



# ICT Policy

Reviewed: February 2022

Renewal date: February 2024

## ICT Policy Statement

Knockloughrim Primary School believes the benefits to be derived from using ICT across the curriculum are significant and that every pupil in our school should have the opportunity to develop personal ICT competence and to use and extend personal ICT competence in a range of subjects across the curriculum.

## What is ICT?

Information Communication Technology plays an important part of modern life and is vital to develop young people to deal with the world at large. ICT comprises a variety of systems that handle electronically retrievable information. These include any computers, programmable robots, tape recorders, calculators and digital cameras.

ICT is concerned with the handling of electronic information and involves creating, collecting, holding, processing, presenting and communicating this information in a variety of ways for a variety of purposes.

## Rationale

Knockloughrim Primary School recognises and values the role ICT can play in:

- Providing opportunities to enhance and enrich the children's learning experiences across the whole curriculum.
- Enabling pupils to undertake activities which would be difficult to pursue in any other way.
- Motivating and enthusing pupils.
- Giving pupils access to immediate and up to date sources of information
- Facilitating greater differentiation of pace and content for pupils of all abilities.
- Offering effective individual, group and whole class learning opportunities.
- Facilitating high levels of interaction between staff and pupils, and enables pupils to become actively involved in and take control of their own learning.
- Supporting different types of learners - audio, visual and kinaesthetic.
- Allowing pupils to work at their own pace.
- Providing a safe and non-threatening learning environment.
- Positively preparing pupils for a world dominated by ICT.

## Aims

We aim to:

- Raise levels of pupil competence and confidence in using ICT - by developing children's knowledge, understanding and skills in using a range of ICT tools to extend and enhance learning experiences across the curriculum.
- To raise levels of teacher competence and confidence in integrating ICT into their planning, teaching and assessment of children's work.
- Develop practical skills in the use of ICT and the ability to apply these skills to the solving of problems.
- Provide access to a variety of electronic sources of information and interactive learning resources.
- Enable children to have access to immediate and up-to-date sources of information.
- Develop children's independent learning skills using ICT across the curriculum.
- Use ICT to enhance and enrich children's learning and add to its enjoyment.

## **Strategies for the use of ICT**

- ICT within the revised curriculum is no longer a separate core subject and therefore skills should be taught as part of learning across the curriculum.
- All pupils are given equal access opportunities to ICT.
- ICT is offered to all pupils - it will not be used as a reward (unless stated in a pupil profile) or punishment.

## **SEN**

For Dyslexia Awareness Week 2014 The British Dyslexia Association's (BDA) defined dyslexia as:  
*Dyslexia is a learning difference, a combination of strengths and weaknesses which affect the learning process in reading, spelling, writing and sometimes numeracy.*

We at Knockloughrim Primary School recognise the strengths of pupils with dyslexia and aim to use these to help them learn ICT skills.

## **Progression within ICT**

All pupils learn and develop at their own pace. ICT competencies and skills will be developed progressively through a child's time at Knockloughrim Primary School from Primary one through to Primary seven. Progression in all aspects of ICT continues to be identified in the annual school development plan.

## **Access**

- All pupils have access to ICT through class based computers and shared lap top computers, all of which are connected to the secure shared network.
- Through C2K computers & school devices all pupils have access to a wide range of software appropriate to their curriculum needs and learning needs.
- Through C2K computers and school devices children have access to the Internet.
- Through the network, children have access to both colour and black and white printing facilities.
- Children also have access to other forms of ICT eg tablet devices, Roamer, digital cameras, scanners, etc.

## **Internet**

Knockloughrim Primary School has secure wifi internet access in each classroom and in many shared areas in the school. Use of the Internet will be in accordance with our Acceptable Use of ICT Policy.

## **Monitoring and Evaluating**

Children's use of ICT is assessed and recorded by their class teacher using the following approaches:

- Formative assessment methods - observing and questioning during classroom activities. The child's achievements will be recorded by the teacher completing a check list of skills, knowledge and understanding.
- Summative assessment methods - in collecting samples of each child's work using ICT.

Each child's progress will be reported to the next teacher through discussion, passing on samples of work and passing on skills checklist.

## **Staff Development**

- All teachers are trained to a practical level in the use of ICT to support the learning in the classroom and as to how they can use ICT to be an effective practitioner.
- Staff are encouraged to attend staff training in ICT as and when it becomes available to keep abreast of advances in educational ICT developments.
- Exceptional closures are a time when we often have ICT training provided by outside specialists.

## **Policy Review**

This policy was re-written in 2014, reviewed in 2016, 2018, 2021 and will be reviewed in 2023 in order to evaluate its effectiveness and to keep up to date with ICT resources increases and pupil developments in ICT competences.