

School Name: Our Lady of Fatima School

School Address: Carrigeen Street, Wexford

School Roll Number: 19266T

School Self-Evaluation & School Improvement Plan

Evaluation Period: September 2024 – June 2025

Report issue date: June 27th, 2025

1. Introduction

1.1 Focus of Evaluation

The 2025/26 SSE will focus on:

- 1. **Wellbeing** based on ongoing national and local priorities and aligned with our action plan.
- 2. **Communication and Language** following the Inspectorate's Curriculum Evaluation in October 2024.
- 3. **SMART Target-Setting in Student Support Files (SSFs)** identified as an area for improvement during the Inspectorate's review.
- 4. Digital Learning: See DLP

2. School Context

Our Lady of Fatima School provides education for students aged 5–18 with Mild General Learning Disabilities (MGLD), most of whom have additional learning needs (e.g., ASD, speech and language difficulties). Staffing for 2025/26 included 15 teachers, 1 ASD teacher, 18 SNAs, and 2 part-time instructors.

3. Findings

Language and Communication (Informed by Inspectorate Findings)

- The **Inspectorate commended** the school for fostering a welcoming and supportive environment, with **high learner engagement** and **very good teaching quality**, including exemplary practices.
- Effective use of digital literacy, small libraries, and a culture of reading were recognised as key strengths.
- Student voice was identified as a notable feature in planning and practice.
- However, areas for development include:
 - More specific and measurable learning targets in SSFs.
 - Wider implementation of collaborative learning strategies, including pair/group work and in-class support models (e.g., team or station teaching).

Collaboration and Professional Practice

Following the Inspectorate's recommendations and Domain 4 of the CSL Framework, **collaboration among staff** has been established as a central theme for 2025–2026. Following from this, staff will ensure that opportunities for students to work collaboratively will ensue.

- Opportunities for team teaching and station teaching will be increased across literacy, language, math/numeracy and SPHE.
- Staff feedback highlighted a desire for **shared planning time**, **peer observation**, and **co-teaching opportunities**.
- Initial pilot programmes in collaborative teaching (e.g., shared thematic units) will have strong potential for enhancing student engagement and professional dialogue.
- **Linkages across curricular areas** will be encouraged to reinforce oral language and wellbeing goals (e.g., Language through Art, Drama, PE, and SPHE).

Wellbeing

- Our School's Wellbeing Action Plan (2025/26) will centre on monthly themes (e.g., Kindness, Respect, Joy), with coordinated whole-school activities.
- Structured play, staff wellbeing initiatives, and student involvement in planning and review (via Pupil Voice Committee) were embedded.
- A Student Wellbeing Bí Cineálta Policy was developed collaboratively.

Digital Learning:

- Math/Numeracy Use Maths Eyes for Maths Week Collaboration etc.
- Literacy refer to DLP Book Creator: Accessibility Features on Book Creator and Microsoft

4. Actions to be Taken Following Inspectorate Recommendations

1. SMART Targeting in SSFs

o Teachers will undertake practice reviews in data analysis.

^{*}Both require collaboration – UDL

 SSFs will be refined to ensure specific, measurable targets, aligned with assessment results.

2. Collaborative Learning & Support Models

- o Best practices in collaborative learning will be shared across the staff.
- A pilot station teaching programme will be introduced and reviewed for a wider rollout.

5. Priorities for 2025/26

Communication & Language

- Refine SSF goals using SMART principles.
- Expand oral language development and AAC systems (e.g. Lámh, visuals).
- Foster communication through cross-curricular integration (e.g., Drama, PE, assemblies).
- Extend use of **reading aloud** and update class libraries in response to student feedback.

Collaboration

- Embed **team teaching** and **station teaching** in core subject areas, starting with Literacy and Numeracy.
- Encourage co-planning using review templates, monthly checklists, and teacher-led initiatives.
- Promote whole-school, cross-curricular projects (e.g., oral language through Drama or History).
- Foster a shared responsibility model for classroom planning and reflection (e.g., "teacher pairs").

Wellbeing

- Continue implementing the Wellbeing Action Plan.
- Promote structured play and social communication at breaktimes: introduce use of Communication Board on yard.
- Build on the Student Wellbeing, Bí Cineálta Policy/Charter with class-led initiatives.
- Support staff wellbeing through Choc & Chat, staff social events, and CPD opportunities.

Digital Learning

Digital Learning: Accessibility & Communication

Digital Learning in 2025–2026 will focus on increasing **accessibility**, particularly in supporting the communication needs of all learners. This will be aligned with our broader SSE goals of enhancing **language and communication** and embedding the use of **AAC** (**Augmentative and Alternative Communication**) tools.

Primary & Junior Cycle Focus:

- Use of **Book Creator** as a digital storytelling and learning tool, with explicit teaching of accessibility features, including:
 - Speech-to-text
 - Text-to-speech
 - Closed captioning
 - Alternative (alt) text for images
 - Open Dyslexic font
 - Keyboard navigation for learners with motor challenges

Senior Cycle Focus:

- Integration of **Microsoft 365 tools** (OneNote, Word, Teams, Outlook, etc.) to ensure students access curriculum content through:
 - Immersive Reader (text-to-speech, line focus, picture dictionary)
 - Dictation (speech-to-text)
 - Read Aloud and auto-captioning
 - Use of high-contrast themes and colour filters
 - Keyboard shortcuts and voice commands
 - Captioning in Teams meetings or recordings

Whole-School Emphasis:

- Teachers will model and scaffold the use of accessibility tools in both content delivery and student output.
- Students using AAC systems (e.g., Lámh, GoTalk, Grid, TouchChat, etc.) will be supported to access digital platforms in a meaningful way.
- Focus on integrating these tools into both communication-focused tasks and broader curriculum access.

6. Required Actions

Teaching & Learning:

CPD on SMART target-setting and collaborative teaching models.

- Structured planning for station teaching in literacy and oral language development.
- Increased student use of visuals, voice output devices, and Lámh.
- Whole-school initiatives: debate, story time, Book Fair, and student-led presentations.
- SSE Team to facilitate peer-led CPD on station teaching and team-teaching methodologies.
- Plan and implement interdisciplinary units involving collaborative staff input.
- Include teacher collaboration goals in individual CPD plans and post-holder reviews.

Wellbeing:

- Implement and monitor monthly themes via assemblies and displays.
- Continue playground structure and "positive behaviour" initiatives.
- Staff teams to rotate responsibilities for organising wellbeing events.

Digital Learning Plan:

- Provide CPD for all teaching staff on Book Creator and Microsoft 365 accessibility tools.
- Develop a **Digital Accessibility Toolkit** for staff reference (curated shortcuts, video guides, etc.).
- Teachers to **introduce and explicitly model** one accessibility feature per week during lessons.
- Digital lessons to be reviewed in planning templates to ensure accessibility has been considered.
- Collaboration between class teachers and SNAs to ensure consistency in access to AAC devices and digital content.

7. Persons Responsible

- SSE Coordinators: Glenda McKeown, Bridget Leacy, Melissa Sinnott, Eileen Kent, Gayle Weld
- All teaching and support staff
- Wellbeing Committee AP11 Postholder
- Digital Learning Team

8. Timeframe

• September 2025 – June 2026

9. Success Criteria

- 85% of SSFs feature SMART learning targets.
- Increased use of collaborative models (measured via teacher feedback).
- 90% student participation in wellbeing activities.
- Student Wellbeing, Bí Cineálta Charter used in class and school assemblies.
- Structured play reviewed and improved using Playground Leader feedback.
- 100% staff participation in at least one CPD opportunity.
- At least 3 classes trial **station teaching** per term, with documented reflection.
- **100% of teaching staff** involved in one co-planned or co-taught session during the year.
- Teacher feedback indicates increased confidence in collaborative teaching models (via staff survey).
- Review templates show growth in cross-curricular planning and oral language integration.
- **100% of teaching staff** will have completed a full cycle of accessibility features in Book Creator and Microsoft 365 apps.
- Each class at **Primary and Junior Cycle** will implement at least **one Book Creator lesson per month**, building independence in accessibility tools.
- All students will **demonstrate use of at least one accessibility feature** (text-to-speech, speech-to-text, Immersive Reader, etc.) by end of Term 2.
- **AAC users** will be enabled to use their device or preferred tool to access and respond to digital learning tasks.
- Monitoring through Digital Portfolios and teacher observation logs will demonstrate growing confidence in navigating and using digital platforms independently.

10. Review Date: June 2026

Wellbeing Action Plan 2025/2026

Key Theme & Code of Behaviour Focus	Every class Individual teachers	Whole School Wellbeing Committee	Partnerships with Parents	Staff Wellbeing Wellbeing Committee Emily – treat rota.	Links with Ethos; Behaviour Policy & Anti-Bullying Policy; SPHE Individual teachers
September KEY THEME: KINDNESS SCHOOL RULE FOCUS: BE KIND	Mindful Monday- Whole school positive affirmation shared by teacher class each Monday Morning & positive affirmation shared with class teachers by Wellbeing Committee Kindness & Friendship Month Sept. focus – Kindness: 5-10-minute reflection and discussion around kindness. Encourage random acts of kindness and discuss importance of kindness.	Assembly: Plan shared with staff Random Acts of Kindness read out at assembly - classes share short poem/song based on key theme of kindness. Neurodiversity Celebration Month Wellbeing Tree Achievement Tree .All classes invited to contribute their achievements write them on leaves and attach to the tree outside the front door.	Coffee morning to express kindness	Every Friday staff rota on treat Friday. Choc and Chat: 3 rd Tuesday of the month. Staff discuss course they may have been on to the whole staff.	Links with Ethos: We provide opportunities for pupils to use their gifts for the common good and are committed to work for a more just and caring society Link with Behaviour Policy & Anti-Bullying Policy: Involve the Pupil Voice Committee in contributing to developing a school environment where wellbeing is central to school life and bullying is not tolerated. Links with Participation Framework Involve pupils in the implementation and monitoring of the wellbeing

	Golden time every Friday after lunch. Movement Breaks: In classrooms	Wellbeing Notice Board: Kindness- All classes are invited to contribute with art work/ poems/ pieces of writing about what makes them happy. Quote and picture from The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse – printed and displayed.			actions including a Wellbeing presentation to classes by pupils Student Council/Pupil Voice committee Link with SPHE Plan: Year 1 – Myself / Self-Identify
Ctober KEY THEME: HAPPINESS SCHOOL RULE FOCUS: BE KIND	Mindful Monday- Whole school positive affirmation shared with class each Monday Morning (positive affirmation shared with class teachers every Monday morning) Oct. focus – Happiness: A 5-10-minute reflection and discussion around happiness. What makes us happy? What it feels like to be happy How	Assembly: Plan shared with staff organised by Emer PP6 Prize giving: Student of the term Halloween Celebrations Dyslexia Awareness Month (Global) Wellbeing Notice Board: Happy Wall-All classes are invited to contribute	Expressing happiness based play based approaches	Every Friday staff rota on treat Friday. Choc and Chat: 3 rd Tuesday of the month. Staff discuss course they may have been on to the whole staff.	Link with Behaviour Policy & Anti-Bullying Policy: • Model respectful behaviour to all members of the school community at all times. • Explicitly teach pupils what respectful language and respectful behaviour looks like, acts like, sounds like and feels like in class and around the school.

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can create a happy classroom and school?			F J F
classroom and school?	poems/ pieces of		messages in classrooms,
	writing about what		in assembly areas and
	makes them happy.		around the school. Involve
	Quote and picture		pupils in the development
Golden time every	from The boy, the		of these messages.
Friday after lunch.	mole, the fox and the		
	horse – printed and		88
M (D 1 I	displayed.		notice and acknowledge
Movement Breaks: In			desired respectful
classrooms			behaviour by providing
			positive attention.
			0 1 1 1 1
			J
			use of discriminatory
			and derogatory
			language in the school –
			this includes
			homophobic and racist
			language and language
			that is belittling of
			pupils with a disability
			or SEN.
			of belt.
			Give constructive
			feedback to pupils when
			respectful behaviour and
			respectful language are
			absent.
			Link with SPHE Plan:
			Myself / Self-Identify

November	Mindful Monday- Whole school positive	Assembly: Plan shared with staff	Parent Teacher Meetings	Every Friday staff rota on treat	Link with Ethos: Respectful of all religions,
KEY THEME: RESPECT SCHOOL RULE FOCUS: BE KIND	affirmation shared with class each Monday Morning (positive affirmation shared with class teachers every Monday morning)	Fatima House Cup Winners Celebration International Day	Meetings	Staff rota on treat Friday. Cakes in staffroom on last Friday of month- Staff bake off!!	cultures and beliefs. 'to nurture the faith of Catholic pupils in a manner that is welcoming to and inclusive of the presence in that Catholic school, of pupils committed to other religious traditions, or
	Anti-Bullying week: PP3 Math week: Bridget November Focus: Respect A 5-10-minute reflection and discussion respect. What does respect look like/feel like? The importance of having respect for ourselves,	of Tolerance (16 th November) Wellbeing Notice Board: Respect Wall- to display key messages and images to reflect respectful behaviours and actions Quote and picture from The boy, the		Choc and Chat: 3 rd Tuesday of the month. Staff discuss course they may have been on to the whole staff.	none.' Link with DEIS plan: The theme of respect underpins all DEIS themes in developing positive relationships with the students, school staff, parents and the wider school community. This facilitated through providing opportunities for the student voice to be heard and valued, opportunities for pupil involvement, leadership and empowerment. Communication with parents in building
	friends and the wider school community. Respect for our belongings and the belongings of others.	mole, the fox and the horse – printed and displayed.			partnerships is fostered and encouraged. Link with SPHE Plan Year 1 – Myself & Others – My Friends & Other People

	Golden time every Friday after lunch.				
	Movement Breaks: In classrooms				
December	Mindful Monday- Whole school positive	Assembly: Plan shared with staff	Literacy for Fun	Every Friday staff rota on treat	Link with SPHE Plan
KEY THEME: FRIENDSHIP	affirmation shared with class each Monday Morning (positive affirmation shared with	Christmas school dinner	ioi run	Friday. Christmas	Year 1 – Myself & Others – My Friends & Other People
SCHOOL RULE FOCUS: BE TIDY	class teachers every Monday morning)	Nativity play		night out!	
	December Focus: Friendship	Prize giving: Student of the term		Choc and Chat: 3 rd Tuesday of the month. Staff discuss	
	A 5-10 minute reflection and discussion	Human Rights & Inclusion Month		course they may have been on to the whole staff.	
	around friendship. Discuss the	Wellbeing Notice Board: Friendship- Friendship wall			
	importance of friendship, what it means to be a	incorporating key words, affirmations and artwork. All classes invited to			
	good friend. Celebrate friendship week	contribute. Quote and picture from The boy, the			
	Golden time every Friday after lunch.	mole, the fox and the			

	Movement Breaks: In	horse – printed and displayed.			
January	classrooms Mindful Monday- Whole school positive	Assembly: Plan shared with staff	Bilingual Shared Reading	Every Friday staff rota on treat	Links with DEIS Plan & School Ethos:
KEY THEME: FAMILIES	affirmation shared with class each Monday		Grandparents'	Friday.	Grandparents' Day / Catholic Schools Week
ARE IMPORTANT	Morning (positive affirmation shared with	ADHD Awareness (Custom Focus)	Day		Schools week
SCHOOL RULE FOCUS:	class teachers every Monday morning)	Wellbeing Notice Board: Develop a family wall. All			Link with SPHE Plan Year 1 – Myself & Others – My Friends & Other People
DO MY BEST	January Focus: Families are Important	classes invited to contribute. Quote and picture from The boy, the			
	A 5-10 minute reflection and discussion around family. Discuss the importance of families,	mole, the fox and the horse – printed and displayed.			
	various family units, connection, remember those with us and all those who have passed				
	Golden time every Friday after lunch.				
	Movement Breaks: In classrooms				

KEY THEME: GRATITUDE SCHOOL RULE FOCUS: DO MY BEST Wellbeing Week 12th February- 16th February 2024	Mindful Monday- Whole school positive affirmation shared with class each Monday Morning (positive affirmation shared with class teachers every Monday morning) Internet Safety Week February Focus: Gratitude A 5-10 minute reflection and discussion around gratitude and instilling an understanding an appreciation for the 'small' things in our lives Movement Breaks: In classrooms	Assembly: Plan share with staff Celebrate Cultural Diversity (Custom Focus) Wellbeing Notice Board: Gratitude Wall. All classes welcome to contribute. Quote and picture from The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse – printed and displayed.	Art and crafts day to promote love and gratitude Internet Safety Talk for Parents/ Guardians	Every Friday staff rota on treat Friday. Gratitude lotto to staff member. Choc and Chat: 3 rd Tuesday of the month. Staff discuss course they may have been on to the whole staff.	Involve pupils in the implementation and monitoring of the wellbeing actions. Wellbeing presentation to classes by the Pupil Voice Committee Links with School Ethos: We provide a welcoming and inclusive community that is respectful and tolerant of all religious traditions and beliefs. Gratitude for our diverse, multicultural context.
March KEY THEME: POSITIVITY	Mindful Monday- Whole school positive affirmation shared with class each Monday Morning (positive	Assembly: Plan shared with staff	Maths for Fun	Every Friday staff rota on treat Friday.	 Link with Behaviour Policy & Anti-Bullying Policy: Model respectful behaviour to all

LANGUAGE & ACTIONS SCHOOL RULE FOCUS: DO MY BEST	affirmation shared with class teachers every Monday morning) March Focus: Positivity-Language and Actions! A 5-10-minute reflection and discussion around positivity. What positive words can we use? What are positive actions? Model and encouragement of positivity through language and actions.	World Autism Acceptance Week (Usually end of March) World Book Day Wellbeing Notice Board: Positivity Wall- key positivity messages, quotes and keywords. All classes invited to contribute. Quote and picture from The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse – printed and displayed.	Easter Holidays night out! Choc and Chat: 3 rd Tuesday of the month. Staff discuss course they may have been on to the whole staff.	members of the school community at all times. • Explicitly teach pupils what respectful language and behaviour looks like, acts like, sounds like and feels like. • Display key respect messages in classrooms, in assembly areas and around the school. Involve pupils in the development of these messages. • Catch them being good - notice and acknowledge
	Golden time every Friday after lunch.	Prize giving: Student of the term		desired respectful behaviour by providing positive attention.
	Movement Breaks: In classrooms			Consistently tackle the use of discriminatory and derogatory language in the school
				Give constructive feedback to pupils when respectful behaviour and language are absent.

April	Mindful Monday-	Assembly: Plan	Every Friday	Link with Ethos:
-	Whole school positive	shared with staff	staff rota on treat	Fostering the gospel values. The
KEY THEME:	affirmation shared with		Friday.	educational vision which flows
GROWTH	class each Monday			from these values is one which
MINDSET	Morning (positive	Downs Syndrome		promotes the dignity, self-esteem
	affirmation shared with	Awareness Month		and full development of each
	class teachers every	(Ireland Specific)	Choc and Chat:	pupil as a human person. This
	Monday morning)		3rd Tuesday of	theme focuses on the holistic
SCHOOL RULE		Wellbeing Notice	the month.	development of each child.
FOCUS:		Board will	Staff discuss	1
BE SAFE &	April Focus: Growth	encompass key	course they may	Link with DEIS plan:
HEALTHY	Mindset	messages and	have been on to	The theme of 'Growth Mindset'
	A 5-10 minute	images to reflect	the whole staff.	encompasses the DEIS theme and
	discussion about the	growth mindset.	VII () (I	the commitment to staff and
	growth mindset and how	Quote and picture		student wellbeing through
	we might adapt our	from The boy, the		developing an understanding of
	mindset in the interest of	mole, the fox and the		the growth mindset and teaching
		horse – printed and		children the main strategies to
	self-care, achieving	displayed.		promote a 'growth mindset'
	goals and setting	1 3		within their own lives.
	direction.			
		Easter egg hunt:		
		Junior classes		Link with SPHE Plan
	Colden time eveny	ourior classes		Year 1 Myself / Safety &
	Golden time every			Protection
	Friday after lunch.			
	Movement Breaks: In	Fatima House Cup		
	classrooms	Winners		
		Celebration		

May KEY THEME: JOY	Mindful Monday- Whole school positive affirmation shared with class each Monday	Assembly: Plan shared with staff Mental Health	Multicultural Day	Choc and Chat: 3 rd Tuesday of the month.	Link with Ethos: Link with May, the month of Mary. The May Altar representing joy, growth and
SCHOOL RULE FOCUS: BE SAFE & HEALTHY	Morning (positive affirmation shared with class teachers every Monday morning)	Awareness Month (Global) Fatima Day – Celebration	Link to World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.	Staff discuss course they may have been on to the whole staff.	prosperity. Link with DEIS plan: The theme of joy underpins all DEIS themes in developing a positive and joyful school culture and climate where all children
HEALIH Y	May Focus: Joy A 5-10 minute discussion about Joy. What brings us joy? What does joy look like? What can we do to make out classroom, school and lives joyful? Golden time every Friday after lunch.	First Communion Celebration Confirmation PC Wellbeing Notice Board: The 'Joyful' wall will encompass key pictures and words which represent joy in our school.			and chimate where all children and welcomed and their skills an qualities valued and fostered. Link with Behaviour Policy & Anti Bullying Policy: Joy reflects one of the key messages underpinning the Behaviour & Anti Bullying Policies in that everyone has the right to a joyful, safe and secure learning environment where their voices are valued and heard.
	Movement Breaks: In classrooms	Quote and picture from The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse – printed and displayed.			Link with SPHE Plan Year 1 Myself / Safety & Protection

KEY THEME: REFLECTION SCHOOL RULE FOCUS: BE SAFE & HEALTHY	Mindful Monday- Whole school positive affirmation shared with class each Monday Morning (positive affirmation shared with class teachers every Monday morning) June Focus: Reflection A 5-10-minute discussion about the academic year. Reflecting all that was successful, learned, friendships that were made and positive experiences shared. Golden time every	Assembly: Plan shared with staff Identity Month Wellbeing Notice Board: 'Let's Reflect' Wall to encompass key pictures and words which represent the holistic development of each class group throughout the academic year. Quote and picture from The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse – printed and displayed.	Senior Class Graduation: SNA'S and Staff Fatima House Cup Winners Celebration	Choc and Chat: 3 rd Tuesday of the month. Staff discuss course they may have been on to the whole staff. Summer night out!	Link with Ethos: Reflection is a key theme within the Grow in Love programme and will be weaved throughout all curricular areas this month Link with DEIS plan: Review & Reflection on key achievements across all DEIS themes Link with Behaviour Policy & Anti Bullying Policy: Reflecting on positive relationships, behaviours and our school climate and culture which acts in a preventative and proactive approach in the prevention of negative behaviours including bullying.
	Golden time every Friday after lunch.	Sports Day			
	Movement Breaks: In classrooms	Prize giving: Student of the Year			

Note: All wellbeing themes linked with the SPHE two-year plan is in place. The SPHE programmes to be followed are:

- The Stay Safe Programme: The Stay Safe Programme aims to teach children about the importance of telling
- The Walk Tall Programme: The Walk Tall Programme aims to give primary school children the confidence, skills and knowledge to, make healthy choices.
- Webwise, HTLM Heroes & All Aboard Digitown.
- The Relationships and Sexuality Education Programme: The Relationships and Sexuality Education Programme aims to enable the child to feel confident and comfortable with his/her sexuality and that of others.
- LCA & Senior Cycle SPHE