



## Summary School Improvement Plan

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#### 1. Introduction

##### 1.1 The focus of the evaluation.

As a result of the School Self- Evaluation of teaching and learning undertaken during the period September 2012 to June 2013 the school has identified problem solving in maths as the focus area for our School Improvement Plan.

This school improvement plan sets out the actions that we will undertake over the next three years in Scoil Naomh Bríd. The main purpose of these actions is to improve our students' learning.

#### 2. Summary of school self-evaluation findings.

##### 2.1 Our school has **strengths** in the following areas:

- We have implemented Ready, Set, Go Maths Programme in the Infant Classes. Station teaching with in-class support takes place weekly. Through teacher led interaction with small groups the language of maths is extended and encouraged. A key component of this programme is to allow for differentiation to cater for the broad spectrum of abilities in the school.
- We have implemented Mata sa Rang in First Classes. Three teachers were trained in Mata sa Rang and one teacher is currently being trained. Trained teachers are mentoring other class teachers and sharing their expertise.
- We have looked at mental Maths as an area of difficulty and after introducing daily practice, teachers have noted an improvement. This is evident in weekly assessments. This is being implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class inclusive.
- Following the analysis of Standardised Test Results we noted that computational maths (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) was particularly strong.

##### 2.2 Areas for development:

Our key focus for development is problem solving.

##### What is problem solving?

-The ability to analyse mathematical situation, to plan, monitor and evaluate solutions, to apply strategies, and to demonstrate creativity and self- reliance.

# Scoil Naomh Bríd



## Steps to develop competency in problem solving

- A whole school approach to the language of problem solving.
- Problem solving procedures and strategies to be developed at each class level.
- Children will experience the following types of problem solving activities during their time in school.
  - i. Word Problems
  - ii. Oral Problems
  - iii. Story Cards
  - iv. Practical tasks
  - v. Open-ended investigation
  - vi. Puzzles
  - vii. Games
  - viii. Projects
  - ix. Maths trails.