

Banagher College – Coláiste na Sionna



Our Digital Learning Plan

04/04/2019

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:

- Banagher College – Coláiste na Sionna is a mixed gender school in the rural town of Banagher, Co Offaly. Our school is an amalgamation of two schools that existed in Banagher for many years, St Rynagh's Community College and LaSainnte Union Secondary School. The school has 570 students and 50 staff members, 2 full time SNS, 9 Auxillary (Sedexo) support staff, 38 classrooms and 3 computer laboratories. The following programmes are available to students – JC, JCSP, JCA, TY, LCVF, and LC & LCA. We actively work on School Planning and School Self Evaluation.

1.2 School Vision:

- Our vision is to enable all staff and students to be digitally literate. We will endeavour that staff and students are digitally literate, and that they use this technology in an ethical and responsible manner. We will promote the use of digital technology to share expertise, improve teaching and learning and assessment. We will strive to use digital technologies to enable our learners to become independent, active learners using technology for meaningful ways to collaborate, research and create. Teachers will be encouraged to support this by sharing effective pedagogical methods and to use digital assessment and feedback apps and tools. Management and leadership personnel will support the ongoing changes and promote and encourage CPD initiatives. We will endeavour to embed improvement in Digital Technology into Teaching and Learning within our School Improvement Plan.

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

- School Excellence Fund – Digital. Banagher College is the lead school in an SEF-Digital project that also involves three other midland schools in the cluster.
- School Digital Champion participants – 2016/2017; 2017/2018 and 2018/2019
- Some teachers use online assessment and virtual learning environments as part of their teaching.
- Some teachers also utilise flipped learning methodologies through digital mediums.
- The school website is updated regularly to communicate school news and our twitter feed is embedded onto the homepage.
- All transition year students complete Microsoft Office Specialist Exams as part of the TV curriculum.
- In 2016/2017 3 teachers were undertook the TL21 Programme with Athlone Education Centre focusing on using the digital technology CoggleIt with all junior students across subject department.
- There are many different digital technologies in use throughout the school, but their use is not consistent across years or subject areas
- Wi-Fi access is available to all students and staff throughout the school.
- Staff informally share their digital technology expertise, and communication through staff and student Office email accounts.
- Five members of staff recently graduated from the Trinity College 21st Century Teaching and Learning certificate course where the emphasis is on harnessing the power of technology in teaching to encourage active, collaborative project based learning in the classroom.
- All classrooms have an interactive projector and a desktop computer with internet access.
- We have three computer labs with 75 computers in total.
- A technology lab with a further 25 computers is used for teaching Design and Communication Graphics.
- Our school library is equipped with 5 PCs and we also have a number of digital cameras and a digital camcorder for use in Junior Cycle English Class Room Based Assessments.
- We have one dedicated resource rooms, with a PC, printer and specialised software and braille printer.
- We have two staff computers in the staffroom and one printer.
- A number of SEN students use laptops or i-Pads to support their learning.
- The school broadband is comprised of a combination of wired and wireless service. The school is receiving 100Mb broadband but this speed is not being received in all parts of the school. The infrastructure needs to be updated and expanded to have the potential of 100Mb broadband in all parts of the school.
- We currently use VS Ware to record student data, attendance and assessment results.

2. The focus of this Digital Learning Plan

We conducted a digital learning evaluation in our school during the period *January 2019 after attendance at the Seminar in Athlone Education Centre in January*. We evaluated our progress using the following sources of evidence:

- Informal discussions at staff meeting
- Digital Learning Team ; A group of teachers volunteered to participate in the DLP. The group includes, T O'Brien(English), A MacMahon (Accounts), S Lonegran (PE), T Egan (H Ec), N Hehir (Business & Maths), G Dewane (Business), M Doorly (Maths), T Cushen (Geography) and D. Shanahan (Construction), C. Corley (Geography), J. Grogan (Engineering) L McDowell (Communications), B. Hassett (Science)
- Teacher Digital Learning Survey: an online survey was carried out among staff, the main focus being: their current use of DLT in the classroom in teaching, learning and assessment.
- Student Digital Learning Survey: an attitudinal online survey on their views on using digital technologies in the classroom, thier access to internet at home, and reflections on their digital learning experience.
- Parent Digital Learning Survey: an attitudinal online survey was sent to parents. Respondents gave their view on a number of relevant areas including the potential future directions the school might take with its digital learning.

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

- One standard and one domain has been selected: Domain 4: Teachers' collective/collaborative practices.

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

Standard	Statement(s)
Teachers collectively develop an dimplement consistent and dependable formative and summative assessment practices	Teachers use digital technologies to design and develop a range of appropriate authentic formative and summative assessment practices.

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

- PC and data projectors in each room, 3 computer labs, fast broadband, school wide Wi-Fi for staff and students
- Digitally rich environment with fast broadband, all computers are networked with individual log in details.
- All staff and students have access to Office email, SharePoint and cloud storage

- All staff have access to VSWare
- Significant investment has been made in IT infrastructure
- Staff and students have a positive attitude to digital technologies for use in the classroom.
- School has in place a Digital Learning Team
- 93% of staff using DTL in the classroom regularly
- 87% of staff would like to use more DTL in their teaching.
- 55% have attended digital technology training sessions either externally or online.
- Several staff members are very proficient in using digital technologies in formative and summative assessment.
- There is capacity to provide in house training and CPD for teachers.
- SEN Dept. have provided assistive technology devices and software for SEN students.

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

- Increase the sharing of expertise in the use of digital technologies in the classrooms with colleagues.
- Obtaining additional funding for infrastructure to open another computer lab with smart projector through the DLF
- Integrate digital learning technology in all subject areas, and across curricular subjects.

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

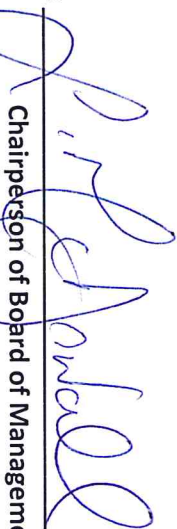
DOMAIN: Teachers' Collaborative Practice					
STANDARD(S): Teachers collectively develop and implement consistent and dependable formative and summative assessment practices					
STATEMENT(S): Teachers use digital technologies to design and develop a range of appropriate authentic formative and summative assessment practices.					
TARGETS: (What do we want to achieve?) Teachers to use a range of digital tools, each department collectively create a range of formative and summative assessment for JC students.					
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"> Set up a DT leader for each department. DT leader receives training in two digital tools. Staff meetings – use of these tools demonstrated in how they can support assessment of learning DL create resources to aid training of staff DL create opportunities for teachers to observe digital tools being used in Digital Leaders class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Subject Dept. plans with Digital Leader DL report back to mgt on training provided by PDST DL present digital tools at staff meetings An increase in the number of teachers using digital technology for assessment. Increase in % confidence of staff in using DT for assessment. Increase in % confidence of staff in sharing DT for assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer Room Access Meeting times Observation in classes Mgt support 	
	March/April	PDST Advisor			
	May 2019 Sept – December	Management and DT Subject Dept. Leaders			
	September	Digital Leaders			
	Oct-/April	DL Team, Mgt and Digital Leaders in each subject			


● Feedback at each staff mtg on progress.	Sept - May	Mgt & DL team	DL leader in each subject to feedback to DL team on how their department use and share digital technology.	
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EVALUATION PROCEDURES:

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

Online digital learning survey will be carried out among staff and student and result compared with the data in first survey in March 2019. We would like to see an increase in use and confidence by teacher of digital tools for assessment. We would encourage teachers to continue with ongoing CPD.

Signed: 
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: 
Principal