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|  Marist Primary SchoolClogher RoadCrumlin18386B**School Improvement Plan - Literacy**Evaluation period**:** *Sept 2013-June 2016*Plan issue date: *Sept 2013* |

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| **Summary - School Improvement Plan** **1. Introduction*** 1. **The focus of the evaluation**

As part of our ongoing work in the school, we conducted a school self-evaluation of teaching and learning this year. We evaluated English Literacy with a particular focus on Oral Language. For more information on how the evaluation took place, please see our School Self-Evaluation Report which is available on the school website or in our Parents’ School Plan which is available in our Secretary’s Office. This School Improvement Plan sets out the actions that we will undertake in the school over the next three years in English Literacy, i.e. the focus will be on Oral Language. The main purpose of these actions is to improve our pupils’ learning. **2. Summary of School Self-Evaluation findings****2.1** Our school has **strengths** in the following areas:

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| * There is an established culture of literacy within the school
* There is an obvious commitment among staff to improve the standard of Oral Language
* The children are, in the main, open, communicative and enjoy talk and discourse
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We know this because we consulted with pupils, parents and teachers and conducted focused surveys with teachers. **2.2** Our school has decided to prioritise the following **areas of development:*** To extend the children’s vocabulary
* To improve the children’s sentence structure
* To extend the children’s listening skills
* To improve competence and confidence in oral language usage

We have decided to prioritise this area because it is recognised that competence in Oral Language is crucial for all learning.**2.3** Our school has set the following **targets for improvement** which arerelated to pupils’ achievement and has identified the following **actions** which will help in achieving those targets over the next three years.

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| **Targets for Improvement** | **Actions** |
| * To increase the overall average score of children on the Drumcondra Oral Language Test and the PDST Checklists over the next three years
* To improve children’s sentence structure
* To improve children’s listening skills
 | * To dedicate 20 minutes three times a week to the specific teaching of Oral Language lessons
* To implement an Oral Language Curriculum across all class levels
* To implement Aistear at Infant Level
* To implement ‘ Reading Zone’ Oral Language lessons from Infants to 2nd Class
* To involve parents in Oral Language activities in the classroom and at home as part of our H/S/CL Scheme
* To introduce Oral Language assessment across all class levels
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As a parent you can help your child by spending time in conversation with him/her, by reducing ‘screen time’ and replacing it with activities which generate talk and discourse i.e. books and jig-saws and by whenever possible supporting school based activities e.g. Paired Reading/Story time in class. **2.4** We know we will have achieved our targets when we reach our targets as identified on Oral Language Standardized Testing and when children display greater competence and confidence in using Oral Language. |