

North Kildare Educate
Together National
School Roll No: 19995i

Summary School improvement plan

Evaluation period: January-May 2014

Plan issue date: **May 2014**

Summary school improvement plan

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 this year. We evaluated handwriting as this was something that was remarked upon as a possible area for improvement in our recent Whole School Evaluation report. For more information on how the evaluation took place, please see our School Self-Evaluation Report which is available on this website.

This school improvement plan sets out the actions that we will undertake in the school over the next three years. The main purpose of these actions is to improve our pupils' learning.

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

Strengths

- Children enjoy improving their handwriting and like the work they do in their handwriting books in particular
- Children are very positive about learning to use cursive writing
- Parents are supportive of the approach taken to handwriting in the school and agree that developing fluent and legible handwriting is a worthwhile objective
- Teachers note that when reminded of the need to write neatly, most children are capable of doing so

It was agreed that the handwriting books currently in use in all classes were worthwhile and should be maintained

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

Areas for development

- Many pupils are careless about their handwriting when they are not specifically reminded about it in spite of their views to the contrary when surveyed
- There needs to be a greater emphasis on the explicit teaching of handwriting skills, concentrating on letter formation in junior classes
- The areas of letter formation, spacing and using cursive without being prompted need to be prioritised
- An agreed means of assessing handwriting needs to be implemented

2.3 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.

Targets for Improvement Action

- Improved letter formation
- Improved spacing between words

