



ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

To Whom it May Concern,

I am pleased to write a letter of recommendation for Mr. James McGill, who has worked with me at St. Ignatius Catholic School as Science teacher over the past 3 years. During Mr. McGill's tenure as teacher here, he has been a dependable member of staff who has constantly strived to improve and develop his lesson delivery. He has established strong relationships with colleagues and has provided excellent support and leadership within the Science department. During his time spent at the school, Mr. McGill has pioneered the use of OneNote in the delivery of his lessons and has been asked on several occasions to provide whole school CPD on how to effectively utilise OneNote in the classroom.

Mr. McGill conscientiously plans well-structured lessons which support a range of different learning styles and needs. Student participation during lessons is good and Mr. McGill has established positive relationships through his approachability and his willingness to guide, support and nurture student's development and understanding. Mr. McGill currently teaches Year 7 to 9 Science, Year 10 and 11 IGCSE Biology and Year 12 and 13 Marine Science. The students under his guidance and tutorage have performed well in external examinations, particularly in A level Marine Science where often, the students have exceeded their target grades. In 2019, 75% of students studying this course achieved grades A*-B compared with 9.4% internationally.

In Mr. McGill's current position, as Key Stage 3 Science Coordinator, he has worked tirelessly to establish effective data tracking systems to ensure student progress over time is effectively monitored. He has also successfully planned and implemented a new programme of study for Year 7 to 9 and developed and shared a range of useful resources. He has produced long term plans to ensure effective course completion and has been creative in his approach to the way that he provides student feedback. In addition, Mr. McGill has recently focused on improving transition from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3 and worked collaboratively with the primary teachers to ensure that students have the necessary investigative skills, through team teaching, providing resources and modelling good practice.

Mr. McGill believes in a holistic education, that goes beyond what is taught in the classroom. He has actively sought and led on opportunities, that engage students in the teaching and learning process and has encouraged personal and collective responsibility. Mr McGill has been instrumental in the development of a Key Stage 3 SeaPerch club, which provides groups of students with the chance to build a remotely operated vehicle. In addition, he has supported students entering Science Fair projects, assisted the Schools Duke of Edinburgh program and coached basketball. Mr. McGill's enthusiasm for nature and the environment has seen him organise and lead successful trips to Costa Rica and Little Cayman.

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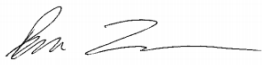
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It is my firm belief that Mr. McGill would be an asset in any school. His dedication to his job and his enthusiasm for utilising and integrating technology into his lessons has provided him with an excellent skill set to effectively deal with the rapidly changing world of education. I fully support Mr. McGill's application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr. Joannou', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr. Joannou (Head of Science)