

Digital Schools Award Evaluation Report

School: Clonroche NS
Roll No: 06959G
Date of validation: June 23rd 2016

Leadership & Vision

The school had adopted a comprehensive whole school approach to the integration of ICT into teaching and Learning. There is a well-developed ICT and ELearning Plan with targets clearly documented. The School has an ICT Coordinator and has a good provision of hardware and up to date software. There is evidence of strong Leadership and collegiality among the staff in relation to the usage of ICT.

Classrooms all have digital projectors with IWBs (ebeam) and visualisers which are in regular everyday use.

Shared pupil laptops are available when needed, and class iPad set (20 devices) are booked according to class needs on a two week rolling cycle rather than using a predetermined time slot.

Progression is clearly mapped in the school ELearning Plan, with targets set for each class group.

Internet Safety is part of class work and the school has a well developed AUP.

eFibre not yet available and the school operates with a 5mbs connection.

ICT in the Curriculum

Classes use shared iPads, and access laptops when needed. Comic Life (iPad app) and PowerPoint are used for literacy, Scratch is used in Maths teaching in 5th and 6th class, School was involved in the Blue Star Programme this year and integrated their work in this project into their curriculum strands. Pupils keep a diary of school activities and use the cameras to record their work. The work and diary are published on the school website.



The infants class showcased their skills in Gaelige with an interactive game on the class IWB, while 5th and 6th class demonstrated their scratch skills studying shapes in Math.

There is a Moodle LMS being set up for the pupils also.

School ICT Culture

The school has an excellent website with lots of learning activities published online, Lots of the childrens work is published with photos, flipbooks and videos all uploaded.

The site definitely deserves a scoilnet star site award.

Aladdin admin system is being used by the teachers with rolls kept online by the teachers. and the school has been involved in many ICT related projects over the years stretching back to Netd@ys in 2004.

There is strong evidence of a well-developed ICT Culture in the school

Professional Development

Two members of staff are PDST Tutors and deliver summer courses. There is good evidence of sharing of good practice and all staff use ICT.

Hardware and software in the school is in constant use and pupils are at ease using technology for learning.

The school benefits greatly from excellent leadership and the expertise of the school ICT Champions

Resources & Infrastructure

All classrooms have IWBs and Visualisers for teaching.

Teachers laptops have recently been replaced and existing laptops will be added to the pool of student laptops.

There is a shared set of 20 class iPads, and a school wireless network. The school have made enquiries with regard to upgrading this wireless network to





enterprise level. Here I have advised them to wait for two things: broadband upgrade and proposed funding to implement digital strategy.

The latest version of MS office is installed on the teachers' new laptops and the school uses cloud storage sugarsync and dropbox.

Due to size imitations (dropbox) and cost (sugarsync) I advised them to consider a Google Apps or Office 365 option, as these once deployed have no ongoing costs or charges.

Only a 5mbs connection, schools like Clonroche NS should be prioritised for upgrade if only for recognition of the excellent work that is happening in the school

General comments and recommendations

Excellent work happening in this school

Scoring

