

Bulletin on the Board of Management Meeting held on 21st January 2021

The following is a summary of the Board of Management of Oberstown Children Detention Campus meeting that took place via Zoom on 21st January 2021.

Ref	Subject	Summary
1.	COVID 19	<p>The Board was updated on the situation with regard to COVID-19 and the fact that the Campus remains COVID free. It was advised that the further recent escalation of COVID 19 in the community has meant that the virus is currently the biggest risk to the Campus and has resulted in a series of crisis management briefings held in the first week of January 2021. The key drivers of these meetings has been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sustained delivery of the organisation's core purpose and function and; • The sustained well-being of the organisation. <p>The Board commended the collaborative work of the Interim Director, all managers, staff and the CSIMC for continuous dedication and resilience in responding to the difficulties posed by COVID-19 which has been vital in ensuring the safety of everyone on Campus during these exceptionally challenging times.</p>
2.	Board Committees	<p>Audit & Risk Committee</p> <p>The Board received the C&AG Audit Certificate for year ended 31st December 2019. The Chair of the Committee welcomed the clean audit certificate and thanked all involved for their work on this.</p> <p>The Audit & Risk Committee Workplan for 2021 was approved.</p>
3.	Restrictive Practices	<p>There were 36 incidents of single separation in December 2020 involving 19 young people. This is a 30% reduction in the incidence of single separations since November 2020 where there was recorded a total of 52 incidents involving 19 young people. The Board welcomed the reduction in the incidence of single separations and advised that it will be considering how best to make further progress in this important area.</p>
4.	Education	<p>Although the Oberstown school was listed in the schools to open on 11th January, this decision was then paused pending ministerial consultation with the teacher unions. The School Principal, Deputy Principal, the Head of Programmes and the Activities Co-ordinator have collaborated to provide a blended approach to the provision of education on Campus. Young people are engaged in education until 2.00 pm with normal after-school activities provided in the afternoon. The Chair commended the creativity and determination that allowed this interim solution to develop and thanked all involved. The Board continues to advocate for return to full time education on behalf of the young people.</p>
5.	Engagement with Young People	<p>The Young People Committee met with two young people on 16th December 2020, who had consulted with others on their units about the matters of concern and interest that were brought to the Committee. These were shared with the Board and a response from the Director sought where appropriate. The role of the Committee is limited as a result of COVID 19 and will consider how the process of ongoing engagement with the young people can be managed, continuing to learn from its experience.</p> <p>The Board welcomed that the voice of the young people was being heard directly by members.</p>

6.	Strategy	The Board looks forward to the details of the interim strategy being shared with all staff via Workvivo once details are finalised by the Interim Director. Individual consultation meetings with staff are being progressed by the Interim Director as part of the process to form the next Oberstown Strategy. The Strategy Committee has scheduled meetings to oversee the process.
----	-----------------	--

Professor Ursula Kilkelly

Chairperson