



ST DECLAN'S COLLEGE

Agreed Report

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING

5th February 2026

(Meeting held online due to weather warning)

1. Welcome: PK
2. In attendance: PK, KR, ER, EOR, EM, GOL, EOS,
3. Apologies received: FS, CR
4. Minutes of Previous Board Meeting:

Proposed: GOL

Seconded: EM

5. Matters Arising: None
6. Finance

Finance meeting postponed due to weather warning. Year-end accounts ready for submission on February 28th.
7. Child Protection Oversight Report: No CPOR as online
8. Anti-Bullying: Bí Cineálta report presented by EOR.
9. Ratification of proposed changes to Code of Behaviour
10. 5. Beards or moustaches are not acceptable

Proposed rule:

5. Beards or moustaches are not acceptable for junior students (1st to 3rd Years)
Senior students (4th – 6th Years) are permitted to grow a neat beard of natural colour.

Rule to be amended: 'Behaviour' Section Rule 11

Current rule: The use of mobile phones, devices and smart watches is forbidden. Any student found using a mobile phone/ device/ smart watch on the school premises will have the item confiscated and will be suspended for a minimum of one school day. Parents can collect the confiscated item at their discretion. Refusal to give the device to the staff member who has requested it may lead to a lengthier suspension. Repeated use of a device will lead to a lengthier suspension.

Proposed rule: The use of mobile phones, devices and smart watches is forbidden. Any student found using a mobile phone/ device/ smart watch on the school premises will have the item confiscated and will be suspended for a minimum of one school day. Parents can collect the confiscated item at their discretion. Refusal to give the device to the staff member who has requested it may lead to a lengthier suspension. Repeated use of a device will lead to a lengthier suspension. First Year students who bring a mobile phone to school must have it switched off and stored in their locker from 8:35 until the end of the school day.

Both changes ratified. Change to rule five will not be implemented until after Easter break.

11. Inspection Report Focused SEN-PP

Report now available online <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/school-inspection-reports/st-declans-college-nepin-road-cabra-dublin-6/> Comprehensive feedback given at previous meeting. Report reflects this. Report reflects work and effort going into rejuvenating SEN Department over the past year. Strengths and areas for improvement recapped. Areas for improvement will be acted on. EOR to report to Borad on this in the coming year. The Board recognises in particular the work of the SEN Core Team.

12. Job Share/ Career Break Applications School Year 2026/2027

Applications discussed along with implications for timetabling and students. Decisions made.

13. Correspondence

Regular correspondence from SEC, DOE, JMB.

Letter from Gardaí regarding use of electric bikes, scooters etc amongst young people in Dublin 7. Board reassured these are not allowed on school grounds.

Parents will be contacted via school app with summary of information contained in letter.

14. Principal's Report

Classroom Management:

Suspensions discussed. BFL ongoing. Run by A. Kavanagh. Supported by M. McGinley.

Teaching & Learning:

Exceptional School Closure Day took place with NCSE Autism Adviser L. Daly. Informative and practical day for all.

Bitesize CPD run by Teaching and Learning Team last week. Two teachers delivered CPD and about 15 attended.

Leaving Cert. Biology trip to Maynooth with Ms Foster and Ms Murphy. Sixth Years got hands-on experience with experiments.

New Science Cub has started with Ms Foster and Ms Murphy.

Exam Reflection Week took place in January for 1st, 2nd 5th Years

2nd Tranche of webinars for teachers who teach two Leaving Certificate subjects launched by Oide for Senior Cycle Redevelopment. Five teachers attending.

Mock exams ongoing.

Extra-Curricular and School Spirit

U15s & U19s soccer team are in the quarter final of North Dublin Competition.

Both teams won all of their games with Mr Nee and Mr O'Driscoll.

Ciorcal Comhrá recently started at lunchtime in the library. 30 students attended first meeting! Ms Cordial and Mr O'Driscoll organising.

Homework Club for students who have come from DEIS primary schools up and running. Funding is very welcome and being used for lunchtime clubs and activities also.

Past pupils in receipt of awards from universities this year: Andrion James
Gonzales: DCU Scholars Awards, UCD Karl Andrade & , Trinity Adam Hanks.

Very proud time for the school.

Transition Years are on work experience.

Recent Transition Year activities include workshop with author James Butler,
Hospitality course and ongoing rehearsals for the TY musical.

Pre-Christmas activities including Carol Service, Old Folks Christmas Party,
Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Door Competition and Hampers for SVP.

Sixth Year trip to Barcelona will take place 15th – 18th February.

Last Christian Brother left the monastery at the end of January. End of an era will
be marked by mass in May. An excellent opportunity to invite in members of
whole school community.

Date of Next Meeting provisionally set.