

Knockminna N.S.

Ballymote

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Our Digital Learning Plan

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. It also includes new targets set to be reached over the next two school years. The development of this plan was set out as a priority area by the school to comply with the Department of Education publications 'Circular 0001/2017' and 'Digital Strategy for Schools'. The school staff chose to engage with the Digital Learning Planning Guidelines to create a Digital Learning Plan for our school, to support individual teacher planning and to promote digital learning at programme and cross-curricular levels and ultimately to embed digital technologies into all areas of school activity. 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:

- Knockminna N.S. is a vertical, co-educational national school. There are currently 74 pupils on roll. There are 4 teachers one of whom works in a special education context. The school derives its population from the surrounding area and a small cohort of pupils from the nearby town of Ballymote. The school has an active Parents' Association who fundraise regularly for school resources. Currently we have 1 android tablet and 33 ipads in the school. Each teacher has their own laptop which is connected to the internet. In two classrooms we have 2 interactive televisions and we have flatscreen televisions in the other two classrooms.

1.2 School Vision:

- In our school we believe digital technologies should be used for teaching, learning and assessment across the curriculum. Digital technology needs to be an integral part of teaching and learning in schools today. The management will promote a culture of collective, collaborative and reflective practice among staff when using digital technologies. We recognise the positive impact that digital technologies can have on the learning of pupils with special and additional needs and aim to harness this in our school moving forward.

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

- We have good high speed broadband in the school.
- All class teachers have an interactive television or a flat screen television and a laptop with internet access in their classrooms.
- Our SEN teacher has a laptop with internet access and an android tablet. She also has access to the school iPads as required.
- We have a set of 33 iPads and 2 portable charging cases.
- We have a networked colour photocopier which all teachers have access to print from.
- We use the basic functions of the Aladdin system – to record daily attendance, for recording assessment results, school reports and the noticeboard.

2. The focus of this Digital Learning Plan

We undertook a digital learning evaluation in our school during the period *November 2018 to March 2019*. We evaluated our progress using the following sources of evidence:

- Parent Input – carried out informally. Main outcomes as follows
 - Parents think including digital technology in curricular areas is important however traditional methods should not be abandoned
 - Parents are concerned about safety surrounding digital technologies and would like more information for themselves and their children on this
 - Parents would like to be able to see more of what their children do in school and feel the school needs a website

- Teacher Survey – carried out at a staff meeting. Main outcomes as follows
 - Teachers keen to get colleagues to share/demonstrate how they use technology in their class
 - Teachers keen to hear about other teachers summer courses and any relevant useful resources that would enhance the learners experience in the school
 - Some teachers felt they needed more professional development in this area
 - Results on file
- Student were surveyed Informally
 - Students highly motivated by use of technologies
 - Almost all of our students use devices 1-2 hours on weekdays
 - Over half of pupils use devices for more than 5 hours at weekend
- Wifi accessibility testing on multiple devices.
- Securing of additional digital technologies and devices
- Professional evaluation of current technology and future needs.
- School website revamped in 2019
- School twitter account set up in 2019.

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

- Teaching and Learning – Teachers Collective/Collaborative Practice

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

Standard	Statement(s)
Teachers work together to devise learning opportunities for pupils across and beyond the curriculum	Teachers use digital technologies to collaborate with appropriate outside agencies and personnel to facilitate meaningful learning experiences for pupils.

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

- All class teachers report that they are using digital technology daily in their methodologies.
 - All teachers report that they would like to enable the pupils to have more contact time with digital technologies.
 - Pupils and Teachers are quite enthusiastic about digital technology.
 - Some staff members have competent skills in this area and are willing to help others through modelling and sharing expertise.
 - Staff members are motivated to engage with CPD and some have already done so.
- Continued investment to upgrade our digital technologies capabilities.
- Funding available.

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

Ongoing Achieved Not Yet Achieved

- Staff need to engage with CPD to facilitate a greater use of digital technologies by pupils.
- School need to continue to engage with third parties who will demonstrate to teachers how specific technologies can be used for teaching and learning. It is hoped that this will help staff to develop confidence in their own abilities.
- We need to set up peer support for staff members to increase competence and confidence in embedding digital technologies.
- We need to update our Acceptable Usage Policy.
- We need to communicate more effectively with parents about new initiatives through our school website, twitter page and via an annual e-newsletter.
- We need to expand our use of the basic functions of the Aladdin system e.g. set up e-payments, link the online enrolment portal to the school website.
- We need to be more proactive in educating the children and their parents about online safety.

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

DOMAIN: (From Digital Learning Framework)

Pre 2023 Teachers Collective/Collaborative Practice

2022-23 Learner Outcomes

2022-23 Learner Experiences

2023-24 Teachers' Individual Practice

2024-25 Teachers' Collective/Collaborative Practice

STANDARD(S): (From Digital Learning Framework)

Pre 2023 Teachers work together to devise learning opportunities for pupils across and beyond the curriculum

2023 Pupils demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding required by the Primary School Curriculum.

2023 Pupils engage purposefully in meaningful learning activities.

2023-24 The teacher has the requisite subject knowledge, pedagogical knowledge and classroom management skills.

2024-25 Teachers value and engage in professional development and collaboration.

STATEMENT(S): (From Digital Learning Framework)

Pre 2023 Teachers use digital technologies to collaborate with appropriate outside agencies and personnel to facilitate meaningful learning experiences for pupils.

2023 Pupils can use a range of digital technologies to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding required by the Primary School Curriculum.

2023 Pupils use digital technologies for sourcing, exchanging of information to develop understanding and support basic knowledge creation.

2023-24 Teachers use a range of digital technologies to design learning and assessment activities for their pupils.

2024-25 Teachers engage in professional development and work with colleagues to help them select and align digital technologies with effective teaching strategies to expand learning opportunities for all pupils.

TARGETS: (What do we want to achieve?) **Ongoing** **Achieved** **Not Yet Achieved**

- **School will use the school website and twitter page to improve parental communication. The possibility of developing an annual e-newsletter is to be investigated.**

- **School will ensure that policies surrounding digital technologies are up to date and parents and children are educated about online safety**

- **School will engage with external supports to develop staff confidence in using more digital technologies in their teaching and learning**

- **Staff will develop their own ICT skills so that they increase their capacity to empower pupils to use of digital technologies.**

-**Staff will use digital technologies to develop their own learning and assessment tasks.**

-**Pupils will source, share and produce appropriate content using digital technologies to research and source information via apps such as book creator.**

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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?)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update, agree and ratify our new Digital Learning Plan. Set up of G-Suite of education for all staff and students. Set up digital learning platforms for all staff and pupils Seesaw and/or Google Classroom. Identify relevant digital technology courses for CPD and external supports in specific areas as identified by staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A school website needs to be regularly updated. The possibility of developing an e-newsletter needs to be investigated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 2021/22 Year 2 2022/23 Year 3 2023/24 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Staff and BOM Post Holder with responsibility for IT Principal All Staff All Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents engaging with content and keeping up to date with what is going on in school More information available online – e.g Online enrolment facility , Notification of pupil absence form available for download , along with Booklists etc More current information on activities and achievements of the school community visible and up to date on both the website and twitter account. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laptops and ipads Interactive Televisions and Flatscreen Televisions Wordpress – Web development tool used Professional Development – to enable the staff to update the website effectively Mailchimp – Online tool used to create and decimate the e-newsletter. Professional development – principal and IT post honed to upskill to learn how to use the online tool effectively.

EVALUATION PROCEDURES:

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

<p>ACTIONS (What needs to be done?)</p>	<p>TIMEFRAME (When is it to be done by?)</p>	<p>PERSONS / GROUPS RESPONSIBLE (Who is to do it?)</p>	<p>CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS (What are the desired outcomes?)</p>	<p>RESOURCES (What resources are needed?)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Staff to be trained up on how to edit their class page on the website ● Whole school information talk required regarding Internet Safety each year or every second year. ● G Suite for education needs to be set up ● Aladdin E payments needs to be set up along with online banking account ● Teachers to get involved in peer training to increase their IT proficiency and confidence among colleagues 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All staff ● All Staff / BOM ● Principal/BOM ● IT Post Holder ● Staff to add to their page on the website at least once this year ● Compliance by all pupils and parents ● Implementation by all staff ● Low rate of cyber bullying incidents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Annual e-newsletter sent out ● Staff to add to their page on the website at least once this year ● Compliance by all pupils and parents ● Implementation by all staff ● Low rate of cyber bullying Incidents ● Implementation of the calendar through Aladdin and use of same by staff following sufficient training and peer tutoring ● Use of new system by parents ● Decrease in number of visits to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Laptop – Mailchimp ● Laptops, school camera ● Laptop ● Outside company e.g Compu-B ● G Suite for education ● Aladdin upgrade required ● Online Banking account ● Laptops ● WIFI

			the bank by secretary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less money being held on the school premises • Teachers will increase the use of ICT in the classroom and confidence using GSuite for education through peer tutoring 	
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EVALUATION PROCEDURES:
 (How are we progressing? Do we need to make adjustments? Have we achieved our targets?)

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?)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School will engage with external supports to develop staff confidence in using more digital technologies in their teaching and learning. • All teachers will use either Seesaw or Google Classroom as a class assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff • Principal • All teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school will engage the services of Compu-B – a company who will demonstrate to the teachers the programmes that they feel the children would benefit most from. The idea of this is two fold – we hold the children will begin to gain a more indepth knowledge and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

<p>tool.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Each teacher will learn to use an ipad and begin to use it to augment their teaching. ● Application for Digital Schools Status by 2027 ● Update and expand school wifi network 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principal and one other staff member ● Principal ● IT Post Holder & BOM 	<p>experience of Digital Technologies and we hope the teaching staff will use this as a learning opportunity so that next year they can put this into practice. Each teacher will use their laptop or ipad for checking school emails, taking roll and engaging with Aladdin, updating school website, and use as a tool to augment teaching.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Successful accreditation ● Improved wifi network for staff and also improved capability for next year when whole classes will use ipads 	
<p>EVALUATION PROCEDURES: (How are we progressing? Do we need to make adjustments? Have we achieved our targets?)</p>				

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?)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Staff will develop their own ICT skills so that they increase the pupils use of digital technologies ● All staff will use Seesaw or alternative as an assessment tool at least once per term 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All Staff ● Principal & all Teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Staff will include an integrated digital technology lesson at least once per term. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3 extra ipads to be purchased and used on a rota basis by each class ● Ipad charging trolley/ storage ● Ipads

EVALUATION PROCEDURES:

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

Year 1 2021/22 **Ongoing** **Achieved** **Not Yet Achieved**

- In year one a huge amount of time went into building the new school website www.knockminnans.scoilnet.ie. Another major achievement in year 2 has been the successful sign up to G-Suite for education.

-It is hoped to have a calendar integrated with Aladdin that is pinned to the teacher's homepage and teachers can update it themselves. This really helps the overall running of the school and will improve communication and efficiency.

-We are very lucky to have a school secretary who has the skills and dedication to follow through in the set up and implementation of these tools. All teachers and pupils have been signed up to either Seesaw or Google Classroom digital learning platforms as appropriate.

Year 2 (2022/23)

-The school invested heavily in the purchase of 16 extra iPads from Compu-B and all staff attended CPD based on the use of iPads in the classroom in September 2021.

-All teachers are now using iPads in their classrooms on a weekly basis and a large number of apps have been purchased along with a management system (Jamf for schools) which allows all iPads to be administered centrally.

-The school has invested in a further 16 new iPads in 2022, to ensure more access to technology for students.

-It has also heavily invested in apps on the iPads with a focus on literacy, numeracy and SEN.

-As teachers gain more confidence and experience more appropriate apps will be purchased.

-In June 2022 the school borrowed Bee-Bots and Lego We Do kits from Sligo Education Centre as an introduction to STEM and Coding.

-The website and twitter pages are now being regularly updated with news, pictures and videos highlighting the ongoing work in the school.

-Upgrade to Aladdin Connect and organise for whole staff training in this to allow for improved efficiency in communications among staff and parents.

Year 3 (2023/24)

- **Internet Safety talk for parents.**
- **Develop links with Sligo Ed Centre and avail of their resources on a more regular basis.**
- **Organise training for teachers on the use of the website and twitter pages.**
- **Develop Class pages, which will be updated weekly by teachers, on the website as a means of displaying Children's work and developing Home School Links.**
- **Collaborate with the Parents' Association to develop their social media presence to promote the school and highlight the good work and achievements of the school community as a whole.**
- **Develop a whole school approach to CPD in the area of Digital Technology and formalise a plan for sharing of expertise among staff.**

Year 4 (2024/25)

Year 5 (2025/26)