



Bulletin 8 for Parents/Guardians – 12th November 2021

School Updates – Stand Up Week in RCS

Dear Parent/Guardians:

Below I have copied our recent Inspection Report from the Department of Education which focuses on the Anti-Bullying measures that we take as a school. This inspection took place on Monday October 18th, 2021.

The following are the priorities of the school in relation to creating a positive school culture that prevents and tackles bullying:

- The whole school community is centrally involved in the ongoing formation of the school's anti-bullying ethos
 - A large number of staff are involved in the NBSS/ TESS "Check and Connect" programme
 - The open and easy access to the Chaplain and guidance counsellor play a significant role in the prevention of bullying
 - An anti-bullying workshop is given to all year groups by tutors during a designated tutor time
 - Parents are invited to a bi-annual anti-bullying information night
 - The anti-bullying programme STOP is delivered during SPHE lessons
 - Anti-bullying is addressed as part of the school's care system and there is an online antibullying record to track and record cases of bullying
 - There is a significant focus on cyber bullying and training is provided for all year groups
 - The school delivers a number of different programmes, which include elements of information and training about anti-bullying and overall wellbeing
 - There is an established wellbeing committee in the school
 - Senior management meet regularly with groups of teachers who have responsibility for various aspects of school life and organisation
 - All new staff members are given appropriate information and induction in the school's Restorative Practice system

The following good practices in relation to preventing and tackling bullying were noted during the incidental inspection:

- The school is very active in "Stand Up" week and there is a very active social inclusion group among the students
 - All staff have been trained in Restorative Practice which has become an integral part of the school's code of behaviour and eight members of staff are trained as Restorative Practice facilitators
 - First-year students have a life skills class which includes a new law module focusing on 'right and wrong' and personal responsibility

I would like to reiterate that we do NOT tolerate bullying of any kind, that includes student V student, student V teacher, parent V Teacher or parent V student. Our Anti-Bullying Policy is available on the school website. www.ramsgrangecommunityschool.ie



Since I became Principal in 2013, I have always shared with you my mantra – ‘if we don’t know about it, we can’t do anything about it’. So, if ANYONE has ANY concern about ANY child or adult in our building please do NOT hesitate to contact the school asap.

We are very proud of our very positive and open relationship with parents, you are a valued stakeholder in our core business, which is leading teaching and learning of your children in Ramsgrange Community School.

Other Important Notes:

- 1. The school will be closed on Friday December 10th for essential staff training.**
- 2. Please ensure that your child has spare masks in their school bags.**
- 3. Please do not drop to your child to school before 8.30am at all possible unless they are travelling by bus.**
- 4. Please be mindful of where you park for collection times. Please do not park in spaces reserved for buses.**
- 5. If you know of any person that is registered with the Teaching Council or currently training as a teacher that is available for subbing please ask them to contact the school asap.**

As always, I want to thank you for your cooperation and support,

Every best wish,

Rachel O’ Connor,
Principal.