



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency



Scoil Iósaif an Fhionnradharc Statement of Strategy for School Attendance

Name of school	St. Joseph's Secondary School, Fairview
Address	Fairview, Dublin 3
Roll Number	60390F
The school's vision and values in relation to attendance	<p>Scoil Iósaif is a Christian community in keeping with the educational philosophies of Edmund Rice. We are committed to an education which fosters personal growth and self-worth in a caring environment. We aspire to educate and promote responsibility. We aim to work together in a spirit of respect, care and partnership. Scoil Iósaif is a school where friendship, affirmation and individual attention are encouraged among pupils, teachers and parents.</p> <p>Attendance is seen as an important factor in the development of the student and engagement with the whole school community. We endeavour to work with students and their families to best facilitate and promote punctuality and attendance.</p>
The school's high expectations around attendance	<p>As an important factor in achievement and holistic development, engagement and attendance in the school is seen as integral to being part of the school community. We expect all students to fully attend every day, unless there is an explanation reinforced by home support as to any challenges.</p> <p>Where this occurs, the school commits to supporting students and their homes in providing best access to education, and promote reengagement with schooling alongside classmates and peers.</p>
How attendance will be monitored	<p>Attendance is monitored by teachers and leadership in the school. The school's student database (VSWare) is used to record attendance in each class everyday. This is monitored by Year Heads on a daily basis, and every student is discussed in Pastoral Care Team meetings, with student facing challenges offered supports.</p> <p>These supports include, but are not limited to, guidance, HSLO support, SCP support, resource classes, peer mentoring and differentiated teaching and assessment.</p>

<p>Summary of the main elements of the school's approach to attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target setting and targets • The whole-school approach • Promoting good attendance • Responding to poor attendance 	<p>Target Setting and targets Students in general are expected to have full attendance. Where this is providing challenges, targets will be established between the school and home to maximally allow for attendance and engagement.</p> <p>Whole school approach All staff and students in the school are made aware of attendance expectations, and their link with the Code of Behaviour. Parents are kept informed of attendance through regular communication, including direct, annual PT meetings, and house exams and reports.</p> <p>Promoting good attendance The school encourages good attendance, and this is outlined within the Code of Behaviour. Positive reinforcement is highlighted as much as responses to challenging behaviours. End of year awards are given by Year Heads to each year for excellent attendance, and use of school medias to highlight achievement, relative to each student, is used.</p> <p>Responding to poor attendance Students struggling to attend school are assisted in line with the school Code of Behaviour. This may include appropriate responses within the school. Parents form a key role in these actions and within the Code of Behaviour as a whole. Where the school is unable to address the challenges, link teams such as school pastoral care, HSLO and School Completion programmes exist to provide additional supports and link with outside agencies. TUSLA exists where referrals are required due to inability of these teams to support and when legislated attendance requirements are not met.</p>
<p>School roles in relation to attendance</p>	<p>Board of Management The Board of Management has the overall responsibility for the preparation of the school's Statement of Strategy. As well as its oversight role in this work, the Board should play an active part in the work of reviewing and developing the Statement of Strategy. It is the responsibility of the Board to ensure that all of the measures required to promote and support 39 Section 9 attendance, in line with the School Attendance Guidelines, are in place and set out in the Statement of Strategy.</p> <p>School Principal As instructional leader in the school, it is the responsibility of the principal, under the direction of the Board of Management, to lead and guide the organisation and monitoring of student attendance. The responsibilities of the principal would ensure, either directly or through</p>

	<p>delegation, that the work is appropriately communicated, co-ordinated and concluded.</p> <p>Teachers and other staff members Teachers, along with other staff members who are actively part of the school community, will be charged with utilising the school student database (VSWare). Special needs assistants, members of the National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS), the National Behaviour Support Service (NBSS) or other school support personnel who have a close working connection with the school should also be asked to bring their expertise to the attendance work.</p> <p>Students Students are expected to attend school and adhere to the wider school Code of Behaviour. This will enable them to understand better the importance of attendance and take responsibility for attendance seriously.</p> <p>Parents Parents are expected to have their child attend school and adhere to the wider school Code of Behaviour. This will enable them to understand better the importance of attendance and take responsibility for attendance seriously.</p> <p>Educational Welfare Officer The Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) will act in support of students who are having challenges in meeting expected attendance targets and requirements.</p>
Partnership arrangements (parents, students, other schools, youth and community groups)	Parents Council, School Completion Programme, Headstrong, One Good School, IBM/Ptech, Ballybough Community Centre.
How the Statement of Strategy will be monitored	This will be reviewed regularly, at a maximum of annually, by the Principal in liaison with school leadership team, parents, and Board of Management
Review process and date for review	Academic year 2022/23
Date the Statement of Strategy was approved by the Board of Management	3 rd April 2022
Date the Statement of Strategy submitted to Tusla	4 th April 2022