**Scoil Mhuire, Cloonanaha**

**Digital Learning Plan**

**Introduction and Context:**

We are a small two teacher school situated in Cloonanaha, Inagh, Co. Clare. We currently have 29 pupils enrolled. We are IT savvy and utilise Ipads on a daily basis to assist in a multi-class setting. The development of this plan was set out as a priority area by the school to comply with the Department of Education publications and ‘Digital Strategy for Schools’.

There are three key aspects to this plan:

* Overall approach to e-learning to include the role of school leadership, planning for e-learning and the vision of an e-learning culture in the school.
* ICT to be used to enhance learning throughout the school.
* The ICT infrastructure in the school is to be examined and improved

**Overall approach towards digital learning:**

Vision for e-learning here in Scoil Mhuire, Cloonanaha:

In line with the guidance provided by the National Council for Technology in Education (NCTE), the approach in Scoil Mhuire is to emphasise the integration of ICT across the curriculum, in order to improve the quality of teaching and learning. Therefore ICT is not a subject or a curriculum in its own right. It is a tool that can add value to the teaching and learning process when it is used appropriately. The purpose of computer literacy is the same as all teaching and learning, to awaken and to support the development of intellectual curiosity.

We are educating children who live in a technological age and so our teaching and learning must reflect that reality. Pedagogically, e-learning can be highly motivating for the learner and particularly for those children who find the more traditional methodologies of the school setting constraining. In that light, we will strive to maximise the potential for children’s learning using ICT, where appropriate.

Our vision for e-learning is about trying to ensure that the children begin to develop a critical appreciation of the role of ICT in society and develop habits which reflect an ethical and responsible use of ICT.

Scoil Mhuire is committed to the implementation of ‘The Digital Learning Strategy’ based on the following principles:

* ICT is a cross curricular tool, not a subject in its own right
* ICT is an essential part of the administration of the school
* Schools have a role to ensure that all pupils in the school, not just those with access to technology at home,  can access an e-learning environment

Our 5 year plan has been created using the 5 criteria from the Digital Learning Strategy and provides us with a concrete, practical, incremental and sustainable roadmap that we can follow and build upon over the next 5 years

**National Digital Strategy**

Our 5 year plan broadly reflects the four themes in the National Digital Strategy.

**Criteria 1 (Theme 1):**

**ICT integration in the Curriculum (Teaching, Learning and Assessment using ICT)**

*Indicators of success:*

* Formulate Digital Learning Plan
* Avail of CPD for teachers
* Avail of and make available high-quality digital content to support learning and teaching

**Criteria 2 (Theme 2):**

**Continuing Professional Development (Teacher Professional Learning)**

*Indicators of success:*

* Avail of Department funded support services on the use of ICT
* Guidance and examples of good practice on the effective and ethical use of ICT for teaching, learning and assessment are to be shared by teachers

**Criteria 3 (Theme 3):**

**Leadership and Vision (Leadership, Research and Policy)**

*Indicators of success:*

* Recognise the role and potential of ICT to enhance teaching, learning and assessment
* Avail of guidance, planning resources and related supports for the effective, safe and ethical use of ICT

**Criteria 4 (Theme 4):**

**Resources and Infrastructure (ICT Infrastructure)**

*Indicators of success:*

* Avail of improved connectivity with ICT funding from the Department
* Avail of grants scheme for the purchase of equipment

| **Year** | **Theme 1:**  ***Teaching, Learning and Assessment using ICT***  *(ICT in the curriculum)* | **Theme 2:**  ***Teacher Professional Learning*** *(Professional Development)* | **Theme 3:**  ***Leadership, Research and Policy***  *(Leadership and vision)* | **Theme 4:**  ***ICT Infrastructure***  *(Resources and infrastructure)* | **School ICT Culture** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | \*Embed the use of some tools/apps that align with and enhance work in a priority area (e.g Problem Solving, Spelling and Gaeilge Neamh Fhoirimiuil)  \*introduce Primary Planning Tool | \*Audit professional development needs | \*Use activities from the  Summer Course to cultivate  a commitment to change  \*ICT survey among staff regarding ICT strengths and weaknesses in our school | \*Audit of resources and with ICT Grant invest in ICT infrastructure improvements e.g. improve wifi | \*continue to use the online roll book Aladdin |
| **2** | \*An internet safety lesson at the beginning of every school year in every class (make it part of school policy)  \*classes to start uploading work samples on to SEESAW  \*fully roll out Primary planning Tool for the new language curriculum | \* principal to complete a Summer course on ICT in the classroom | \*Develop an ICT policy | \*Use ICT grant to purchase more ICT software | \*Make policies and templates for review of policies available on the website |

**Success Criteria:**

**How will we know for sure that the plan is working in classrooms?**

* Cuntas Miosuil indicating use of IT in learning and assessment
* Teacher observations on how It is being used to aid learning in the classroom

Ratified by the Board of Management on the 13/5/19

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson