

**CARRIGALINE COMMUNITY SCHOOL**  
**BOARD OF MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2019/2020**



**Board Composition:**

*Mr. J. Lyons (Chairperson)*  
*Ms. R. Mulcahy*  
*Mr. H. Crowley*  
*Rev. Fr. P. Fogarty*  
*Mr. A. O' Leary*  
*Ms. R. Mehigan*  
*Mr. R. Bateman*  
*Ms. V. O'Mahony*  
*Cllr. B. Dalton*  
*Ms. Ú. O' Donnell*  
*Mr. P. Burke (Secretary)*

*Board of Management meetings for the academic year 2019/2020 were chaired by the teacher nominee to the Board, Mr. John Lyons. Board policy is that the position of Chairperson is rotated on an annual basis amongst the nominating bodies.*

*The Board of Management, throughout the year, was pleased to note that a full comprehensive education programme continued to be offered to all students at Carrigaline Community School with the full range of option subjects available at all levels. The Board welcomed the fact that the 2 new senior cycle subjects on the curriculum since 2018/2019, namely Computer Science and Politics & Society, are being fully supported and would be taken at Leaving Certificate level for the first time in June 2020. In addition, the Board congratulated and thanked the staff of the school for their continued voluntary commitment to the diverse range of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities available to the student cohort.*

**Covid-19:** *In line with government advice, all schools in the state were closed on March 12<sup>th</sup> 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The disruption to school life was obvious. The Board of Management commended the Principal, Deputy Principals and all the staff for managing to keep a strong level of instruction going "virtually". Board meetings were held remotely and all supports possible were given to staff and students in an attempt to maintain a good level of teaching and learning. The Board commended the staff also on their handling of the predicted grades process for the Leaving Certificate students of 2020.*



**Finance:** *In line with previous practice, the Board considered all major aspects of school finances at each meeting throughout the year, in conjunction with the Finance Sub-Committee. The first full year accounts under the guidance of the Financial Services Support Unit will be prepared for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020.*

**School Policies:** *The Board continued its previous practice of reviewing school policies on an on-going basis. The Child Safeguarding Statement was reviewed by the stakeholders at CCS as is required. Other policies adopted/reviewed during the year included the Code of Behaviour; AUP (Acceptable Use Policy in ICT); Relationships & Sexuality Education; Anti-Bullying; Dignity in the Workplace; CCTV; GDPR and Admissions Policy.*

*The Board annually reviews the whole school approach to countering bullying. Students and parents were provided with an opportunity to participate in 'Anti-Bullying' Seminars during 2019/2020. The School Principal updates the Board of Management on issues related to bullying.*

**Academic Achievement:** *The Board congratulated the students and teaching staff on the excellent standard of student academic achievement, albeit in very different circumstances this year.*

**School Inspections @ CCS:** *The DoES Inspectorate continued to work in partnership with the school in 2019/2020. The Board welcomed the support of the Inspectorate and its recognition of the high standards of Teaching and Learning across the whole school.*

**Staff In-Career Development:** *The 2019/2020 academic year continued to be dominated by a strong staff focus on **School Self Evaluation and Professional Development**. Vibrant Literacy, Numeracy and TEL Sub-Committees formed from the teaching staff and co-ordinated by 'link' teachers facilitated this in-career development programme.*

*A number of staff members are involved with the Instructional Leadership Programme which aims to continuously improve the standard of teaching and learning across schools in the country. This is part of the school improvement process.*

*Large numbers of teaching staff continued to participate in national in-service training for the delivery of new curricular material. Staff also participated in the National Induction Programme in Teacher Education. Regular school based in-service continued, focusing on Special Education Needs / Autism and on using ICT in teaching and learning.*



**Health & Safety:** *The Board is keenly aware of its responsibilities under the Health, Safety & Welfare at Work Acts. In addition to a major review of the **CCS Health & Safety Statement & Policy**, an annual Risk Assessment is undertaken by all staff at the commencement of each academic year. A thorough review of health and safety has been conducted by the relevant post holder and Principal within the school which led to an updated H&S Statement / policy being published and approved by the Board. A comprehensive 'Fire Evacuation' protocol is in place in CCS, with year group evacuations carried out during induction at the start of each academic year, followed by a full fire evacuation of the school community.*

- **Child Protection:** *The Board renews annually the nominations of the Designated Liaison Person and Deputy Designated Liaison Person. The Principal, Mr. Paul Burke was the Designated Liaison Person and Ms. Lorraine Collins was the Deputy Designated Liaison Person in respect of Child Protection. The Board has an item on 'Child Protection' on the agenda for each meeting in line with best practice as recommended in the 'Child Protection Guidelines'.*
- **HPV & TDap Vaccinations:** *The Board was pleased to note that the HSE Vaccination programme continued at CCS during 2019/2020. First year students participated in the vaccination programme this year.*

**Parents' Association:** *The Parents' Association continued to play a central role in the life of the school during 2019/2020. The AGM took place in the school in autumn, with Ms. Niamh O' Brien chairing the Association for the academic year. The Association has a web presence on [www.carrigcs.ie](http://www.carrigcs.ie) The Parents' Association worked in partnership with the Board of Management in supporting the induction of new First Year students and in supporting families in need during the return to school process. The challenges posed by social media and cyber bullying were addressed jointly by the Parents' Association and the Board of Management during the year.*

**Students' Council:** *The Student Council continued to play a vibrant role in the life of the school during the year. President, Carl Murray, was elected by the student population in early autumn. The Council was centrally involved in a variety of fund raising activities during the year. The Council also played a major role in the induction of in-coming First Year students.*



### 2019/2020 ~ Another Successful (yet curtailed) Year

*As the academic year concluded, amongst the highlights of the year were:*

- *Another successful programme of Adult & Continuing Education continued throughout the year.*
- *Highly successful Annual Awards & Principal's Awards Ceremonies.*
- *All Transition Year students participated in another very successful Scifest competition.*
- *Highly successful Student Exchange programmes with Lycees St. Martin, Rennes & Fairport High School, Rochester, USA. In the early part of the year.*
- *A very successful ski trip during February mid-term break*
- *Charitable fund-raising for St. Vincent De Paul which was donated to the Carrigaline and Ballygarvan Chapters for Christmas 2019.*
- *A wonderful German market held prior to Christmas*
- *Further enhancement of ICT facilities to assist teaching & learning in the classroom – the Board acknowledges the continued financial support from the DoES for this important section of school life.*
- *Continued success in a diverse range of extra and co-curricular activities, too numerous to mention.*

Signed *Paul Burke*      Date *06/10/2020*.  
Principal

Signed *John Lyons*      Date *06/10/2020*  
Chairperson