

## **ATHY COLLEGE**

### **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### **ACADEMIC YEAR – 2015-2016**

#### **IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

- Junior Cycle for Teachers : CPD on the JC Framework for Principal; Subject JCT for English, Science and Business Studies teachers
- Induction and mentoring of most recently appointed, re-deployed teaching staff and new part-time teachers (Amy Costello, Niamh Doyle, Lorraine Townsend, Maeve McCutcheon, Jennifer Murphy, Sarissa Denmead)
- First Aid
- Continue training in Instructional Intelligence and continue cascading skills, tactics and strategies through newly appointed staff. Support involvement of a member of staff at national level in IL.
- Supporting member of staff undertaking PGDE in Special Educational Needs – block release (2 months)
- Supporting member of staff undertaking PGDE in School Guidance and Counselling - released every Friday of the academic year

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

#### **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:**

Fiona Murtagh – completing Master’s degree in Special Education

Billy Higgins : Completing MA in educational leadership and management.

Joanne Parry : PGDE in School Guidance and Counselling - Maynooth University

Sarah Behan : PGDE in Learning Support, Resource and Special Education - Church of Ireland College of Education

#### **SUBJECT BASED IN-CAREER DEVELOPMENT:**

**Science:** JCT for Science Teachers - Natalie O’Neill, Maeve McCutcheon -March 2016

**Chemistry:** Summer school - Natalie O’Neill, Jne 2015;

**Chemistry :** Kilkenny Teachers’ Centre - Leaving Cert Chemistry - October 2016 Natalie O’Neill

**Biology :** PDST - Sheila Brennan, Natalie O’Neill , September 2015

**Biology** : Biology Roadshow - Using Games - Maeve McCutcheon; October 2015

**LCA** : Hotel, Catering and Tourism - Amy Costello - September 2015

**LCA** : Leisure and Recreation - Jennifer Murphy, September 2015

**LCA** : Social education - Amy Costello, September 2015

**LCA** : ICT - Noreen Tyrrell, October 2015

**Home Economics**: Leaving Cert Food Studies Assignments :Association of Teachers of Home Economics: Fiona McEvoy, October 2015

**Home Economics** : ATHE Annual Conference - Fiona McEvoy, October 2015

**History** : Leaving Cert History (document based question) - Brenda Sweeney, PDST - September and October 2015

**History** : HTAI Conference - Brenda Sweeney, October 2015

History : PDST - using ICT in JC History, RSR and DBQ - Brenda Sweeney, September 2015

**DCG** : Teaching the DCG Syllabus (3) - Kevin Doyle, October 2015

**DCG** : Solid Works - Kevin Doyle, November 2015

**English** : JCT for English teachers - Shirley Doyle, Ciara Doyle, Siobhan O'Brien, Claire O'Connor - December 2015

**Art** : Revised Assessment Framework for Leaving Cert Art (Day 2) - Leigh-Anne Seale, February 2016

**Art** : Art Teachers' Association Conference - Leigh-Anne Seale, October 2015 - workshops on Animation, Textile Design and Art Therapy

**Business Studies** : JCT for Business Studies - Ann Lawlor, Fiona Murtagh, Sarissa Denmead - March 2016

Business Studies : BSTAI - LC Business Studies : the marking scheme; Accountancy for Junior Cert Business Studies - Ann Lawlor

**Modern Languages : French and Spanish** : An integrated approach to Skills Development at Senior Cycle - Mavis Laide, Elisha Delaney - April 2016

Common Approach to teaching Grammar : Mavis Laide, Elisha Delaney - May 2016

#### **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT:**

**Framework for Junior Cycle** : Richard Daly; November 2015

**JCT for English teachers** - Shirley Doyle, Ciara Doyle, Siobhan O'Brien, Claire O'Connor - December 2015

**JCT for Science Teachers** - Natalie O'Neill, Maeve McCutcheon March 2016

**JCT for Business Studies Teachers** - Ann Lawlor, Fiona Murtagh, Sarissa Denmea - March 2016

**New Junior Cycle - the Framework** : (PDST) Whole staff - delivered in Athy College by Enda Byrne and Donna Ivers

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

**Instructional Leadership:** National Steering Committee - Deirdre Murphy

**Instructional Leadership** : Workshop on Concept Attainment and Inside/Outside Circles - whole staff - August 2015

**KWETB Learning and Teaching Network** - Meetings attended by Breda Sunderland and Joanne Parry

**SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

Fiona Murtagh – completed a Master’s degree in Special Education

Sarah Behan : PGDE in Learning Support and Special Education

TEACCH Autism Programme : Leigh-Anne Seale, November 2015

**MENTORING PROGRAMME FOR RECENTLY APPOINTED STAFF**

**Mentoring Newly appointed staff** :Sept 2015 and thereafter by attendance at Teaching and Learning Meetings – Monday, Class 2 throughout the school year. Included sessions on

**Child Protection Legislation and Duty of Care; Classroom Management – The Bumps Method; Placemat**

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

**SSE** for Teaching/Learning and Assessment (PP) - Fiona McEvoy, October 2015

**Literacy** : Promoting literacy in Junior Cycle - Whole staff. Delivered by Claire Matthews of PDST. February 2016

**PROGRAMMES, ASSESSMENT, ICT and SKILLS BASED IN-CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

**JCSP** : CPD -Maggie Scahill, September 2015

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

**JCSP** : Assessment in JCSP, Leigh-Anne Seale - November 2015

**LCVP** Case Study : Workshop - Noreen Tyrrell, April 2016



# **REPORT ON THE PROVISION OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**2015-2016**

## **EVALUATION**

### **Professional Qualifications :**

The Level 9 PGD in learning support/resource and special educational needs “was very comprehensive, targeting a broad range of areas and issues within the post-primary and special school setting. There were also clear guidelines around the setting up of a special educational needs support team within a school with clearly identifiable personnel responsible for specific areas”.

### **School Planning - SSE/Literacy and Numeracy/Curriculum Development**

The in-service provided on SSE and integrating the SSE process into whole school planning was excellent in every respect.

Whole staff training on the New Junior Cycle proved “very informative”.

Training in the area of Junior Cycle Literacy for all teachers included “some very useful strategies to promote literacy, many of which have been adopted in different subject areas”.

CPD attended on “The Role of the Year Head” was excellent in every respect.

### **Programme-Based CPD :**

**JCSP Co-Ordinators CPD :** “Great to meet with other coordinators and hear what is going on in other schools”. The CPD on Assessment in JCSP was “a most informative day, great to get a fuller picture on the assessment requirements to fulfill and record JCSP statement completion. Also it was a great opportunity to talk to other teachers from other schools in relation to their JCSP and LCA programmes”.

**LCVP :** The CPD on 2016 Case Study was excellent.

### **Subject-Based CPD**

**Art :** CPD on Leaving Cert Art Assessment “Straightforward and clear description (as far as had been decided on at that point by the DES) provided of the changes to come, including examples of artwork produced during the pilot programme.” The Art Teachers’ Association Conference was “a very enjoyable and worthwhile day including updates on development in

the contemporary art world; showcasing examples of selected Junior Cert and Leaving Cert work from around the country; workshops (3 to be selected from a number of options) which provided opportunity to up-skill in new creative areas; and time to meet other art teachers and discuss and share classroom ideas”.

**Biology :** CPD “excellent. Well organised and some great ideas for teaching”.

**Business Studies :** The JCT for Business studies “offered great insight into the layout and content of the new Business Studies course. It also supplied ideas and resources for the teaching of this subject”.

**Chemistry :** Summer school “was great for keeping up-to-date with current issues in chemistry and also related the subject to industry”. “Chemistry in-service in Kilkenny Education Centre was excellent as always, providing great resources”.

**DCG :** CPD on solidworks updates was excellent in every respect.

**History :** LC History DBQ in-service was information and covered the DBQ quite well. The HTAI Conference had some useful input on practical methodologies and strategies in teaching LC and JC History. The PDST course on using ICT in JC History was “excellent, full of practical ideas, in particular ICT in Junior history classes”.

**Science :** JCT on new Junior Cycle. While the presenter’s knowledge and delivery were good, the course did not fully meet teacher’s expectations in terms of content and “a lot of questions could not be answered; not given definite guidelines about the depth the teachers should go into on topics - told ‘whatever you feel’ “.

## **SKILLS :**

**ICT : Finding and Selecting Information :** Delivered early in the school year, this CPD was “very helpful”. Another participant reported that he had used some of the sources throughout the school year. “Great to get official certification for a course undertaken in our own school”.

**First Aid :** This course addressed an identified need in staff training. It was reported to be “very useful, very good delivery and very relevant”.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS:**

**Teach 2-day :** “A very informative lecture-based seminar from representatives of the The University of North Carolina TEACCH Autism Program providing an in depth and positive insight into Autistic Spectrum Disorder and strategies in teaching those with the condition, including video footage of their students to clearly illustrate points made. It was great to meet

others working in other ASD units around the country and to chat about their experiences and what is working well for them.”

## **IDENTIFIED NEEDS FOR DEVELOPMENT**

### **IDENTIFIED EXPERTISE WITHIN THE STAFF**

- 3 teachers are ETBI/IVEA certified practitioners in Instructional Leadership – Teaching and Learning – Deirdre Murphy, Natalie O’Neill, Joanne Parry and Breda Sunderland. They are also trained facilitators.
- ICT and Active Learning Methodologies: Brenda Sweeney –tutor in “Finding and selecting information and Active Learning Methodologies using ICT”ICT – Richard Daly, Frank Whelan, Ger McDonagh, Deirdre Murphy
- Moodle and Mahara - EU Folio - Siobhan O’Brien and Ciara Doyle