



## St. Paul's Secondary School, Oughterard.

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# Summary School Improvement Plan

## Introduction

### The focus of the evaluation

As part of our ongoing work in the school, we conducted a school self-evaluation of teaching and learning this year. We evaluated Numeracy. For more information on how the evaluation took place, please see our School Self-Evaluation Report which is available on our website.

The school improvement plan sets out the actions that we will undertake in the school over the next three years in St. Paul's Secondary School. The main purpose of these actions is to improve our students' learning.

### Summary of school self-evaluation findings

Our school has **strengths** in the following areas:

#### Strengths

- Standardised tests for 2014/2015 cohort of 1<sup>st</sup> years , when plotted against the national average, indicated that SigmaT scores for Maths among our first years are well above the national norms.
- The cohort sitting Higher Level exam at JC is significantly above the national norm.
- Over two-thirds of first year students said that they liked Maths.
- Good support for the promotion of numeracy by Resource and Learning Support Department.
- All teachers are comfortable dealing with the numeracy aspect of their subjects and promote a positive attitude to numeracy.
- Teachers are vigilant in explaining learner outcomes at the start of the class
- Making students aware of gaps in their learning
- Setting high expectations for students

Our school has decided to prioritise the following **areas for development**:

#### Areas for Development

- Estimation skills of students
- Proportion of students achieving "A" Grade in HL JC Maths
- Proportion of students sitting HL LC Maths



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We have decided to prioritise these areas for development because it was felt that these areas could be improved on.

Our school has set the following targets for improvement which are related to pupils' achievement and has identified the following actions which will help in achieving those targets over the next three years.

<b>Targets for Improvement</b>	<b>Action</b>
Developing and honing the estimation Strategy "Estimate- Calculate-Check	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Skills of students to be promoted (among other Strategies) by teachers when dealing with calculations</li><li>• School environment to be made more numeracy rich</li></ul>
Increase proportion of students achieving A grade in HL JC Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase participation in Schools' Maths Competitions</li><li>• Increase interaction between Subject Depts. and Maths Dept Re teaching the numeracy content of each subject</li><li>• Teach more challenging material to 1<sup>st</sup> Yrs</li><li>• One JC HL class for more able students</li></ul>
Increase proportion of students sitting HL Maths Exam for LC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide for second HL Maths class in 5<sup>th</sup> yr – if numbers allow</li><li>• Increase interaction between each Dept. and Maths Dept re teaching Numeracy content of each subject</li><li>• Promote a positive attitude across School to Maths and Numeracy</li><li>• Encourage students to reach potential</li><li>• Increase focus on LC related syllabus Content during TY</li></ul>

We know we will have achieved our targets when the proportion of students making use of estimation when doing calculations is 70%, the proportion of students who achieve an "A" grade in HL JC Maths is 5 percentage points better than the national average, the proportion of LCs who sit and Pass The HL LC Maths exam to increase to 40%.