

School Self Evaluation – An Overview

What is SSE?

School self-evaluation empowers a school community to identify and affirm good practice, and to identify and take action on areas that merit improvement. School self-evaluation is primarily about schools taking ownership of their own development and improvement.

When?

School self-evaluation was formally introduced into the Irish school system in 2012 as a collaborative, reflective process of internal school review, focused on school improvement. School self-evaluation further develops the school development planning process and focuses it firmly on teaching and learning.

What is it?

School self-evaluation involves reflective enquiry leading to action planning for improvement that is informed by evidence gathered within each school's unique context. The process enables schools to use this evidence to identify meaningful and specific targets and actions for improvement that focus on teaching and learning practices. It enables them to create and implement improvement plans, to measure their progress, and to identify their specific achievements.

What is involved?

THE SIX-STEP SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION PROCESS - AN ITERATIVE PROCESS



Pobalscoil Neasáin

3rd cycle of SSE – 2022-2023

3RD Cycle – Review Year

It is based on a 6-step action research model and is an iterative process.

Identify focus:

Impact of COVID-19 on students' educational experiences and outcomes
Their wellbeing
Their motivation to learn
Their engagement in learning

Gather Evidence

Asked students, teachers, parents the following questions:

1. What is working well?
2. What could be improved?
3. Other comments

Additionally, we had Planet Youth survey results

Analyse and Make Judgements

Strengths:

Positive relationships, students feel they are treated fairly and kindly, school is concerned with the development of the whole child

Areas in need of improvement:

Managing behaviour, communication both internally and externally, active and interactive learning

Write and Share Report and Improvement Plan

Managing behaviour

Positive Behaviour for Learning Steering Group of 7 teachers and 1 DP formed
Positive Behaviour for Learning online learning course (30 hours) offered to all teachers, learning group led by APII

Trauma Informed Practices in the Classroom CPD for teachers and students led by psychotherapist and counsellor Frankie Brown

Communication

APII post dedicated to staff and student communication

New internal communication system installed

Streamlining of internal use of online platforms

New section on website for parents and students

Active and Interactive Learning

Gathering evidence on learning outcomes for students

New cohort of digital learner formed

Participating in Blended Learning Schools collaboration with Microsoft

Joined a collaboration of schools to share and enhance digital skills

Teaching and Learning Club

CPD specifically tailored to enhancing active and interactive learning