ST. LOUIS HIGH SCHOOL

PLAN

Developmental Section

2013-2018

<u>Areas for Development:</u>

1. **Vision statement/Mission Statement**

   St Louis High School is a dynamic centre of learning,

   Where we are all happy and secure;

   We nurture creativity and embrace diversity,

   Whilst building on our rich traditions,

   In an atmosphere of generosity;

   We share in the journey

   Towards deeper understanding

   In this complex world.

The current Vision statement/Mission Statement is in need of a review. Staff Council, students, parents and the Board of Management will be consulted in the process of this review. We envisage that the review should be complete by January 2015. We intend to review the statement again by January 2018.

2. **<u>Enrolment</u>**

   We wish to maintain our annual intake of 120 students into First Year. The Principal, Deputy Principal, Staff, Administrative staff and Board of Management will work to ensure that the school is achieving this target by promoting the school in the local community and feeder schools, ensuring that the enrolment policy is strictly adhered to as it currently stands. A review of the enrolment policy will be undertaken in 2015-2016 by the Principal, Deputy Principal, Board of Management, Staff Council and Parents.

3. **Review of Posts of Responsibility**

   A review of the posts of responsibility will commence during the 2014-2015 academic year. Staff, Principal, Deputy Principal and Board of Management will all work on this review. This will be reviewed again during the academic year 2015-2016.

4. **Representative Structures**

   The Student Council Policy will be reviewed during the 2013-2014 academic year. Staff, students, parents and the Board of Management will be involved in the process. There will be a further review of the policy during 2014-2015.

5. **Physical Resources**

   There are areas of the school building and site that need refurbishment and redecorating. Applications will be made through the Summer Works scheme or Emergency Works scheme as appropriate.

   - Replacement Windows
     It has been strongly recommended to replace single pane glass windows in the school building.
     An application was made through the Summer Works scheme for replacement windows but was unsuccessful (Summer 2014). The Principal and Board of Management will review this situation during 2014-2015.
   - Concert Hall and Old Foyer Re-Decoration
     The Concert Hall needed redecorating and work was completed in January 2014.
   - Cleaning of Old Foyer Floor
     The tiling in the Old Foyer needed cleaning. This work was carried out in January 2014.

- Centenary Garden

  As part of the Centenary celebrations, a beautiful garden was designed to commemorate the year. Work was completed in April 2014.

- Rm 15 – Meeting Room

  There was a need for kitchen facilities in this room. The Parents' Council funded the work and work was completed in August 2014.

- Lift for the school

  The school has no lift and proper wheelchair access at present. An application to the Emergency works scheme will be investigated during 2014-2015.

- Corridor at back of Balcony (old school building)

  A carpeted area at the back of the balcony needs to be removed and the wooden floorboards underneath restored. This will be looked at in 2015-2016. The Principal and the Board of Management will investigate the possibility of carrying out this work.

- Additional Science Laboratory, new PE Hall, a new music facility and new student dining facilities

  Given the high uptake of Science in the school, there is a need for an additional Science Laboratory. Our PE resources are very limited in the school at present, and the canteen facilities are very basic. Currently all music classes are held in Cuisle where heating is a major issue. This would be a long-term project with the Principal, Board of Management and a Building Works Committee and Fundraising Committee overseeing the planning and fundraising of such a large-scale project. This process will commence 2014-2018.

- IT replacement and planning for future IT development. (2014-2018)

  Our current computer rm 37 has outdated computers and is in need of replacement computers as soon as possible during the 2014-2015 academic year. Further research is needed into the use of ipad/tablet technology, increasing wireless access around the school and putting IT infrastructure in place to support school self-

evaluation. The Principal, Deputy Principal, Board of Management, IT Committee and IT Post of Responsibility Holder will take responsibility for this area of development.

6. **Curriculum Development**
   - Transition Year Programme

     The TY Programme is due for a review and evaluation. The Programme Co-ordinator in collaboration with Staff, Principal, Deputy Principal, Students, parents and the Board of Management will carry out this review during the 2014-2015 academic year. It will be reviewed again in 2016.

   - LCVP Programme

     The LCVP programme is due for a review and evaluation. The Programme Co-ordinator in collaboration with Staff, Principal, Deputy Principal, Students, Parents and the Board of Management will carry out this review by November 2015. It will be reviewed again in 2016.

   - Literacy and Numeracy Strategies

     The Literacy strategy was introduced in 2013-2014 and development of the strategy is ongoing. The Numeracy strategy is being introduced during 2014-2015. Staff, Principal, Deputy Principal and literacy and numeracy committees will oversee the implementation and evaluation of these strategies in collaboration with students, parents and the Board of Management.

- Embedding of Key Skills
  As part of the embedding of key skills the Principal, Deputy Principal, staff, students and NCCA link teacher will oversee the embedding of these skills into the learning culture of the school. This is ongoing since 2013. Collecting of evidence and evaluation will be done on an annual basis.

- Development of Assessment Methodologies – focus on the learner
  Subject Departments, NCCA link teacher, Principal and Deputy Principal will continue to develop assessment in the school. Attendance at external CPD and provision of in-school CPD in this area will be supported by school management. This is ongoing since 2013 and will be an important part of supporting the introduction of the new Junior Cycle Student Award.

- Development of the new Junior Cycle Student Award Curriculum
  The Principal, deputy Principal, Staff, parents, students and Board of Management will address the various issues in relation to the structure of the JCSA. The JCSA English curriculum is being introduced to the First Year cohort of 2014. At present we are not in a position, due to industrial action, to introduce short courses or develop other courses for the JCSA.

7. **Policies**

- Anti-Bullying Policy
  The Anti-Bullying Policy was reviewed by Staff, Students, Parents and Board of Management and ratified by the Board in March 2014. It will be reviewed in March 2015.

- Student Council Policy
  The Student Council Policy was reviewed by Staff, Year Heads, SRC Liaison, Parents and Board of Management. It was ratified in March 2014. It will be reviewed in March 2015.

- Student Attendance and Participation
  This policy will be reviewed during the 2014-2015 academic year. Staff, Year Heads, Administration Staff, Senior Management and the Board of Management will review this policy.

- Data Protection Policy
  This policy will be compiled by the Staff Council in consultation with Staff, Board of Management, Principal and Deputy Principal during the 2014-2015 academic year.

- Religious Education Policy
  This policy will be reviewed during the 2014-2015 academic year. RE Department, Staff, Senior Management, Chaplain and Board of Management will review this policy.

- Homework Policy

  This policy will be reviewed during 2014-2015 academic year. The Staff Council, teaching staff, senior management, Parents' Council and Board of Management will review this policy.

8. **Assessment**

To review the current school report system and to develop a report that includes additional assessment methods reflecting student learning. An Assessment Committee from staff volunteers to be established to lead the review in consultation with staff, principal and deputy principal, parents, students and the Board of Management in 2015-2016.

9. **Self-Evaluation**

We aim to develop a reliable system using technology to facilitate school self-evaluation. This is ongoing since 2010 and the Principal, in collaboration with the IT committee and co-ordinator, Deputy Principal and staff will endeavour to put a system in place that supports school self-evaluation. Attendance at self-evaluation CPD will be encouraged and supported.

10. **Focussing on Teaching and Learning**

Teaching and learning is central to everything that is carried out in St. Louis High School. The development of literacy, numeracy strategies, development of key skills,

development of new curricula etc. is paramount. School management will support teachers in upskilling to improve their teaching methodologies, will endeavour to put systems and resources in place to encourage students to engage in learning at all times. This is an ongoing process.