



Scoil Ursula
Strandhill Road, Sligo
18979F

School Improvement Plan
for
Literacy

Issue date: October, 2013

OUR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Summary of main strengths as identified in Autumn 2013.

- Scoil Ursula has a conscientious, dedicated, innovative staff open to new ideas and initiatives and focussed on providing the best possible educational opportunities for its pupils.
- Pupils are performing well above the national norm with 57.8% scoring above the 50th percentile rank; and 22.1% of pupils scoring at the 85th percentile rank or above compared with 16% nationally. There is a similar significant differential in the lower percentile brackets with 13.3% achieving below the 16th percentile against a national norm of 16%.
- The school's literacy standard score stands at 102.8 which is well ahead of the national average.
- 84% of pupils surveyed reported liking reading and 83% of them regarded themselves as good readers.
- 89% of parents reported that their children enjoyed reading and 90% thought their children were succeeding at reading.
- Children with literacy and language needs are provided with a differentiated programme to enable access to all strands of the curriculum.

Summary of main areas requiring improvement as identified in last SSE:

- Creative Writing
- Penmanship
- Oral Language
- Comprehension
- Punctuation & Grammar

Improvement targets (related to pupils' achievement)

- To increase the school's class- based literacy average standard score from 102.8 by .7 each year over the three-year period to a target of 105 by 2016.
- To increase the percentage of pupils achieving above the 50th percentile from 57.8% by .7% each year over the three-year period to a target of 60% in 2016.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the percentage of pupils achieving below the 16th percentile from 13.3% by .4% each year over the three-year period to a target of 12% in 2016.
<p>Required actions (related to teaching and learning that will help to achieve the targets)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection, collation & analysis of Micra-T & Sigma-T Data, 2013. • Writing genres to be implemented at different periods of the school year at teachers' discretion. • Creative Writing Workshops by the SEN Team. • A uniform handwriting policy to be adopted throughout the school incorporating Jolly Phonics script in the Junior Classes and Write Here in the Middle Classes with appropriate reward-based follow-on in the Senior Classes. • An Oral Language Programme to be adopted and implemented up to 2nd Class in 2014/15 and to 6th Class by 2015/16. • Reading Workshops Programme (RWP) to be expanded to 3rd Class in 2013/14, 2nd Class in 2014/15 and 1st Class in 2015/16. • Teacher modelling of the RWP to relevant teachers. • Introduction of Formal Whole School DEAR Time for 10 minutes each day. • Introduction of Buddy Reading Programme where Senior Class Teachers 'twin' with Junior Class Teachers for 6 weeks between Mid-Term and Christmas 2013. • Comprehension Strategy to be adopted in the Senior Classes according to the Building Bridges of Understanding techniques by Martin Gleeson. • An English Grammar Programme to be adopted and implemented up to 2nd Class in 2014/15 and to 6th Class by 2015/16. • Resources to be sourced and purchased to back up the above initiatives. Joint Funding from BOM & PA. • ICT interventions focussed on Literacy as recommended by the ICT Committee.

Persons responsible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal & Staff • Board of Management • Parents Association
Timeframe for action	<p>Year 1 2013-2014 Year 2 2014-2015 Year 3 2015-2016</p> <p>All of the targets and actions will be implemented in Year 1 except where specified above.</p>
Success criteria / measurable outcomes	<p>Success will be based on the achievement of our targets as set out above and as measured by our Standardised Test Results at the end of each yearly period.</p>
Review dates	<p>June 2014 June 2015 June 2016</p>