

Summary of School Self Evaluation Findings.

Our School has strengths in the following areas:

- ✓ Whole school Literacy and Numeracy strategies are embedded in school culture. In particular the drop in Maths and School Library are particularly successful.
- ✓ All 8 areas for DEIS Planning continue to show improvements and effective strategies have been put in place to address deficits.
- ✓ A vibrant and enthusiastic teaching staff actively participates to improve the quality of learning and teaching in the school.

The recent MLL identified the following:

- ✓ A Board of Management and Senior Management Team committed to excellence and quality improvement.
- ✓ A strong commitment to inclusion and to valuing and developing the individual in line with school ethos.
- ✓ Learning and teaching ranging from very good to fair with the majority in the very good category.
- ✓ Very good quality of planning for subjects and programmes.
- ✓ A Senior Management Team with a strategic approach to school development and a good capacity for self-evaluation.
- ✓ A dynamic, highly committed teaching staff, committed to students.
- ✓ Strong and real partnership with parents.

The following areas have been prioritised for improvement:

Over the next 3 years we aim to further promote a numeracy rich culture throughout the school. The use of computational skills in all subject areas will continue. The culture will be extended to the whole school environment. Over the duration of the next 3 year cycle numeracy will become a more visible aspect of life in Piper's Hill College. This will support other targets by aiming to build student confidence in the area of numeracy. The rationale for this target is based on observational evidence where a random sample of 20 classrooms and areas of the school were inspected in search of numeracy related displays. It also ties in with a recommendation in the recent MLL Report, 'samples of

students' work and other print materials are displayed on classroom walls in most instances and this practice should be extended'. Improvement of the visual and interactive aspects of numeracy throughout the school will intentionally promote more positive attitudes and improve confidence around numeracy.

A Literacy Hub will be established in order to further develop a reading culture in the school and to develop an oral literacy culture around reading. Literacy and Numeracy Teams will be established consisting of teachers and students to further develop literacy and numeracy strategies.

The following recommendations from the MLL will be implemented:

- ✓ Peer Observation will be further developed in order to ensure consistency of the excellent quality of learning and teaching in Piper's Hill College.
- ✓ Work will continue to build on the improvements in participation and attainment in state examinations.
- ✓ The Board of Management, as advised, have accessed training and its reports on the functioning of the school will be made available to parents and staff.
- ✓ Student voice will be a priority area for improvement.
- ✓ Ways to further develop professional links with feeder Primary Schools will be explored with a view to sharing best practice in learning and teaching experiences and expectations.
- ✓ Students' oracy skills will be developed in line with Literacy targets and to support the new Junior Cycle.
- ✓ Work will continue to expand the model of in-house CPD and extend the peer observation experience.

Priority to be given to defining the areas of Learning and Teaching which will be the focus of school improvement to 2020.