

St Kilian's Community School



Home, School, Community Liaison

Year Plan 2013 – 2014

Parents Activities/Courses:

- Update school website on Parent activities and courses at beginning of each term
- Personal invitations to relevant parents to join courses and programmes.
- Ask parents to encourage others to join classes and activities
- Educational Courses: Parenting Teenagers, Personal development, ESOL, Parents for Parents Group, Trip to UCD, Study Skills.
- English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL): Funded by BALC. Classes take place in St. Kilians and St. Fergal's NS.
- Leisure Courses: Parents for Parents Group, Community Football, Zumba, Boot Camp, Christmas Crafts, Coffee Mornings, other courses as they arise.
- Parent Volunteers: Paired reading, Maths for fun, Christmas Crafts, Story Sacks, and Parents for Parents Group, Parents Association activities.
- Community based courses: Refer parents to other free community based courses/activities, such as, BALC, BAP, National Learning Network, St. Fergal's Resource Centre, Little Bray Family Resource Centre, etc. other courses as they arise.
- Promote participation in Local Committee (Bray Local Committee) and Parent's Association.

Home Visitation:

- Meet all new first year parents through Home Visitation or informal school meetings
- Continue established links with 2nd year parents.
- New families to School.
- Parents of pupils at risk due to poor attendance/ attainment/conflict...etc – references to be given from Year Head, Class Tutor and/or principal.
- Any parents involved in conflicts or with concerns for their child.
- SCP targeted children or Headlamps.
- Start home visitation of parents of In-coming First Years in May.

Year Group Focus

- **Transfer from Primary:** Visit all local primary schools to talk about and promote St. Kilians CS during the first term. Pre-assessment meeting for all Parents of Incoming First Years in March. Visit some families to support them in their application/transfer to St. Kilians.
- **Target Group:** Liaise with HSCL of the local primary schools, SCP, and Headlamps of the local primary schools.
- **First Years:** Visit all first year classes to introduce myself and explain role of HSCL, Home Visitation, Parents Progress meetings, encourage course participation, Paired Reading, Maths for fun, Story Sacks. All first years and families invited to participate in the HSCL Community Literacy Initiative FAB (Film and Book), Trip to UCD.
- **Second Years:** Home visitation. Continue links already established. Visit new families on recommendation of school management. Paired Reading on request of Resource Teacher. Participation in FAB.
- **Transition Year:** Refreshments at PT meetings. TY Student Links with local primary schools eg Debating, Orienteering, Christmas Crafts, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Community Quiz.
- **Third Years and Senior Cycle :** Home visits to most marginalized groups, or on request of Year Heads or School Principal.
- **Attendance:** Monitor whole school attendance. Junior Cycle: follow OCOTOP Plan. Senior Cycle: Advise families/students who are at risk of dropping out of education.
- **Uniforms:** Request all unwanted uniforms to be donated to the school by 3rd and 6th years after the exam period. These uniforms can be either borrowed or donated on to families in need.

. Intra-School Links:

- Refer students to Care Team for support.
- Refer students to Chaplain, Guidance Counsellor, SCP, Teen Focus for further support.
- Liaise regularly with other supports above.
- Parents and teachers invited to attend the first year progress meetings.
- 'Friends for life' programme delivered through SPHE, SCP, Guidance, and HSCL.
- Teen Hols organised through HSCL and School Chaplain.
- Transition Year: Parents and Pupils participating in activities together; Community Football, Christmas Crafts, Parent-teacher meetings.
- Special Needs/ Resource: Paired reading, Maths for fun, Story Sacks, Links with primary school.
- Career Guidance: First, Second, Third Years HEAR programme, Trip to UCD.
- Advisory Committee: Parent Representative
- Junior Maths Classes: Parents and pupils involved in Maths for fun.
- German Exchange: Farewell Concert, Parents Association, Host families, and pupils involved in the Exchange.

- 6th year graduation: Parents involved in preparations, year book, refreshments.

Links with St. Fergal's NS.

- Visit St. Fergals during the first term to talk about and promote St. Kilians.
- Pre-assessment parents meeting.
- 6th Class resource group invited to visit St. Kilians in May.
- TY links through Orienteering, Debating, Christmas crafts, Chess, Cheili, Seachtain na Gaeilge, etc.
- Headlamps: continue to liaise with Headlamps especially with first years.
- FAB and Community Quiz.
- Invite a class group from St. Fergal's to the Story Sack presentation.
- First year story time with Early Start.
- Drop in to parents room regularly (at least twice a week) in order to maintain positive contact with already active parents from both St. Fergal's NS and St. Kilian's CS.
- Encourage attendance at courses/programmes.

Parent's Association:

- Attend AGM and attend PA meeting once a term to update parents on what's going on for parents in St. Kilians CS.
- Encourage parent participation through advertising and discussion with parents.
- Invite a Parent Representative to the first year progress meetings.
- Maintain a positive communication with association through Chairperson.
- Keep the PA up to date on Parent Activities in St. Kilian's,

Parents in Education:

- Support the Parents for Parents Group.
- Update the school website on Parents for Parents Group (PFP group) activities and courses.
- Organise a termly coffee mornings for sharing information on local free courses in Bray, and give Parents an opportunity to sign up for courses they may be interested in.
- Link with Adult Education and direct parents to Adult Literacy, FETAC courses, 3rd level training, Bray Area Partnership, etc.. as required.

Staff development:

- Attend all staff meetings, Keep staff up to date on parent activities and topics of general concern by posting information on the HSCL school notice board and the school website.
- Consult privately on matters of a confidential nature.
- Liaise between teachers and SCP.
- Invite Teachers to first year progress meetings.
- Update year heads and school management on home visits.

- Support all teachers (Class, Resource etc) in parental link.
- Attend the weekly care team meetings.

School Completion Programme:

- Ensure SCP targeted families are regularly contacted and supported and encourage involvement in all courses and programmes.
- Attend SCP management meetings.
- Meet with SCP Coordinator regularly to keep up to date.
- Refer students to SCP for In- school supports, and monitor their progress through regular meetings with SCP coordinator.

Bray Attendance Network (BANM)

- Continue to work collaboratively with EWO and SCP in tackling poor attendance in school.
- Monthly cluster meetings.
- Family meetings.
- Liaise with external agencies for family/student support where necessary.
- Make further referrals to professional agencies either through HSCL or DLP (Principal) e.g. NEPS, Lucena Clinic, HSE, etc.

Community

- **Bray Local Committee:** Continue with the Community Literacy Initiative FAB 4 (Film and Book).
- Support the following Community groups by attending their committee meetings: Education and Training working group, Bray Area Education Network, Youth Mental Health Sub-Committee.
- Continue working as a Referrer on the local 'Bray Strengthening Families Programme'
- Liaise with and support the following bodies: Local primary schools, Youth Reach, National Learning Network, St. Fergal Resource Centre, Ballywaltrim Community Centre, Little Bray Family Resource Centre, Fassaroe Community Centre, Bray Drugs Task Force, Bray Sports Promotion Unit, Bray Youth Services, Bray Area Partnership (Ed Officer), Community Garda, Public Health Nurse, Neps Psychologist, Home Support Workers, Bray Travellers Network, Carlton Clinic, ISPCC (Teen Focus), HSE, Lucena Clinic, St. Vincent de Paul, Teenhols, Headlamps etc.
- **See list attached of list of links with External agencies...**

Evaluation/Planning:

- Regular communication with parents & facilitators – feedback on previous courses and possible improvements/special requests for future courses.
- Bi- monthly report to BOM, including evaluations on all activities/courses attended by parents.
- Collate Parents evaluation and suggestion document which is filled in by parents at the first year progress meetings.

- Complete and update DEIS Plan for Partnership with Parents and Partnership with others.
- Attend weekly HSCL Cluster meetings.
- Attend annual HSCL In-career development days.
- Attend School Development Planning days for St. Kilian`s.
- Daily notes kept in school diary and also filed on HSCL data base.
- Finance to be completed at the end of each term and reported to BOM.
- An 'Out of school' diary is kept at the main office.

Siobhán Garvey (HSCL)
September 2013

Liaison/Cooperation with External Agencies (Community, Voluntary and Statutory)

ISPPC- Teen Focus: Student and parent support through counselling or mentoring.

The Living Life voluntary Counselling Centre Ltd.: Support for Parents/Students.

HSE Primary Care/Family support: Family/Student support through referrals. Community Mothers programme.

Lucena Clinic: Family/Student support for emotional/behavioural issues through recommended GP referral.

Carlton Clinic: Teen clinic on Thursdays. Teenagers can chat to a doctor at low cost or free with a medical card.

Bray Youth Services: General support for youth in the local area.

Bray Adult Guidance Service: Free guidance counselling for adults. (Catherine Greene)

St. Fergal's Resource Centre/Little Bray Family Resource Centre: General support and guidance for families in the local community.

Festina Lente: Support and training for students with emotional or behavioural issues through horses.

Community Garda: Offer students or families at risk advice and support.

NEPS Psychologist : Psychological assessments, and general advice on issues relating to student behaviours or welfare.

Bray Strengthening Families Programme (SFP): Refer families to a 14 week intensive programme which aims to improve family relationships and communication.

School Completion Programme: support students who may be at risk of early school leaving; In-school support, homework club, morning club, etc.

NEWB: Students with poor attendance are both monitored and referrals made for more intensive supports, Monthly cluster meetings with HSCL, SCP, and EWO. Family meetings and reviews.

Bray Area Partnership: Funding for Parents programmes and courses. Also, grants available for further education. General support for schools, families, students. Currently funding FAB 4 and Headstrong in St. Kilians. Also funds and facilitates parent courses/activities in the local area including St. Kilian's.

Local St. Vincent de Paul: Refer families in need for financial support.

Teenholts: Students in need are sponsored a weeks holiday during the summer. This is organised and funded by St. Vincent de Paul volunteers.

Youth Reach: refer students who are high risk of dropping out of education or need extra support in further education. HSCL supports students in their applications to YR.

Bray Community Initiatives: HSCL supports and attends the following committee meetings: **Bray Adult Education Network, Bray Family Support Working Group, Youth Mental Health Sub-Committee, SCP Management Committee.**

Bray Adult Learning Centre: Parent support in literacy, funding for local committee literacy initiatives. Fund ESOL in St. Kilians/St. Fergal's.

Headlamps: Funded by Bray Drugs Task Force. A support service for students at risk in the local DEIS primary schools. Links with St. Kilian's First Years as part of transfer from primary to secondary.

Headstrong: workshops/presentations to both students and Parents on positive Mental Health and wellbeing.

Gabrielle O’Herlihy (Parent Mentor): Personal development ‘Understanding Teenagers’ workshops in St. Kilian’s.

Bray Sports Promotion Unit: Currently training 1st year girls football and running Parents Boot camp in St. Kilians.

Pieta House: Referrals made for students/adults with emotional issues, in particular self-harming.

Links with UCD: Parents New Era Trip to UCD.

‘Be Well’: Bray Youth Mental Health sub-committee. Based in Hi Rez Youth Centre.

Bray New Directions Project: Paul Ring/Niamh Skelly-Support young people in the community at risk through youth work/interventions in ‘the Seomra’ and in the local community.

Bray Community Addiction Team: Based on the Boghall Road. Support families with addictions.

Ballywaltrim Community Centre: Support young people in the community. (Adam and Paul)

Hi Rez Youth Club: General support for young people in the community.(Dermot O’Brien)