 12 Chromebooks (3rd Class set) and charging cabinet by **January 2020**.
2. Further staff training in G suite facilities by **November 2019**.
3. Wireless printing facility to be operational by **December 2019**.
4. Chromecast facility to be operational in all classrooms where data projectors have the necessary capabilities (HDMI input and universal dc power socket) by **March 2020**.

1.2 School Context

Sacred Heart Secondary school is an all-girls secondary school under the trustees of CEIST. Established in 1941 under the guidance of the Sisters of Mercy, Sacred Heart now caters for 525 students. Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate are offered. The school was one of the first to take up the offer of Transition Year when the programme became more available in 1984. Leaving Cert Applied Programme has been offered to students since 1998. It has been a wonderful success for the students who have followed the programme. The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme was undertaken in 1994. This is a valuable extra for many students.

2. Review of June 2020 Targets

1. To purchase a total of 12 Chromebooks (3rd Class set) and charging cabinet by **January 2020**.

Additional Chromebooks (30 in total) were purchased by November 2019

2. Further staff training in G suite facilities by **November 2019**

Staff training was carried out at various points throughout the year by staff at staff meetings. During school closure due to Covid 19 pandemic, online training tutorials were made available to all teachers on the following: Google Meet, Google Hangouts, Google Keeps, Screencastify, Google Classroom, Google Canvas and Kami.

3. Wireless printing facility to be operational by **December 2019**.

Wireless printing was in place and fully completed in August 2019

4. Chromecast facility to be operational in all classrooms where data projectors have the necessary capabilities (HDMI input and universal dc power socket) by **March 2020**.

All chromecast enabled projectors were in place by January 2020.

3. Progress made on previously-identified improvement targets

Improvement Target	Comment
<p>1. Results of the Effective Feedback SSE, 2017-2018</p>	<p>1. Increase the percentage of students who feel their knowledge and understanding is checked regularly in class from 39% to</p> <p>2017-44% (April 2017) 2018-48% (April 2018)</p> <p>May 2017 - 40 % May 2018 – 69%</p> <p>2. Increase the percentage of students who feel they get feedback regularly from their teachers on what steps they need to take to improve their learning from 24% to</p> <p>2017-29% (April 2017) 2018-32% (April 2018)</p> <p>May 2017 - 13% May 2018 – 43%</p> <p>3. Improve the percentage of students who feel their teachers talk to them about how to improve their learning from 15% to</p> <p>2017-20% (April 2017) 2018-25% (April 2018)</p> <p>May 2017 - 14% May 2018 – 31%</p>

2. Results of the ICT SSE 2018 -2019

- 1) To provide good quality, reliable Wifi throughout the school by **September 2018**.

Good quality WiFi was installed during the summer of 2018 and was operational by September 2018.

- 2) Purchase Chromebooks for 10 teachers to trial throughout the year by **September 2018**.

10 chromebooks purchased by September 2018. Since then more chromebooks were purchased for all teachers

- 3) Purchase 3 class sets of 12 Chromebooks for students use in the classroom by **October 2018**.

One class set of Chromebooks were purchased in October 2018 and a second and third class sets by November 2019.

- 4) To enable all teachers to access and use a dedicated google mail account for school use by **September 2018**.

From September 2018, all teachers have access and use a dedicated google mail account for school use.

- 5) To enable all teachers to store and share data on google drive and transfer working files from present system to google drive by **December 2018**.

By December 2018, training was given to all teachers to enable them to store and share data on google drive. Working files were transferred by all subject departments to google drive.

6) To increase the number of students who **Strongly Agree** or **Agree** with the statement 'We use ICT regularly in the classroom' from **20.1% February 2018** to **25 % by June 2019**.

The percentage of students who agree or strongly agree with the question 'We use ICT regularly in the classroom' has increased from 20.1 % to 57.3 %.

4.1 Our school has strengths in the following areas:

- All students are encouraged to take Higher Level, where possible in all subjects. Higher level is the “default level”. The number of students taking higher level in all subjects at both Junior and Leaving Certificate is significantly higher than the national norms.
- Higher Level uptake for Maths and English is high.
In the 2017 state exams, 75% & 93% of Junior Cert and 55% & 92% of Leaving Cert candidates took the higher level paper in Maths and English respectively.
- Students continue to perform significantly above average in state examinations across all subjects.
- A variety of teaching styles and methodologies are being emphasised and used in the classrooms. In recent years, staff have participated in programmes such as Forbairt, Instructional Leadership and Droichead. A comprehensive engagement with CPD by staff is also evident.
- There is an emphasis on numeracy, literacy, effective feedback and use of ICT across all departments. Each subject department has adopted the various numeracy, literacy and feedback strategies developed by the SSE committees.
- D.E.S. pilot testing in Maths and Literacy placed SHSS students much higher against the national norms.
- Existing strengths in numeracy were identified in the 2009 PISA report that the school partook in.
- There is a wide use of ICT in the classroom, enabled by the large increase in the number of computers available to students during class time
- The school continues to place a strong emphasis on a holistic education and provides many co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for students.
- SHSS has embedded the SSE process for a number of years and has developed strategies across a number of themes that have supported and enhanced teaching and learning in the classroom.

4.2 The following area prioritised for improvement:

Targets for June 2021

1. To develop collaboration and group work between students in the classroom.
2. Survey cohort of students on their current experience of collaboration and group work by October 2020
3. Survey the teachers on their current experience of collaboration and group work by October 2020
4. Set targets for the year to develop collaboration by November 2020
5. Implement strategies to develop collaboration and group work
6. Re-survey students and teachers to review the success of the implementations

Persons responsible

ICT committee and all teaching staff

Review Date

Ongoing with formal review Dec 2020 and May 2021