

## **Droichead 2015/2016**

Salesian College has always been committed to the maintenance of a quality teaching and learning environment for our students and teachers. Because we are always looking for ways to keep our students engaged, we continually seek opportunities to participate in initiatives to ensure our teachers engage in 'next' practise rather than best practice.

We have been a pilot school for The Teaching Council's 'Droichead Programme' for the past three years. Droichead refers to the period of professional practice which a newly qualified teacher in a pilot school is required to undertake following initial registration. It is grounded in the belief that the people best placed to conduct that formal welcome are experienced fellow professionals who know what is involved in teaching and learning in their school.

We have seen many benefits to being involved in this programme. Our teachers are regularly involved in training and in-service around the area of teaching and learning. Our school has become a place of shared practice. Not only do newly qualified teachers have the opportunity to be mentored by experienced teachers but they also share their innovative practise with our staff to keep our approach fresh and up-to-date.

While participating in this programme Salesian College was chosen to participate in The Teaching Council's e-book for the promotion of this programme. This can be seen on [www.teachingcouncil.ie](http://www.teachingcouncil.ie). This was a great opportunity to showcase the great work that goes on behind the scenes here in our school. Indeed, Tomás Ó Ruairc, Director of the Teaching Council referred to Salesian Students in his opening address as Féilte 2015 while he discussed teachers that had an impact on our lives. This was a very proud moment for all of us.

We will continue our participation in the Droichead Programme and look forward to more exciting learning opportunities in the near future.