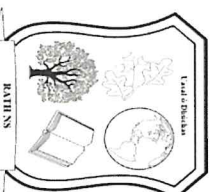# Scoil Náisiúnta an Chroí Ró-Naofa

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An Ráth
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Digital Learning Plan
2020-2023

1. Introduction

This document records the outcomes of our current digital learning plan, including targets and the actions we will implement to meet the targets.

1.1 School Details:

- Scoil Náisiúnta an Chroí Ró-Naofa is a Catholic, co-educational primary school located in Rath, Ballybrittas, Co. Laois. At present we are an eight mainstream classroom school with two special classes for children with autism. We currently have 215 pupils and our staff includes the principal, 8 mainstream classroom teachers, 2 special class teachers, 4 special education teachers, 10 SNAs and a school secretary.

1.2 School Vision:

- Our Catholic school is a place where the children will feel safe, happy and respected. We aim to provide them with a rich, broad and varied learning experience so that all children enjoy success and come to realise their own and other's uniqueness and talents. We at Rath N.S. endeavour to integrate Digital Learning in a meaningful way in line with these values. We aim to explore the potential of Digital Learning to enhance learning across all subject areas. We seek to provide the children with opportunities to develop lifelong learning skills that will support their learning as they move through primary and into secondary education.

1.3 Brief account of the use of digital technologies in the school to date:

- We use technology in line with available ICT infrastructure.
- Every mainstream classroom is equipped with an Interactive Whiteboard and a teacher's laptop with internet access.
- A networked photocopier is located in the main office.
- We have four SEN rooms, all of which have interactive whiteboards and each SET teacher has their own laptop.

- A digital camera is available in the office.
- Four classrooms are equipped with a desktop computer.
- The school broadband is wired and was upgraded to fibre optic in 2019. We installed an integrated wireless system in Spring 2020.
- We currently use *Aladdin* to record student data, attendance and assessment results.
- In 2018 and 2019 parent-teacher meetings were organised through *Aladdin* and Summer Reports were also uploaded to *Aladdin*.
- Payments are received electronically using *Aladdin* e-Payments system and are made electronically using online banking.
- Communication with parents is largely online and paperless; emails, newsletters, use of Aladdin app.
- Third to Sixth class attend a computer class in the school once a week for 12 weeks which is run in partnership with a local business *Ríomhaire Tech*.

2. The focus of this Digital Learning Plan

We undertook a digital learning evaluation in our school during the period December 2019 to March 2020. We evaluated our progress using the following sources of evidence:

- Digital Learning Team formed: A focus group of teachers was established to work on developing our digital learning plan. The DL Team includes Tommy Fitzgerald (Principal), Niall Walsh (Class Teacher) and Selina O'Brien (Class Teacher). Regular meetings were scheduled to evaluate our current digital practices and gather information from staff to help develop our Digital Learning Plan.
- Observations/feedback from members of staff (online survey).
- Audit of ICT equipment available in the school.
- A focus group session with our Student Council was carried out to elicit the views of older pupils on the use of digital technologies in the school and classroom to reflect on their digital learning experiences.

2.1 The dimensions and domains from the Digital Learning Framework being selected

- Teaching and Learning: Learner Outcomes
- Teaching and Learning: Teachers' Individual Practice
- Teaching and Learning: Teacher's Collective/Collaboration Practice
- Leadership and Management: Leading Learning and Teaching
- Leadership and Management: Managing the Organisation

2.2 The standards and statements from the Digital Learning Framework being selected

Standard	Statement(s)
Pupils enjoy their learning, are motivated to learn and expect to achieve as learners	Pupils use appropriate digital technologies to foster their active, creative and critical engagement in attaining challenging learning outcomes
The teacher has the requisite subject knowledge, pedagogical knowledge and classroom management skills	Teachers use a range of digital technologies to design learning and assessment activities for their pupils.
Teachers value and engage in professional development and professional collaboration	Teachers engage in professional development, lead and support colleagues in selecting and aligning digital technologies with effective teaching strategies to expand learning opportunities for all pupils.
Promote a culture of improvement, collaboration, innovation and creativity in learning, teaching, and assessment	The principal and other leaders in the school expect and encourage teachers to embed digital technologies in their learning, teaching and assessment practices, and facilitate the sharing of practice.
Foster teacher professional development that enriches teachers' and pupils' learning	The principal and other leaders in the school support and promote teachers' continuing professional development to develop teacher competence in the use of digital technologies, resulting in high-quality teaching and learning.
Manage the school's human, physical and financial resources so as to create and maintain a learning organisation	The board of management ensures the provision and maintenance of digital teaching aids and equipment to a very high standard.
Empower staff to take on and carry out leadership roles	They identify and support opportunities for staff to share innovative practices & engage in research that actively impacts on the use of digital technologies for learning, teaching & assessment.

2.3. These are a summary of our strengths with regards to digital learning

- A number of staff members have completed summer courses and other CPD courses in order to enhance the use of digital technologies to assist teaching, learning and assessment.
- 69% of staff are very comfortable at using Digital Technologies to enhance the Learner Experience in their classes. Following two years of work with Ríomhaire Tech, the pupils in the senior classes are quite proficient in using digital technologies to source information and use Microsoft Word and Powerpoint.
- The Board of Management and the Parents' Association are very supportive in providing funding for the provision of the best digital technologies available to schools.
- The staff as a whole are interested in engaging in whole school CPD to enhance the use of digital technologies in our school. 100% of teachers state that they are willing to do more digital technology related CPD.
- 100% of students surveyed indicated that they would like to use digital technologies more in the classroom. They want to work on creating presentations, play educational games and conduct research for projects.

2.4 This is what we are going to focus on to improve our digital learning practice further

- Formation of a Digital Learning Team.
- Investment in Digital technologies for use by pupils and staff.
- Staff will engage in CPD facilitated by members of the Digital Learning Team and outside agencies.
- Identification of hardware and software required for pupils to actively engage in using digital technologies to create content.
- Creation of greater opportunities for collaboration through the use of digital technologies.

3. Our Digital Learning plan

On the next page we have recorded:

- The **targets** for improvement we have set
- The **actions** we will implement to achieve these
- **Who is responsible** for implementing, monitoring and reviewing our improvement plan
- How we will measure **progress** and check **outcomes** (criteria for success)

As we implement our improvement plan we will record:

- The **progress** made, and **adjustments** made, and **when**
- **Achievement of targets** (original and modified), and **when**

Digital Learning Action Plan 2019/2020

DOMAIN: Leadership and Management: Managing the Organisation

STANDARD(S): Manage the school's human, physical and financial resources so as to create and maintain a learning organisation

STATEMENT(S):

The principal and other leaders in the school ensure that processes are in place for the procurement, maintenance, interoperability and security of the digital infrastructure for effective learning, teaching and assessment.

The board of management ensures the provision and maintenance of digital teaching aids and equipment to a very high standard.

TARGETS: The students and teachers of Rath N.S. will be provided with appropriate digital technologies to enrich teaching and learning in a meaningful manner.

- That the pupils be provided with the most appropriate digital technologies to enable them to create their own digital content

ACTIONS (What needs to be done?)	TIMEFRAME (When is it to be done by?)	PERSONS / GROUPS RESPONSIBLE (Who is to do it?)	CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS (What are the desired outcomes?)	RESOURCES (What resources are needed?)
• Whole School ICT Audit	• January 2020	• DL Team	• Compile a list of digital technologies available for use by pupils and teachers	• Checklist
• Publishing and discussion of audit	• February 2020	• Whole Staff • DL Team	• By Jan 2020, we will have identified the preferred digital technology platform to invest in to improve teaching and	• ICT Audit • Supplier Quotes and proposals
• Identification of areas requiring investment-				

Action	Timeframe	Who	Success Criteria	Resources
• Quotes to be sought • Demonstration of hardware and software for whole staff	• February 2020	• Principal • DL Team	• By the end of February 2020 we will have purchased iPads (as identified in previous actions) to enable children to create digital content • By March 2020 we will have purchased 5 new 70 inch Active Panels to support teaching and learning in the classroom.	• iPads • PDST website • Supplier proposals
• Purchase of Administration Software to enable effective management and maintenance of devices purchased	• Feb 2020	• Principal • Board of management • DL team	• By September 2020 (delay due to Covid-19) each device will have a number of apps organised into the following categories	• iPads • Zulu Desk

Digital Learning Action Plan 2020/2021

DOMAIN: Teaching and Learning: Learner Outcomes & Teacher's Individual Practice

STANDARD(S): 1.Pupils enjoy their learning, are motivated to learn and expect to achieve as learners

2.The teacher has the requisite subject knowledge, pedagogical knowledge and classroom management skills

• Upgrading of Wireless routers to support the use of wireless enabled devices in classrooms	• February 2020	• Principal • Board of Management	
to support teachers and pupils in using digital technologies ➢ Literacy ➢ Numeracy ➢ Art & Creation ➢ Coding ➢ Assessment		• Each classroom in the school will have access to a reliable wireless network to support the use of IPads	• Wireless Routers

STATEMENT(S): 1. Pupils use appropriate digital technologies to foster their active, creative and critical engagement in attaining challenging learning outcomes

2. Teachers use a range of digital technologies to design learning and assessment activities for their pupils.

TARGETS: Pupils will create and share curricular-based digital content, appropriate to their class level, once per term
Timetable will be established where each class will be given a minimum of one slot per week for teachers to design

ACTIONS (What needs to be done?)	TIMEFRAME (When is it to be done by?)	PERSONS / GROUPS RESPONSIBLE (Who is to do it?)	CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS (What are the desired outcomes?)	RESOURCES (What resources are needed?)
• Pupils will create digital content once per term using the following Applications and digital technologies: ➢ Jun/Sen Inf: Become familiar with key functions of the iPad and use them to document exploration of Aistear themes i.e. take photos etc. ➢ 1st / 2nd class: Using Book Creator App children will create digital content from across the	• Experimentation September 2020- December 2020 • January 2021 – June 2021	• All Staff & Pupils	• By June each teacher will have used these applications and tools as a minimum requirement to support, teaching, learning and assessment in their class • Pupils will create curricular based digital content once per term and share their work for audiences including peers, teachers • Sharing of expertise at whole staff sessions	• iPads • Apple TV • Interactive Whiteboards

curriculum. ➢ 3rd/4th class: Using Book Creator App children will create digital content from across the curriculum. ➢ 5th/6th: Adobe Spark Video			
• Pupils will be afforded the opportunity to share their favourite piece of digital content with peers once per term	September 2020-June 2021	Teachers	• Staff afforded opportunities to share observations and examples of good practice
• Teachers will monitor the digital content created as part of their overall assessment	Continuous		
• Teachers will engage in CPD on software required to support these-provided in house by members of DL team	April 2020 - June 2021	DL Team	
• CumpuB will		DL Team	

	September 2020	DL Team	• Each class will be make use of iPads at least once per week to enhance learner experiences and improve learner outcomes	• iPads • Timetable
provide half day training to all staff				
• Timetable for Use of iPads to be established for each class				

DOMAIN: 1. Teaching and Learning: Teacher's Collective/Collaborative Practice

2. Leadership and Management: Leading Learning and Teaching

STANDARD(S): 1. Teachers value and engage in professional development and professional collaboration

2. Foster teacher professional development that enriches teachers' and pupils' learning

STATEMENT(S):

1. Teachers engage in professional development, lead and support colleagues in selecting and aligning digital technologies with effective teaching strategies to expand learning opportunities for all pupils.

2. The principal and other leaders in the school support and promote teachers' continuing professional development to develop teacher competence in the use of digital technologies, resulting in high-quality teaching and learning.

TARGETS: Teachers will engage in regular CPD to improve their knowledge of digital technologies

Teachers will collaborate and share examples of how digital technologies can be used to enhance their classrooms and pupil learning

Opportunities to be provided to teachers with particular interest to attend CPD courses to facilitate whole school improvement

ACTIONS (What needs to be done?)	TIMEFRAME (When is it to be done by?)	PERSONS / GROUPS RESPONSIBLE (Who is to do it?)	CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS (What are the desired outcomes?)	RESOURCES (What resources are needed?)
• Establishment of a Digital Learning team	• December 2019	• Principal	• By November 2019 a DL team of three teachers will be established	• Online Tools • Tablets
• Digital Learning Team to visit schools who have a more established culture and practices in Digital technologies	• January 2020			
• Members of the DL team to attend PDST training on the implementation of the Digital Learning Framework	• November 2019	• Principal	• Two members of DL team will have attended training provided by PDST	• PDST resources
• DL team CPD – iPad set up and Administration Software	• March 2020	• DL team	• Members of the DL team will be enabled to set up I Pads and related hardware in classrooms • Members of DL team will be familiar with the management of the iPads through Zuludesk Admin Software	• Ipads • Apple TV • Routers • Interactive Whiteboards • Trolleys • Zulu Desk

• Staff to receive training in setting up iPads and use of Classroom App	• May / Oct 2020 – half day training as part of package purchased from Compub. First hour online in May	• Principal • DL team • Whole Staff	• All members of staff will be enabled to physically set up the hardware required for iPad use in their classes • All members of staff will be enabled to use the functions of classroom app to facilitate effective management of use of iPads in class	• iPads • Classroom App

DOMAIN: 1.Leadership and Management: Leading Learning and Teaching

2.Leadership and Management: Developing Leadership capacity

STANDARD(S): 1. Promote a culture of improvement, collaboration, innovation and creativity in learning, teaching, and assessment

2. Empower staff to take on and carry out leadership roles

STATEMENT(S): 1. The principal and other leaders in the school expect and encourage teachers to embed digital technologies in their learning, teaching and assessment practices, and facilitate the sharing of practice.

2. They identify and support opportunities for staff to share innovative practices and engage in research that actively impacts on the use of digital technologies for learning, teaching and assessment.

TARGETS: 1.That a Digital Learning team will be established in the school to include the principal, ICT co-ordinator and members of staff with an interest in developing their skills in regard to digital technologies

2.That members of staff are made aware of and provided opportunities to attend CPD, at least two members of DL team are to attend PDST Digital

Learning Framework Seminar from Nov 2018- June 2020

ACTIONS (What needs to be done?)	TIMEFRAME (When is it to be done by?)	PERSONS / GROUPS RESPONSIBLE (Who is to do it?)	CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS (What are the desired outcomes?)	RESOURCES (What resources are needed?)
• Establishment of a Digital learning team	• December 2019	• Principal • Staff	• Staff with an interest in taking a leadership role in developing digital learning in our school will form a digital learning team.	• N/A
• Attendance at CPD courses to support the aims of Digital Learning Framework	• Nov 2019-June 2021	• Principal • DL Team • All Staff	• At least three members of staff will have attended CPD training in digital technologies.	• N/A
• Sharing of good practice through the regular provision of in house CPD in digital technologies	• September 2020-June 2021	• DL Team	• Teachers will be given the opportunity at staff meetings to share observations, ideas and innovative practice in digital technologies • Teachers with expertise in this area will be afforded the opportunity to provide CPD for Colleagues	• iPads • Interactive Whiteboards • Web based supports

• Where area for improvement have been identified CPD for whole staff will be provided to meet the needs of the school • CPD will be sought from PDST and other outside agencies	• Feb 2020 - June 2021 • CompuB training for whole staff May 2020 & Oct 2020	• Principal • DL team	• Teachers will have the opportunity to engage in CPD to meet identified needs of the school	• N/A
• Staff will be notified of and encouraged to attend CPD provision in digital Technologies in local Education Centres • Staff will be notified by email and Aladdin	• Feb 2020 - June 2021	• All Staff	• A number of teachers will have engaged in CPD in the area of digital learning over the duration of this plan Feb 2020 - June 2021	• N/A

EVALUATION PROCEDURES:
(How are we progressing? Do we need to make adjustments? Have we achieved our targets?)

- ✓ Feedback at Staff Meetings- DL on the Agenda of staff meeting at least once per term
- ✓ Feedback from CPD & Opportunities for communication of new learning – in house CPD
- ✓ Termly meetings of the DL team to evaluate progress
- ✓ Cuntais Míosúla- documenting the use of DL in classes
- ✓ Examples of DL content created by pupils
- ✓ Questionnaires distributed to key stakeholders, pupils, parents and staff as part of review process in June 2021

Signed: _Tom Blanche_

(Chairperson)

Date: _24-09-2020_

Signed: _Tommy Fitzgerald_

(Priomhoide)

Date: _24-09-2020_