

**ATHY COLLEGE**  
**CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**ACADEMIC YEAR – 2014-2015**  
**IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

(v2 19.6.15)

- Induction and mentoring of most recently appointed teaching staff and new part-time teachers (Leigh-Anne Seale, Liz Doyle, Maggie Scahill, Niamh Moriarty, Sarah Behan, Henry Durka, Nessa O’Meara, Alison Brady )
- Participation in the next round of training for Project Maths
- Active Learning and ICT
- Continue training in Instructional Intelligence and continue cascading skills, tactics and strategies through newly appointed staff. Train an additional member of staff through the Barrie Bennett Instructional Intelligence Workshops. Support involvement of a member of staff at national level in IL.
- Up-grading staff IT skills for the classroom and development of proficiency in the areas of Moodle, EU Folio and Mahara
- Supporting member of staff undertaking PGDE in Special Educational Needs – block release (2 months)
- CPD for newly appointed Numeracy Co-ordinator
- Professional Development in the area of Autism
- CPD for HSCL Co-ordination

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:**

Fiona Murtagh – studying for a Master’s degree in Special Education

Linda Dempsey – studying for a PGDE in Special Education

Sarah White – PGDE in in Special Educational Needs

Brenda Sweeney – training as tutor in “Finding and selecting information and Active Learning Methodologies using ICT” (PDST)

Joanne Parry – Dip in Instructional Leadership

**SUBJECT BASED IN-CAREER DEVELOPMENT:**

**Science:** Support for inclusive Teaching and Learning (Biology) : Natalie O’Neill, November 2014

**Science** – Amgen Teach- Teaching through inquiry using sensors (Maynooth University) : Henry Durka, October 2014, February 2015

**Chemistry:** CPD on Equilibrium – Natalie O’Neill, October 2014; Chemistry Methods : Natalie O’Neill, March 2015

**Project Maths:** Deirdre Murphy, October 2014, Suzanne Hayden, Feb 2015, Mavis Laide, February 2015; Inferential Statistics – Deirdre Murphy, March 2015

**French:** Classroom Miscellany for the Junior Cert French Classroom : Mavis Laide and Elisha Delaney, November 2014

**French/Spanish:** ICT Supporting Modern Language in Teaching and Learning : Elisha Delaney, March 2015.

**Languages:** “From TY and Beyond : Language Methodologies for Senior Cycle Students” : Liz Doyle, January 2015

**LCA – Practical Achievement Task** – Sheila Brennan, October 2014

**LCA – Spanish:** Liz Doyle - September 2014

**LCA – Enterprise Task (evening Workshop)** : Sheila Brennan, February 2015

**Home Economics (PDST CPD)** : Home Economics Journal 2016 – Sarah White, September 2014

**Home Economics** : Association of Teachers of Home Economics AGM: Sarah White, October 2014.

**Career Guidance** : Guidance supervision in Kildare Education Centre : Sarah Behan, Jan 15

## **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT:**

**Mahara** : Frank Whelan, Siobhan O’Brien, Ciara Doyle

## **INSTRUCTIONAL INTELLIGENCE/TEACHING AND LEARNING/ KEYSKILLS**

**Instructional Leadership:** Barrie Bennett workshops – Joanne Parry: November 2014 and March 2015.

**Teaching and Learning Workshop for All Athy College Teachers** : “Joining the Dots:Our Teaching and Learning Journey” – January 2015. Co-ordinated by Breda Sunderland

**KWETB Induction Programme for Newly Appointed Teachers** – Maggie Scahill, Liz Doyle October 2014

**Co-operative Learning : Support for Inclusive Teaching and Learning (PDST)** : Henry Durka, November 2014

## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

Fiona Murtagh – studying for a Master’s degree in Special Education

Linda Dempsey – studying for a PGDE in Special Education

Sarah White – PGDE in in Special Educational Needs

Workshops on aspects of autism - Disability Board : Fiona Murtagh

“Movement and Drawing Exercises to help development and learning difficulties”: Leigh Anne Seale, January 2015

## **MENTORING PROGRAMME FOR RECENTLY APPOINTED STAFF**

**Mentoring Newly appointed staff** : Sept 2014 and thereafter by attendance at Teaching and Learning Club – Tuesday evenings throughout the school year, including sessions on **Child Protection Legislation and Duty of Care; Classroom Management – The Bumps Method; PWIM; Placemat; Movement and Drawing Exercises to help development and learning difficulties**

## **LITERACY, NUMERACY AND SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION**

PDST Improving Numeracy through SSE : Niamh Moriarty, November 2014

## **PROGRAMMES and SKILLS BASED IN-CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

**MOODLE – VLE**: “Top-up” training delivered by Frank Whelan throughout the school year.

**JCSP Co-Ordinator’s Meeting**: Natalie O’Neill – October 2014, February 2015

**HSCL Training** – NCSE Conference : Joanne Parry, November 2014

**Active Learning Methodologies Using ICT in the Classroom :**

**AFL in the Classroom:**

Maggie Scahill, (4 sessions in February 2015); Fiona McEvoy (4 sessions in January and February 2015); Leigh Anne Seale : January 2015; Brenda Sweeney : October 2014; March 2015.

## **DEVELOPING COLLEGIALITY**

Staff lunch : May 2015



# REPORT ON THE PROVISION OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2014-2015

## EVALUATION OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Below are the main conclusions of an invitation to all staff to reflect on and evaluate CPD for 2014-2015:

**Active Learning Methodologies Using ICT in the Classroom and IT in Assessment for Learning and Assessment of Learning** : One participant reported that the presentation content and the presenter's knowledge and delivery were excellent. However, the computer equipment available at the centre was dated. While the material covered was very beneficial, sessions at 7pm in the evening, after a long school day, were not ideal. Another participant, while very impressed with content and the presenter's knowledge and delivery, also remarked that the computer room at the centre was very small and confined. The internet connection was not fast enough to allow full access to all websites and programmes. However, the ideas and content were very practical and useful. A third participant said that the only negative was that the computers/internet didn't work properly for all attending the course. She has already used some of the resources recommended and anticipates using more of them. Yet another participant reported:

*“Active learning and ICT , Finding and Selection information. Excellent course with great methodologies on how to implement active learning using ICT and find info on web. Great resources that could be shared with whole staff and implemented with students, Padlet, Animoto, cube creator, free rice etc. ( 5/5 on all parts of evaluation form)*

*AFL in the Classroom: another great in-service that introduced strategies for AFL. A lot of the strategies are already being used in Athy College. Some simple and useful new strategies given which when tested on students got positive feedback . 5/5 on all parts of evaluation form.”*

**Project Maths CPD/ Maths.** The Project Maths s Autumn 2014 and Spring 2015 were very good/excellent in all respects.

The presentation content on Inferential Statistics was excellent as was the presenter's knowledge. However, the overall delivery was poor and while the venue was very good, all expectations were not met.

**Post Graduate Diploma in Special Educational Needs: ( St. Angela's College, Sligo)**

The participant felt the course was very beneficial in enabling her to meet the holistic need of learners with SEN. It built her confidence in engaging in student profiling and IEP planning. The 3 support visits from college personnel to the school were very helpful. Overall, excellent in every way.

**Movement and Drawing Exercises to help Development and Learning Difficulties:** “Very informative. Totally new information was included and delivered in a very practical way. Theory followed by practice. Have put skills into practice in the classroom. “ the content of this CPD was shared with at the mentoring group sessions and also at a whole-staff CPD on T&L.

**French:** Classroom Miscellany for the Junior Cert French Classroom – An excellent course as it gave a hands-on, practical overview of strategies and activities that can be used in the French classroom. The teachers have used many of the strategies and has found them useful.

**LCA Vocational Preparation Task :** The attendee found this workshop in January 2015 particularly helpful in relation to the presentation of task work.

**Support for Inclusive Teaching and Learning :** For the Biology workshop the venue was excellent, the presenter’s knowledge and delivery were very good and the presentation content was good.

**JCSP Co-Ordinators’ Meetings:** These meetings were very good in all respects.

**Chemistry:** CPD on Equilibrium and Chemistry Methods – excellent CPD

**Science:** Course on Amgen Teach : Inquiry based teaching and learning in Science was excellent in all respects.

**French/Spanish:** ICT Supporting Modern Language in Teaching and Learning: *“This course covered websites that can be used for teaching a modern foreign language. Only one of the websites presented (out of four) was useful, but that website has been used a lot in my classes since the course and students love it, so overall the course was very worthwhile.”*

**Home Economics :** Association of Teachers of Home Economics : *“Baking demonstration by “RTE’s : The Restaurant” chef was great as she focused on JCSP Home Economics, demonstrating simple recipes and decorations that could be made to gain students’ interest in the subject. Great input on Leaving Cert. Social Studies from a solicitor. She focused on Family Law in Ireland. The ATHE session on Leaving Cert Journals was a great networking experience...got a lot of new ideas.”*

**Art, Craft and Design –Stained Glass:** “A great course. Very hands on.”

## **IDENTIFIED NEEDS FOR DEVELOPMENT**

- First Aid training
- Engaging and Motivating Students
- Team-building : Further developing collegiality

## **IDENTIFIED EXPERTISE WITHIN THE STAFF**

- 4 teachers are IVEA certified practitioners in Instructional Leadership – Teaching and Learning – Deirdre Murphy, Natalie O’Neill and Breda Sunderland. These teachers have been involved in training at a national level for Cohorts 2 and 3 of the Instructional Leadership Project. They are also trained facilitators. Brenda Sweeney is also an excellent and practised deliverer of CPD in this area.
- ICT – Richard Daly, Frank Whelan, Ger McDonagh, Deirdre Murphy.
- Moodle and Mahara – Frank Whelan, Siobhan O’Brien, Ciara Doyle