St Vincent's Secondary School,
Glasnevin, Dublin 11

1. Introduction
Our Self-Evaluation Report and Improvement Plan 2017-2018

1. Introduction

This document records the outcomes of our last improvement plan, the findings of this self-evaluation, and our current improvement plan, including targets and the actions we will implement to meet the targets.

1.1 Outcomes of our last improvement plan from [September 2017] to [May 2018]
Literacy
- Staff have undergone training with the NBSS and have completed courses in VEP & CatchUp Literacy.
- Introduction of new programmes such as CSI and Rapid Plus.
- Paired reading has been very successful between TY and 1st years.
- Our annual Literacy drive was pared back to only take place during Tutorial time – this will be changed to a whole school daily strategy from next year.
- A lot of resources were put into the completion of our new school library.

Numeracy
- Most of the staff has included numeracy elements to their subject plans
- We have been successful with our yearly numeracy drive and we have successfully engaged 100% of our students in our Numeracy related activities in the school.
- Introduction of Numeracy Ninjas.
- Introduction of paired Maths

E-Learning
- The use of Chromebooks have been rolled out throughout the school.
- Computer Club takes place weekly with WorkDay.
- The expansion of the use of GoogleClass room.
- CDP led by staff to help reluctant colleagues.

1.2 The focus of this evaluation

We decided to improve literacy levels by improving students' attitudes towards reading in St. Vincent's during the period *(September 2017)* to *(May 2018)*. We evaluated the following aspect(s) of literacy:
Literacy
- Attitude towards Reading.
- Fully functional library.
- Annual literacy drive.
- Improved literacy interventions.

Numeracy
- We plan to improve the numeracy and the students enjoyment of numbers through the process of SSE this year
- Continue with numeracy drive and trying to have all students in our school experience numeracy during the course of the year.

E-Learning
- Upgrade infrastructure of school in relation to E-Learning.
- New equipment to allow students to use Chromebooks in class.
- CDP for staff – led by staff.

Planning Stage

We decided to plan for improvement of Homework, both in our policy and implementation.
We are gathering data through surveys of staff and students.

2. Findings

2.1 This is effective / very effective practice in our school

- Literacy – due to the loss of days this year, we cut back the Literacy Drive, it was therefore not as effective.
- More trained teachers are implementing new programmes – CSI, Rapid Plus, catch up.

2.2. This is how we know

- Students were asking teachers about the books displayed on the walls which demonstrated their interest levels in reading for enjoyment.
- Both debating and the Public Speaking Competition were very successful. Students expressed their enjoyment of both aspects and want them to continue next year.
- Students and teachers felt the Paired-Reading initiative worked well and will continue next year.

2.3 This is what we are going to focus on to improve our practice further

- Encourage reading for enjoyment by using the new library and the mini-libraries within teacher-based classrooms.
- Extend practice of oral presentation by increasing the number of literacy events throughout the year for juniors – Public Speaking Competition, Halloween Creative Writing Recital, Valentine's Day Poetry Reading and a Spelling Bee.
- Debating will be extended to accommodate Junior Cycle students and entry into national competitions will be encouraged.
- Spelling and grammar checklists made available to students in order for them to self-assess work.

3. Our improvement plan

On the next page we have recorded:

- The **targets** for improvement we have set
- The **actions** we will implement to achieve these
- **Who is responsible** for implementing, monitoring and reviewing our improvement plan
- How we will measure **progress** and check **outcomes** (criteria for success)

As we implement our improvement plan we will record:

- The **progress** made, and **adjustments** made, and **when**
- **Achievement of targets** (original and modified), and **when**

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Our Improvement Plan Literacy
Timeframe of this improvement plan is from Sept 2017 to May 2018

Targets	Actions	Persons / groups responsible	Criteria for success/ deadlines	Progress and adjustments	Targets achieved
• Attitude towards Reading.	1. Literacy Drive 2. Paired Reading	SF and the S.S.E. team R.D. and SEN team	All students have engaged in the literacy drive.	Had to be cut to one week due to the time of year (mid-May) – will be held earlier next year to avoid this happening.	Schedule for earlier in the year next year.
• Oral language.	1. Public Speaking Competition 2. Debating	S.F. and other first year English teachers (F.H. & S.Q.)	Students enjoying both speaking in public and listening to peers – essential skills for the new Junior Cycle. Selection of class representatives created sense of pride.	Students responded extremely well and feedback from them was very positive.	The success of the competition led us to believe more events such as this would be welcomed by the students and we will plan more for next year.

• Fully functional library.	No action could be taken here as the building was not finished by the initial deadline. As a result boxes of books had to be given to each Junior class for reading selection	S.S.E team	The boxes of books were received well but not ideal as students' selection and choices were very limited.	The new library building will be fully functional by Sep. 2017 and will facilitate reading groups, book borrowing etc.	Use of the fully functional library will be put on hold until Sep 2017
• Key words at all levels.	All Junior students use Key Word journals All Seniors use Key Word sections in their homework journal	Management order and teachers fill in with students	All students in the school are actively using the key word journals	Students at Junior level may lose the Key Word Journal over the summer The use of Key Word Journals is so frequent that they may fill up.	Consider putting Key Word Journal on the book list for each year.

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Our Improvement Plan Numeracy
Timeframe of this improvement plan is from Sept 2017 to May 2018

Targets	Actions	Persons / groups responsible	Criteria for success	Progress and adjustments	Targets achieved
Target 1 To increase percentage of students able to compute percentages	Maths Department undertake a common approach to teaching percentages Use common calculator for ease of instruction in maths Students calculate own percentage in exams (Give back marks as a fraction and students compute percentage themselves)	All Staff Numeracy Committee	Students using Common approach to computing percentages Feedback from classroom teachers that students have been able to compute percentages without any difficulties	A common approach was introduced to staff in maths dept and other subject depts.	Ongoing
Target 2 100% of our students in the school are subjected to some form of numeracy related activities outside of maths class during the year St. Vincent's.	Organise an annual numeracy drive in the school which lasts 1-2 weeks dependant on available time. Activities during the Numeracy Drive that we	All Staff Numeracy Committee	Review of Numeracy Drive Ensure engagement of entire school community in the numeracy drive Results of Darts competition and	Numeracy Drive changed to one week from two weeks last year	Numeracy drive was successful based on the feedback from staff and students Ongoing on a Yearly Basis

	organised are as follows: - Darts - Treasure Hunt (Numeracy) - Estimate number of beads in a Jar - Numeracy Quiz - Maths Puzzle of the Day - Poster Competition - Decorating School - Designated Numeracy class every Day for all Years - St Vincent's Census		students adding their own scores		

Our Improvement Plan Elearning

Timeframe of this improvement plan is from Sept 2017 to May 2018

Planning for E-Learning	Get all of our ICT equipment up to date so that we can effectively implement our E-Learning intervention next year	All Staff Numeracy Committee ICT Co-ordinator	New Wi-Fi System New updated Computer System New Projectors New Library	By May 2018 we were very happy with our equipment.	Wi-Fi system has been updated and we are moving forward with our E-Learning Year

Targets	Actions	Persons / groups responsible	Criteria for success/ deadlines	Progress and adjustments	Targets achieved
Using Google classroom	In school CPD for teachers	J. Hanrahan	More classes using Google Classroom	We see all students engage in Google classroom at some level.	
More productive use of computer use.	Chromebooks to be used in class when required.	All staff	Teachers booking computers to supplement their classes.	The chrome books are being booked by a wide variety of teachers across all subjects.	