

School Improvement Plan for Literacy for September 2015 to May 2018

Themes: Engaging in Learning and Teaching approaches

Summary of main strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very dedicated and motivated teaching staff willing to promote Literacy across all subject departments using a varied number and mix of strategies.• Positive and ambitious students who are enthusiastic to embrace active methodologies in the pursuit of improving their Literacy skills.• Great progress has already been made with the introduction of Keywords across all subject departments, thus also creating links between subject departments.• Keyword Assessments have revealed an improvement in the understanding and use of Key-words.• Many of the classrooms have a print rich environment.• Some subject departments have developed their own subject libraries.• Practising oral and aural skills is relevant to Gaeilge, French and Spanish and incorporated into end of term exams, as are presentation skills in Home Economics.• English teachers are embracing the new Junior Cycle English Course which emphasises development of oracy.
Summary of main areas prioritized for improvement	<p>The whole school initiative introduced to date has focused on keywords in all subject areas. Focus also needs to be put on introducing initiatives in areas such as oracy, reading and writing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication with staff by students, including classroom manners.• Reading out loud in class and asking questions in order to promote a sense of self-confidence.• Visiting the library and reading for enjoyment.• Correct mechanics of writing, spelling and general neatness in writing.• Use of SEES in preparation and answering of questions.• More instruction to students on how to make their own notes from their textbooks.

Actions to support implementation of School Improvement Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A whole staff approach. • To be addressed at staff meetings and at assemblies. • To be encouraged during technology free lunch time. • Observe and encourage the reading of books during lunch time. • World Book Day (3 March 2016) and related activities. • Involvement of prefects. • To concentrate on five spellings per week from Keyword list and assess appropriately.