* 1. Promotion of a Holistic Development Culture including Leading Learning and Teaching

*Outline ONE example of how and where learning outcomes for students were improved in your school as a result of your creativity and innovation in learning and teaching.*

Throughout my teaching career I have consistently improved the quality in my own and others teaching for all types of learners in my care. I know it improved because the students Leaving certificate results got consistently better over the years.

This has resulted in highly innovative and inclusive Physics classes in all of my teaching roles and IEPs for all students in my first teaching role.

In a subject like Physics where the student capability and motivation is so varied I have found that Activation of Prior Knowledge is hugely important to allow for various levels of differentiation which in turn increases learning outcome success.

Physics was a relatively new subject in Coláiste Éamann Rís when I took over as Head of Department in 2012. In order to establish a cutting-edge Physics programme for all classes I developed a strategy which included a lot of planning, hard work and precise organisation. There is now a Physics department to be proud of and this is reflected in our 2013 DES subject inspection.

The main idea I came up with was for students to make a video of all their experiments. This involves a lot of planning on my part and on the part of the students. I developed a website for Physics and we post these videos on the site so that we now have a video of every experiment on the course. I’ve worked on my own with the students on this project but next year I’m going to share it with my colleagues in the Science department. There is no other Physics teacher in the Science department but they could adapt my idea for Junior Cycle Science or use the idea to make their own videos for Biology and Chemistry.