

Whole School Guidance

SIP UPDATE MAY 2024



Guidance Department
CBS Kilkenny
May 2024

INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared by the Guidance Department in CBS Kilkenny. The purpose of this report is to review our two targets for our School Improvement Plan. As a result of our initial surveys carried out in 2022 the following targets were selected:

- Target 1 - To increase the number of students at Junior and Senior Cycle who have developed a study plan and have effective study skills and habits from 66% to 70% in May 2023, 70% to 75% in May 2024 and from 75% to 80% in May 2025.
- Target 2 - To increase the number of students who feel like they know where to ask for help in the school. The focus here will be on Senior Cycle. Increase in the number of students from 84.2% to 90% in May 2023, from 90% to 95% in May 2024 and to maintain 95% in May 2025.

MATERIALS

1. Junior Cycle Survey (See pg. 5)
2. Senior Cycle Survey (See pg.3)

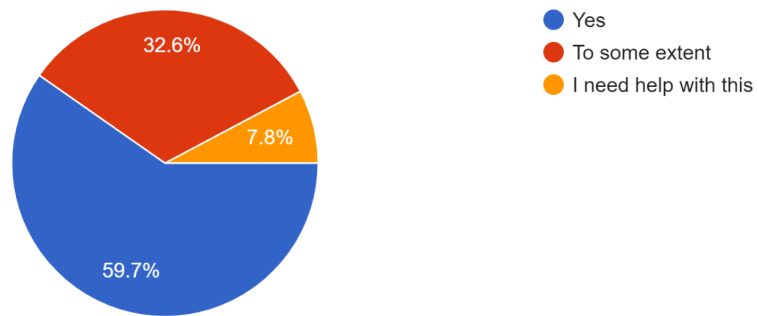
PROCEDURE

Students were surveyed over the course of the month of May 2024. We ran the same survey as we did in 2022/23 to ensure that the data was comparable. At Senior Cycle we surveyed 129 students. At Junior Cycle a total of 102 students were surveyed. The questions focused on two main areas of Whole School Guidance - Developing My Learning and Developing Myself. The results are published below.

DATA - Senior Cycle

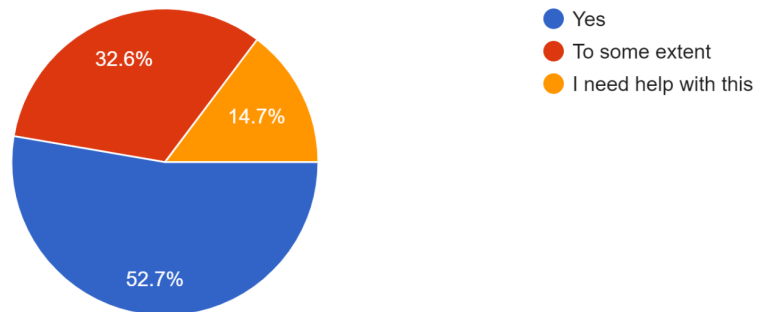
I can identify my learning style and study habits

129 responses

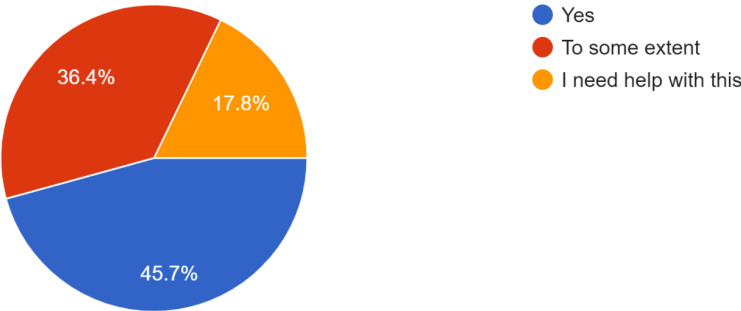


I have developed effective study skills and habits

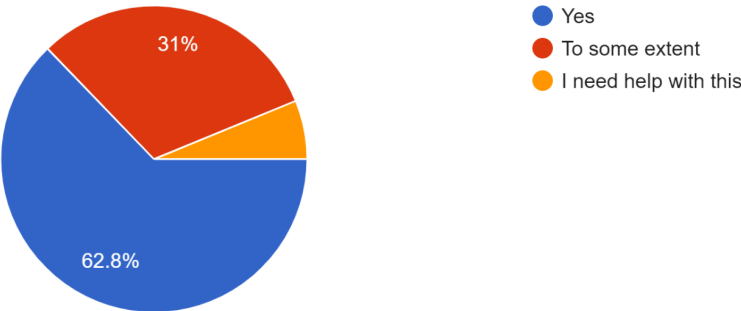
129 responses



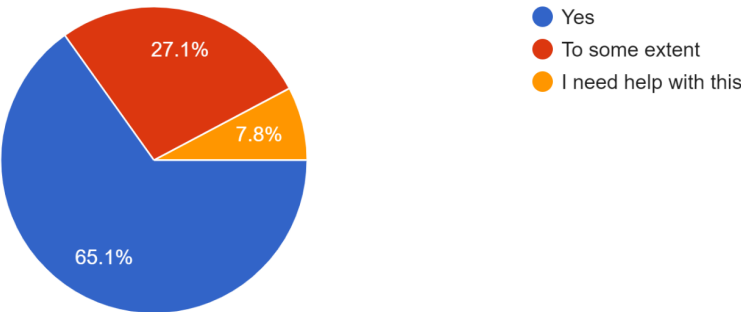
I have developed a study plan
129 responses



I can plan for taking exams
129 responses

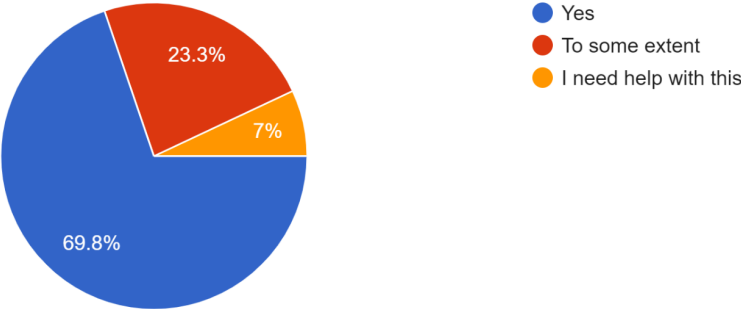


I can ask for help when I need it
129 responses



I know how to ask the Guidance Counsellor/teachers for support when needed

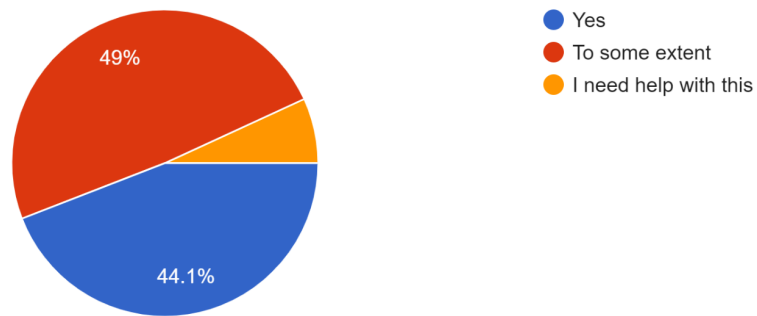
129 responses



DATA JUNIOR CYCLE

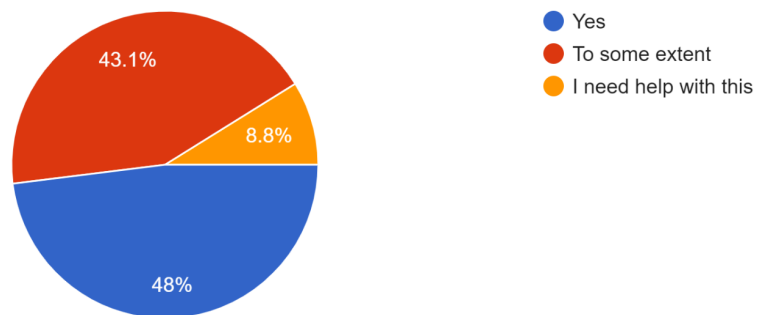
I can name my learning style and can describe my study habits

102 responses



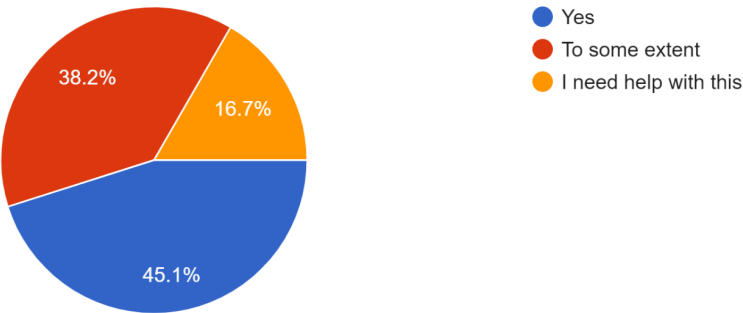
I have developed study skills and habits, eg. study plan, exam papers, notes.

102 responses



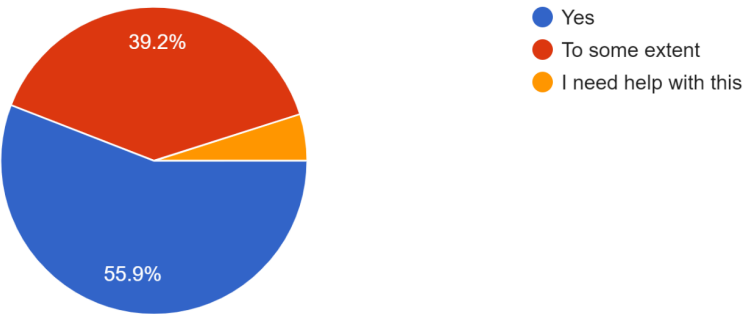
I have produced a plan so that I can get the best of the time I spend studying. i.e I know how to create a study plan.

102 responses



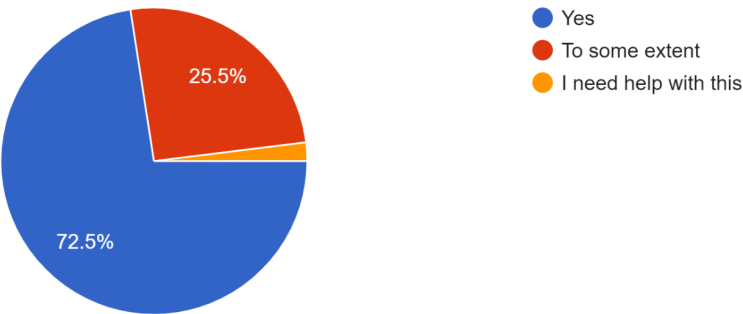
I can use time well and can cope with the pressure when doing each exam

102 responses



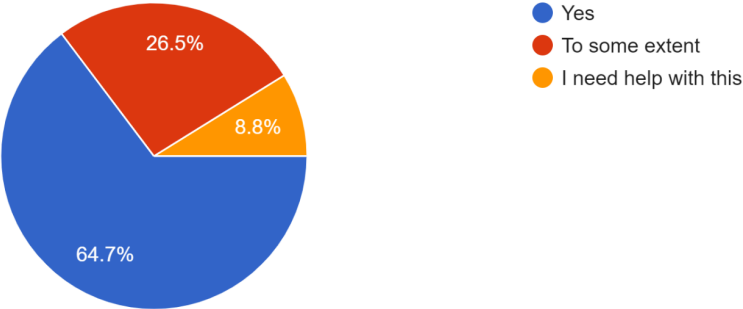
I can ask for help when I need it

102 responses



I can ask my class tutor/teachers, year head or Guidance Counsellor for help when needed

102 responses



DISCUSSION

We can see from the data that we are continuing to make improvements in the areas selected as part of this SIP. In relation to the specific study target we had set we saw in 2022/23 that at Senior Cycle 79.3% of students could **identify their learning styles and study habits. This now sits at 92% in our 2023/24 update.** This far exceeds our target of 75%. In relation to the development of a study plan 69.4% of students responded in 2022/23 that they were **currently utilising a study plan.** This figure is now at **82.2% for 2023/24** which demonstrates a significant increase and also exceeds our 75% target. Overall this points to the increased focus on study, particularly in the run up to exams and the positive impact this is having on our students.

At Junior Cycle the results point to the success of the continued implementation of the Turas and Career Guidance Programmes where there is a specific focus on study skills. In 2022/23 90.6% of students were capable of identifying study skills and learning styles and 83.3% of students were using study plans. **As of 2023/24 93.1% of students are capable of identifying study skills and learning habits and 83.3% are using a study plan.** This exceeds our 75% target and is an encouraging sign that our programmes are achieving the desired outcomes.

Target 2 focused on students' ability to access help and support within the school. We implemented the Check and Connect Programme for students in 6th Year as we felt that they would benefit most from the extra support. At Senior Cycle in 2022/23 90.6% of students felt that they could ask for help. **In 2023/24 93% of students at Senior Cycle indicated that they know how to access support and help.** This falls slightly short of our 95% target but is encouraging and is trending in the right direction.

At Junior Cycle in 2022/23 96.6% of students felt that they could ask for help when they needed it. **In 2023/24 this has increased to 98% of students.** This exceeds our 95% target and is a testament to the support structures in place across the Wellbeing programme at Junior Cycle.

Overall the results are encouraging and demonstrate a marked improvement in our selected areas of improvement.