The Teresian School

12 Stillorgan Road, Dublin 4 Tel: (01) 2691376 Fax: (01) 2602878 email: secretary@teresian.ie

School Self Evaluation Report

School Context

The Teresian School is an urban, fee-paying Catholic primary school. There are eight mainstream teachers, one learning support teacher and an administrative principal. There are also six specialist teachers in the areas of Physical Education, Violin, Singing, Drama, Computer Studies and Spanish. The school caters for all classes from Junior Infants to Sixth Class. Boys and girls are admitted up to second class and girls only from third class to sixth class. Currently there is only one boy enrolled in the Junior School.

Step 1: Identify Focus

The whole staff considered several areas as possibilities for our School Self Evaluation. We decided that because the oral language component of the Primary Language Curriculum is being rolled out from Kinder A – Class 2 in our school, it made sense to use the SSE process to implement the new PLC. As the PLC is being implemented in the lower four classes only at present, a conversation was had as regards focussing on PLC as a whole school. However, all the teachers agreed that it was important for all classes to understand the new PLC, and that engaging with it now would prepare teachers for full implementation of the PLC from September 2019.

The staff decided to work on the SSE process as a whole staff rather than form an SSE committee. The staff considered the four domains of the framework and used the standards to think about oral language. The staff used the standards to pose some initial questions about teaching and learning of oral English and Gaeilge in The Teresian School.

The Teresian School

12 Stillorgan Road, Dublin 4 Tel: (01) 2691376 Fax: (01) 2602878 email: secretary@teresian.ie

As the staff considered the standards in the learner outcomes domain, we realised it was difficult to measure pupils' outcomes in oral language. Although the overall opinion was that the standard of oral language was quite high across the school, the staff considered the need to assess this. The whole staff decided it was important for the pupils to become involved in the assessment process and emphasised the importance of the student's self-reflection.

The staff decided to focus the scope of the SSE process on the standard below:

Domain	Standard
Learner Outcomes	Demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding required by the primary language curriculum

The staff examined and discussed the 14 Learning Outcomes in the new PLC and decided to focus on Learning Outcome 7:

Demonstration of understanding	Demonstrate understanding through the ability to give and follow instructions, comprehend narratives and explanations, and clearly state a case, including speculating, hypothesising, justifying, negotiating, arguing and complaining.

Step 2: Gather Evidence

The staff considered a number of options for the gathering evidence phase, from parent questionnaires to student surveys. The staff considered a number of questions and decided on the best methods to gather evidence to answer these questions.

Domain	Standard	Questions	Methods to Gather Evidence
Learner Outcomes	Pupils demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding required by the primary curriculum	1. How well are we doing with oral language? 2. What are our strengths? (How do we know?) 3. What are our areas for improvement? 4. Do pupils reflect on their learning? How do they reflect? How do we know?	- Student questionnaire - Parent questionnaire - A focus group of pupils (Student Council)?

Evidence to be gathered over a three-month period from March 2019 – May 2019.

Step 3: Analyse and Make Judgements

Standards	Statements of effective practice	Statements of highly effective practice
Pupils demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding required by the primary curriculum	Pupils' subject-specific skills and attitudes are developed in accordance with the PLC. The pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding for the specific subjects of the curriculum are at a good standard in accordance with objectives, skills and concepts of the PLC. The overall attainment of the pupils is improving or is at a good standard in accordance with the objectives and skills of the PLC.	Pupils' subject-specific skills and attitudes are developed in accordance with the PLC. The pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding for the specific subjects of the curriculum are at a **very good standard** in accordance with the objectives, skills and concepts of the PLC. The overall attainment of the pupils is improving or is at a **very good standard** in accordance with the objectives and skills of the PLC.

How well are we doing?	
What are our strengths?	**Opportunities for oral language development** - Presentations - Festival of Poetry - Christmas plays - ASF committee - Student Council - Assembly - Gaeltacht (Cl. 5 & 6) - Drama - Spelling Bee - Debating - Speaking to various audiences
What are our areas for improvement?	**To be completed May 2019**

The Teresian School

12 Stillorgan Road, Dublin 4 Tel: (01) 2691376 Fax: (01) 2602878 email: secretary@teresian.ie

Step 4: Write and Share Improvement Plan - **To be completed May 2019**

Five Components of effective oral language instruction

1. Teach a variety of spoken texts

2. Promote auditory memory

3. Create a language learning environment

4. Teach and extend vocabulary and conceptual knowledge

5. Develop listening & speaking skills