

## **RETNS Board of Management Meeting – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

### **Thank You**

The Board of Management would like to thank the whole school community for all your efforts during this very challenging time. We are very grateful to our staff, pupils and parents for working together to adapt to the new circumstances in which we work.

### **Report to the School Community**

The Board of Management had a meeting by video conference on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April. The Board continues to monitor all updates from the Department of Education and Skills and Educate Together regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Education (Admissions to Schools) Act 2018:**

The Board reviewed the latest draft of the new Admissions Policy that is required to be submitted to Educate Together by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020. It was agreed to send the draft policy by e-mail to the school community for comment.

### **Planning Application – Ely Square**

The Board discussed a planning application for the development of a 4 storey apartment block at Ely Square adjacent to the rear of the school. The current planning approval for this site is for 3 houses. The Board has a number of concerns in relation to this proposed development with our primary concern being that it would significantly overlook the school grounds. The Board has also been contacted by local residents groups regarding the planning application.

It was agreed that the Board will write a letter of observations regarding the development to Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.

### **Teaching and Learning**

The Board discussed the school's approach to Teaching and Learning and the results of the survey sent to parents and children before the spring break. Many parents and children requested some form of live contact with teachers and the children's classmates. The school is preparing for this with upskilling of staff, obtaining licences for chosen platforms and updating our Acceptable Use Policy to suit the current circumstances.

The Board encourages all families to maintain or initiate contact with the school in these challenging circumstances. Staff members are very happy to support families and children in whatever way possible.

**School Finances:**

The Board reviewed the school finances and acknowledged that it will be a particularly challenging year ahead with all scheduled fundraising events cancelled or deferred and no room rental income.

**Educate Together**

There are two upcoming Educate Together events taking place with the Member's Forum on 6<sup>th</sup> May and the Annual General Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May. These will both be held through video conferencing and RETNS will be attending both events.

*The BoM also considered some routine matters, which for reasons of confidentiality are not included in this report.*