



# Digital Learning Plan for Scoil Náisiúnta Mhuire, Rathpeacon N.S.

## 1. Introduction

This plan was developed to support the integration of digital learning across the curriculum, in order to improve the quality of teaching and learning at Scoil Náisiúnta Mhuire, Rathpeacon. We strive to maximize the potential for children's learning using Digital Technologies, where appropriate. Our vision for Digital Learning centers on a balanced approach, ensuring that Digital Technologies are integrated into lessons when appropriate, and used only to enhance the pupil's learning experience. We also aim to ensure that our pupils begin to develop a critical appreciation of the role of Digital Technologies in society and develop habits which reflect an ethical and responsible use of these technologies.

### 1.1 School Details: Scoil Náisiúnta Mhuire, Rathpeacon, Mallow Road, Cork. T23 F799. Tel: (021) 4394265

**1.2 School Vision:** Scoil Náisiúnta Mhuire is a Catholic school, inclusive of all, in which the Christian vision of human life is communicated in a safe, secure and healthy environment. It is the aim of our school to support the holistic development of the child to reach her/his full potential in all areas of development, fostering self-esteem, respect and responsibility.

**1.3 Brief account of the use of Digital Technologies in the school to date:** Our school uses Digital Technologies on a daily basis. Our school website provides our school information, policies, news and much more. We have a school Instagram account which is updated regularly. We finally acquired wireless internet connectivity in April 2023. However, the school can have frequent problems with internet connection due to reliance on a wireless signal relayed from a nearby farm. Local infrastructure is substandard. Each teacher has a school laptop. Each child with SEN with a recommendation for IT has it. Every classroom is equipped with an interactive, multifunctional touchscreen panel. School staff engage with Google Mail and Aladdin on a daily basis for planning and collaboration. The school has a suite of laptops that are used by students across the school. These laptops are due to be upgraded shortly. In October 2023, we will be investing in iPads for Juniors to 2<sup>nd</sup> class and laptops for 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class.

## 2. The focus of this Digital Learning Plan

We undertook a digital learning evaluation in our school during the school year of 2022/2023. We evaluated our progress using the following sources of evidence:

- Staff Survey
- Teacher Focus Group
- Students' Focus Group (Student Council)
- Principal meeting with members of the Parents' Association
- Feedback from Department of Education Inspector at Incidental Inspection

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

1. Teaching and Learning Domain 1: Learner Experiences: Pupils engage purposefully in meaningful learning activities
2. Teaching and Learning Domain 3: Teachers' Individual Practice: The teacher has the requisite subject knowledge, pedagogical knowledge and classroom management skills
3. Leadership and Management Domain 1: Leading Learning and Teaching: Manage the planning and implementation of the curriculum

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

Standard	Statement(s)
1. Pupils engage purposefully in meaningful learning activities	Pupils use a variety of digital technologies for knowledge creation to source, critique, and manage information and to reflect on their learning.
2. The teacher has the requisite subject knowledge, pedagogical knowledge and classroom management skills	Teachers use a range of digital technologies to design new opportunities for learning, teaching and assessment. Teachers model high-level teaching, knowledge and skills, using digital technologies to support pupil creativity, innovation and knowledge creation. Teachers critically reflect and experiment with a range of digital learning activities, continuously evaluate their effectiveness, and revise their teaching strategies accordingly. The teacher selects and uses planning, preparation and assessment practices that progress pupils' learning.



<p>3. Manage the planning and implementation of the curriculum</p>	<p>The principal and other leaders in the school plan for and implement a broad and balanced curriculum that embeds digital technologies to support communication, collaboration, knowledge co-creation and civic participation. They purposefully ensure that the use of digital technology is embedded across the school curriculum, whereby all pupils engage with valuable learning experiences.</p>
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### 2.3. These are a summary of our strengths with regards digital learning

- We use numerous Digital Technology resources within the school.
- There is strong support from the BOM in relation to the provision of technological resources to support Digital Learning.
- Members of staff are highly trained and qualified in the area of Digital Technology and actively share their skills.
- Our pupils and parents are very eager and enthusiastic to develop Digital Learning within the whole school community.

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

- Ensure that digital technologies are used in a planned manner and that a constructivist approach is used by teachers in embedding these technologies in teaching, learning and assessment
- Increase the awareness of different digital tools that can be used to enhance teaching, learning and assessment with a particular focus on content creation tools. Teachers will design activities where these tools can support and enhance pupils learning in different curricular areas.
- Develop a collegial mentoring approach so that teachers can share new knowledge, skills and good practice with one another. We will set up peer support for staff members to increase competence and confidence in embedding digital technologies in teaching, learning and assessment.
- Provide children with access to a full complement of ICT initiatives within the school through their eight year cycle.
- Coordinate with the Board of Management to foster a continuous process of improvement and upgrading of ICT infrastructure and resources in the school.

### 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

<b>DOMAINS</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Teaching and Learning Domain 1: Learner Experiences</li><li>2. Teaching and Learning Domain 3: Teachers' Individual Practice</li><li>3. Leadership and Management Domain 1: Leading Learning and Teaching</li></ol>
<b>STANDARDS</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Pupils engage purposefully in meaningful learning activities</li><li>2. The teacher has the requisite subject knowledge, pedagogical knowledge and classroom management skills</li><li>3. Manage the planning and implementation of the curriculum</li></ol>
<b>STATEMENTS/TARGETS</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Pupils use a variety of digital technologies for knowledge creation to source, critique, and manage information and to reflect on their learning.</li><li>2. Teachers use a range of digital technologies to design new opportunities for learning, teaching and assessment. Teachers model high-level teaching, knowledge and skills, using digital technologies to support pupil creativity, innovation and knowledge creation. Teachers critically reflect and experiment with a range of digital learning activities, continuously evaluate their effectiveness, and revise their teaching strategies accordingly. The teacher selects and uses planning, preparation and assessment practices that progress pupils' learning.</li><li>3. The principal and other leaders in the school plan for and implement a broad and balanced curriculum that embeds digital technologies to support communication, collaboration, knowledge co-creation and civic participation. They purposefully ensure that the use of digital technology is embedded across the school curriculum, whereby all pupils engage with valuable learning experiences.</li></ol>



ACTIONS (2023-2024)	PERSONS / GROUPS RESPONSIBLE	CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS	RESOURCES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A digital learning team (D.L.T.) will be set up in the school</li> <li>2. Appropriate ICT hardware will be purchased <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ipads/Tablets (Juniors to 2<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>• Laptops (3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Staff will engage with CPD in a number of key areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content Creation Tools</li> <li>• Coding and Computational Thinking</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Pupils will engage with ICT for learning and create digital content such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animations or short videos with student narration to explore a theme</li> <li>• Present learning using eBooks or presentations on a curricular theme</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Teachers will upload pupils work (pictures and videos) to Instagram on a regular basis</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Whole staff - September 2023</li> <li>2. D.L.T./ISM Team September/October 2023</li> <li>3. Teachers at each class level 2023-2024</li> <li>4. PDST Advisor</li> <li>5. School Social Media Co-ordinators</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clarity regarding the expectations for each class level</li> <li>2. An increase in teacher confidence and engagement with the use of ICT in teaching and learning</li> <li>3. Well established routines around the continuous embedding and updating of ICT use in the school</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Digital Infrastructure in the school</li> <li>2. Laptops</li> <li>3. Ipads/Tablets</li> <li>4. Interactive Smartscreens</li> <li>5. Instagram and other social media accounts</li> <li>6. Appropriate CPD training</li> <li>7. PDST whole staff presentation</li> </ol>
EVALUATION PROCEDURES: (How are we progressing? Do we need to make adjustments? Have we achieved our targets?)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher observation of pupils' progress and confidence using Digital Technology</li> <li>• Teacher confidence using Digital Technology</li> <li>• Review of ICT sections of Cuntas Miosúil</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of progress at staff meetings</li> <li>• Yearly review of IT resources and practices throughout the school</li> </ul>	

#### 4. Ratification

This Plan was ratified by the Board Of Management on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Blánda (Chairperson BOM)