

Summary of Numeracy School Improvement Plan

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1. Introduction

1.1 The Focus of the Evaluation

As part of our ongoing work in the school, we conducted a school self evaluation of teaching and learning. We evaluated students' attitudes and opinions in a broad numeracy context. For more information on how the evaluation took place, please see our School Self-Evaluation Report which is available on www.dcs Cork.ie.

This school improvement plan sets out the actions that we will undertake in the school over the next 3 years in literacy with particular focus upon mental arithmetic. The main purpose of these actions is to improve our students' learning & skills.

2. Summary of school self evaluation findings

We collected information from students and teachers in preparing this report.

We looked at how our students think about Numeracy with particular focus on mental arithmetic. We utilised questionnaires and analysed the data using Google Drive to interpret the information gathered.

2.1 The self evaluation highlighted that strengths exist in a student-teacher rapport and that a large percentage of students who identified that mental arithmetic was an issue for them expressed a willingness to be led by the staff in activities that will increase competence & confidence in this area. The self evaluation also highlighted that there is a willingness to embrace and share good practice amongst staff, and excellent interdepartmental co-operation exists.

2.2 We have decided to prioritise increasing the competence & confidence of students at mental arithmetic by focusing on the development of numeracy skills, in particular mental calculation skills, in all subject areas.

2.3 Our school as set the following targets for improvement which are related to students' achievement and has identified the following actions which will help in achieving the targets over 3 years.

Target for Improvement	Action
To increase the percentage of surveyed students using Mental Arithmetic daily by 5% per year	Fun numeracy classes to be timetabled in the Junior School. Development of a whole school numeracy rich environment. School based methodologies and activities
To increase the percentage of surveyed students who enjoy doing Mathematics by 5% per year	Purchase/Funding of Numeracy materials and resources. Displays/Signage/Posters

As a parent you can help us by encouraging our students to use mental arithmetic, monitor their progress and create opportunities for your sons to use mental arithmetic outside school.

2.4 We know we will have achieved our targets when we periodically review progress. We will re-sample, using questionnaires, student attitudes to mental arithmetic over time.