An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna

Department of Education and Skills

Follow-Through Inspection REPORT

Salesian Secondary College
Pallaskenry,
Co. Limerick

Uimhir rolla: 64180O

Date of inspection: 22 April 2015

AN ROINN OIDEACHAIS AGUS SCILEANNA | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS
INSPECTORATE

Date of original inspection[1]	9 May 2013	Type of original report	WSE-MLL	Date of FT inspection	22 April 2015
Report published	Yes				

Follow-through inspection activities

- Meeting with senior management team

Recommendation in original inspection report	Progress achieved to date on implementation of recommendation
Identification of developmental priorities, in collaboration with the whole-school community, is recommended.	**Very good progress** Commendably, the developmental priorities identified relate primarily to curriculum planning with a particular focus on enhancing student learning. Whole-staff engagement has been promoted through the establishment of a curriculum planning team as well as through targetted continuing professional development in Assessment for Learning and Key Skills. Team-teaching has been introduced to support students with special educational needs and increased attention on student attainment by subject departments has raised the profile of these subjects. Developments in the area of student care and well-being are very positive and greater responsibility has been devolved to members of the teaching staff. Specialised training for year heads has also been undertaken.
In order to ensure a collective focus on key developmental priorities, it is recommended that senior management agree and clearly define their individual areas of responsibility and that, where appropriate, some of these duties be delegated to other staff members. **A reconfiguration of the post-of-responsibility structure is required to ensure effective strategic planning as well as a whole-school commitment to the realisation of strategic goals.**	**Very good progress** Having carefully considered both recommendations, members of the board, the senior management team and the teaching staff were of the view that the existing middle management model provided the most appropriate mechanism for ensuring the smooth operation of the school. As a result, a number of changes were introduced that strengthened the existing model; namely, an extension of the roles of the class tutor and the year head. This, combined with the work of the pastoral care team and the curriculum planning team, has created more opportunities for distributed leadership, has enhanced communication, and has served to reduce the workload of the senior management team.
Disused chemicals that are currently in safe storage must be appropriately disposed of as a matter of urgency.	**Very good progress** These chemicals were disposed of in 2014.

Summary of findings

Management and staff are highly commended for the manner in which they have integrated the recommendations arising from the evaluation into their overall school-improvement agenda. Of particular note is the impact the renewed drive for excellence has had at a whole-school level with initiatives ranging from formal classroom practices in areas such as assessment for learning and key skills to co-curricular and cross-curricular activities including a Health Promoting School Project which includes teachers, parents and students.

Recommendations

No further recommendations arise in relation to the recommendations in the original report.

The board of management was given an opportunity to comment in writing on the findings and recommendations of the report; a response was not received from the board.

[1] Date on cover of original inspection report

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