

Bulletin on the Board of Management Meeting held on 13th December 2021

The following is a summary of the Board of Management of Oberstown Children Detention Campus meeting that took place on Monday 13th December 2021.

Ref	Subject	Summary
1.	Minister's Visit	<p>The Chair welcomed Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth, Roderic O'Gorman, to the meeting.</p> <p>The Chair introduced the Board members and outlined the diverse mix of skills and perspectives that enable the Board to function at such a high level. The Minister was briefed on key developments including the emerging strategy.</p> <p>The Minister welcomed the opportunity to meet the Board and acknowledged all the work undertaken by staff, senior management and the Board to provide individualised care to each young person in Oberstown, especially with the challenges presented by Covid 19. He commended the Board's engagement with young people, staff and the local community.</p> <p>The extraordinary work of the Chair was acknowledged by both the Minister and the Board.</p>
	Board Committees	<p>Governance Committee: The Board received minutes of the Governance Committee meeting of 7th December 2021. The revised Terms of Reference for the Governance Committee were approved.</p> <p>Strategy Committee: The Board received the minutes of the Strategy Committee meeting of 17th November 2021.</p>
	COVID 19	<p>The latest rise in cases of COVID-19 has impacted the Campus with a slight increase in positive cases among staff. Monitoring continues with antigen testing offered twice weekly to all staff.</p> <p>Staff are also accessing booster vaccines as part of the national strategy rollout for healthcare workers.</p> <p>The HSE were on campus on Friday, 03/12/2021 and administered Covid-19 vaccinations to a number of young people.</p>
	Staff Update	<p>Staff Recognition Awards. For the second year, the staff recognition awards initiative ('Living our Values') acknowledged staff contributions over the previous 12 months. The Board congratulated all those acknowledged and looked forward to hearing further details in the new year.</p>
	Engagement with Young People	<p>The Board reviewed the details of the survey of young people, repeated from 2016 and 2019. Several significant improvements were noted including the number of young people who would seek help from a staff member. The Board welcomed the survey as an important insight into young people's experiences on Campus and asked that it be repeated annually.</p>

	Board Evaluation	The Board discussed the recommendations of the Board Evaluation undertaken by Board Excellence. A thorough and valuable process, the report provides a fresh perspective on Board performance and development with recommendations that will be integrated into the strategic planning process.
	Strategy	<p>The Board reflected on the Strategy Day held on 3rd December 2021 and was updated by the Strategy Committee on follow up. A document was circulated, setting out proposals in relation to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose • Vision • Values • 5 Strategic Objectives <p>A draft framework for the strategy document will be brought to the Board in the new year, including identifying the actions that will deliver on each objective. The Strategy Committee will consider a full draft of the strategy in January, and consultation with internal and external stakeholders will take place before the plan comes to the Board for discussion and final approval.</p>
	Christmas	<p>Christmas: The Board was briefed for plans for Christmas on Campus and the work of the young people in creating care packages for the local community was welcomed.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the Board members for their extraordinary dedication in 2021 and for their professionalism, energy and interest. She also thanked the Director and staff for the excellent work they undertake on a daily basis.</p>

Professor Ursula Kilkelly
Chairperson