



School Improvement Plan 2023-2024

Seamount College

Our Self-Evaluation Report and Improvement Plan

Working Document Updated 31/5/2024

1. Introduction

This document records the findings of this self-evaluation and our current improvement plan, including targets and the actions we will implement to meet the targets.

The outcomes of our last improvement plan from 2020-2022 are in the Appendix (p. 7).

The year 2022-2023 was used as a review year following the Covid pandemic.

1.1 The focus of this evaluation

We undertook self-evaluation of teaching and learning during the period *Sept. 2023 to Feb. 2024*. We evaluated the following aspect(s) of teaching and learning:

- Challenges of moving from primary to secondary schools
- Challenges of moving from junior to senior cycle

2. Findings of this evaluation

2.1 This is effective / very effective practice in our school

- Most students feel that they are able to study. (75% say they can study effectively in some subjects; 12% believe that they study effectively in all subjects.)
- Over half of parents take an active role in their son/daughters' study
- 98% of parents review their son/daughters' reports with them.

2.2. This is how we know:

- Two focus groups were established: one for junior cycle students and one for senior cycle students.
- Following consultation with the two focus groups our theme “linking learning” was established.
- Teachers were then consulted at a whole staff meeting.
- Following this all students and parents were surveyed on their views.
- This data was used by the SSE team to formulate targets and actions.

2.3 This is what we are going to focus on to improve our practice further

- How to best support students in their study, revision and management of course work.

3. Our Improvement Plan

On the next page we have recorded:

- The **targets** for improvement we have set
- The **actions** we will implement to achieve these
- **Who is responsible** for implementing, monitoring and reviewing our improvement plan
- How we will measure **progress** and check **outcomes** (criteria for success)
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As we implement our improvement plan we will record:

- The **progress** made, and **adjustments** made, and **when**
- **Achievement of targets** (original and modified), and **when**

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN*Seamount College***Sep 2023 to May 2024****ACTION PLAN COORDINATOR:****Maeve Tierney****Target 1**

Increase the number of students who know how to study effectively in all subjects from 12% to >20%.

Actions to Achieve Target	Who?	When?
1. Study skills presentation specific to all subjects to be shared with all students and presented schoolwide.	LF	When study plan is given out Winter and summer
2. Presentation shared via QR code with students.	SOC	When study plan is given out Winter and summer
3. Study skill workshops for second and fifth year.	MT	Oct Bi-annually
4. One page revision sheet methodology for all subjects where appropriate to be produced by students but led by teacher.	All teachers	End of topics when appropriate

Target 2

Increase student use of the structured study plans to prepare for exams from 52% to >70%.

Actions to Achieve Target	Who?	When?
1. Create a template of a shortened time frame for a study plan. (3 and a half weeks)	AK/LF	Distribute 3/4 weeks before exams (29th of April '24)
2. "Drop everything and study" classes - once a week for 4 weeks using the revision plan. 1st, 2nd and 5th years. Study plan to be projected on the board. Notice will be given to students to ensure they have appropriate materials.	All teachers MT	From 4 weeks before exams.

Target 3

Increase the number of all students using the study plan for 3 or more weeks from 52% to >75%.

Actions to Achieve Target	Who?	When?
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Master plan to be edited by all subject teachers to ensure it reflects work undertaken and the upcoming tests. 2. Where necessary the master plan should be individualised for every class. 	All teachers	Month before house exams
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. "Drop everything and study" classes once a week for use with the study plan in the lead up to the exams in the current subject. 1st, 2nd and 5th years. Study plan to be projected on the board. Notice will be given to students to ensure they have appropriate materials. 	All teachers MT	Scheduled times

Target 4

Decrease the number of students who report finding completing coursework/projects while keeping up to date with other subjects very difficult/ difficult from 47% to <35%.

Actions to Achieve Target	Who?	When?
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Schedule of CBAs given at the start of the year and displayed in classrooms. 	Wellbeing teachers	September
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Class time given for the completion of CBAs. 	All teachers	At appropriate time
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. When students are completing CBAs give no other homework in that subject. (for 2-3 weeklong CBAs) 	All teachers	At appropriate time

Target 5

Increase the number of parents who look at the revision plans with their son/daughter from 50% to >60%.

Actions to Achieve Target	Who?	When?
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Email study plan to all parents as well as students. 	AK/LF Admin	October/ April
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Follow up with a text message notification. 	Admin	October/ April

MONITORING STRATEGIES/APPROACHES	EVALUATION / CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS (Are we making progress? / How do we know?)
Subject teachers to check in with classes about revision timetables.	The SSE team asked their classes in May 2024 about how useful revision timetables are - they received only positive feedback.
Teacher survey May 2024	Evaluate results of teacher survey May 2024.
Observation of student use of study plans during <i>DEAS</i> classes.	Evaluate results of teacher survey May 2024.
Focus groups to be held in September to evaluate how last years' targets went and to feed into next years' targets.	Evaluate data from focus groups.
Survey students and parents December 2024	Evaluate survey results.

NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS THROUGHOUT IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

- Study timetable shortened from a 6 week to a 3.5 week timeframe following student focus groups and surveys in May 2024.
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TARGETS	ACHIEVED			
Target 1 Increase the number of students who know how to study effectively in all subjects from 12% to >20%.	Yes		No	
Target 2 Increase student use of the structured study plans to prepare for exams from 52% to >70%.	Yes		No	
Target 3 Increase the number of all students using the study plan for 3 or more weeks from 52% to >75%.	Yes		No	
Target 4 Decrease the number of students who report finding completing coursework/projects while keeping up to date with other subjects very difficult/ difficult from 47% to <35%.	Yes		No	
Target 5 Increase the number of parents who look at the revision plans with their son/daughter from 50% to >60%.	Yes		No	

Appendix

1.1 Outcomes of our last improvement plan from 2020 to 2022

Managing Myself (2nd, 5th & 6th Years) and Communication (3rd Years & TYs) were the two strands focused on in 2021-2022.

The following results were achieved, with the targets yet to be achieved highlighted:

Targets for the Academic Year 2020/2021 Positive Mental Health (6th Years)

Target	2019/2020 Target	2019/2020 Result	2020/2021 Target	2020/2021 Result
I am aware of the various supports available to me within our school community if I am not feeling my best for whatever reason	75 – 80%	78.9%	80-85%	90.6%
I am aware of the various supports available to me outside our school community if I am not feeling my best for whatever reason	65 – 70%	93%	>90%	90.6%
I am comfortable going to a staff member if I have a problem	80 – 85%	70.2%	80-85%	69.8%
I am encouraged and have the opportunity to take part in school life	70 – 75%	94.7%	>90%	92.5%

2 Managing Myself (5th Years)

Target	2019/2020 Target	2019/2020 Result	2020/2021 Target	2020/2021 Result
Increase the number of students who feel attendance is well monitored in the school.	61 – 80%	97.7%	>90%	94.9%
Decrease the number of students who come to class without necessary materials once per day	20 – 25%	9.1%	<10%	2.6%
Increase the number of students who rate their journal as excellent or very good.	55 – 70%	36.3%	50-55%	53.3%
Increase the number of students who agree that they can effectively revise material covered in class.	40 – 60%	70.5%	>70%	54.5%

3 Managing Myself (TYs)

Target	2019/2020 Target	2019/2020 Result	2020/2021 Target	2020/2021 Result
Increase the number of students who feel attendance is well monitored in the school.	77 – 80%	96.6%	>90%	71.1%
Decrease the number of students who come to class without necessary materials once per day	5 – 15%	13.8%	<15%	17.1%
Increase the number of students who rate their use of the journal as excellent or very good.	71 – 80%	77.6%	>75%	35.5%
Increase the number of students who agree that they can effectively revise material covered in class.	65 – 75%	75.9%	>75%	67.1%

4 Communication (3rd Years)

Target	2019/2020 Target	2019/2020 Result	2020/2021 Target	2020/2021 Result
Increase the number of students who feel very comfortable reading aloud in class	>20%	10.8%	>20%	36%
Increase the number of students that enjoy giving oral presentations	>60%	32.4%	>40%	29.1%
Increase the number of students that volunteer daily to give their opinions aloud in class	>55%	44.6%	>50%	38.4%
Increase the number of students who have opportunities to work with others on a regular basis	>80%	77%	>50%	54.7%

5 Communication (2nd Years)

Target	2019/2020 Target	2019/2020 Result	2020/2021 Target	2020/2021 Result
Increase the number of students who feel very comfortable reading aloud in class	>20%	18.3%	>20%	32.6%
Increase the number of students that enjoy giving oral presentations	>60%	56.1%	>55%	26.3%
Increase the number of students that volunteer daily to give their opinions aloud in class	>55%	50%	>50%	33.7%
Increase the number of students who have opportunities to work with others on a regular basis	>80%	75.6%	>40%	48.4%

6 Managing Myself (1st Years)

Target	2020/2021 Target	2020/2021 Result
Increase the number of students who feel attendance is well monitored in the school	>90%	84.4%
Decrease the number of students who come to class without necessary materials once per day	<15%	2.8%
Increase the number of students who rate their use of the journal as excellent or very good.	>75%	75.2%
Increase the number of students who agree that they can effectively revise material covered in class	>70%	65.1%

Building on the previous strands one common area of continued need is to “Increase the number of students who agree that they can effectively revise material covered in class”.

According to this data, other areas that continue to need improvement are

- increasing the number of students who feel attendance is well monitored in the school.
- increasing the number of students who volunteer to speak aloud in class.
- increasing the number of students who enjoy oral presentations.
- increasing the number of students who use their journal well
- increasing the number of students who feel comfortable speaking to a member of staff if they have a problem.

It is important to note that the above results need to be understood in the context of the Covid pandemic.