ST. CONAL'S N.S. DIGITAL LEARNING FOUR-YEAR PLAN
2019-2023

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 was originally set as a two-year plan (2019-2021), but this had to be extended due to the Covid-19 disruption. Innovations which occurred during the distance learning have been incorporated into the plan, and the original timeframes outlined in 2019 have been amended to reflect the disruption to learning and priority of language, numeracy and wellbeing in the curriculum.

1.1 School Details:

St. Conal's is a three-teacher school with 65 pupils (2021-22)**.** It is located on the fringes of the picturesque Glenties Area. Our School was established in 1987 and has a proud tradition of education. Today St. Conal's vibrant staff and active parents are committed to the holistic development of each pupil attending the school. We are a DEIS school focusing on three-year plans in **Literacy, Numeracy, Attendance, Transition, Partnership with Parents, Other Schools and the Community, Leadership, Retention, Curriculum Professional Development and Wellbeing.** We have also completed School Self-Evaluations on Literacy, Numeracy and Science.

1.2 School Vision:

The Board of Management of St. Conal's National School wants every pupil to actively participate in all school activities. While St. Conal's is a Catholic School with a Catholic ethos, it has due recognition and respect for all other religious beliefs. The school models and transmits a way of life inspired by belief in God and in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Mary, His mother is admired as the exemplar of these values. The school strives to provide a caring, happy and secure environment where the intellectual, spiritual, emotional, physical and cultural needs of the pupils are identified and addressed. We want our pupils to be prepared to enter the Digital era, equipped with the necessary digital skills to enter a skilled workforce. It is our goal that they enjoy their learning and are motivated to learn. Our school motto is **"Iarracht, Saothar agus Cúram"**.

1.3 Brief account of the use of digital technologies in the school to date:
- ✔ All classrooms are equipped with an IWB and either one or two class computers.
- ✔ Class computer for each SET teachers also
- ✔ One visualiser (HUE) and two school digital cameras
- ✔ 16 ipads – including two teacher ipads housed in a secure charging unit in the store-room
- ✔ Central networked printer
- ✔ A number of SEN pupils use ipad/pc to support their learning
- ✔ NCTE broadband service upgraded to fibre broadband (2021).
- ✔ Completed e-Learning audit 2011-2014; 2014-2017; Completed e-Learning Plan 2011-2014; 2014-2017; 2017-2020; Completed e-plan 2011-2014; 2014-2017; 2017-2020; Completed Pupil IT Survey 2013 & 2018;
- ✔ As this is a relatively small school, the principal is the IT coordinator, with the assistance of all the staff.

- ✓ The Special Education teachers coordinate the IT resources needed in their department.
- ✓ One of the Special Education teachers has taught SCRATCH coding to selected classes, while a tutor will be hired using DEIS funds to conduct IT & coding classes for all pupils.
- ✓ We take part in the international One Hour of Code.
- ✓ We have participated in Discover Primary Science and Maths Excellence Scheme in 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2017/18 and 2019/20.
- ✓ Teachers made use of whatsapp calls to pupils during the distance learning due to Covid-19. It was also used for staff meetings.
- ✓ A website was created (www.stconals.ie) during Easter 2020. It is maintained by the IT coordinator.
- ✓ The school signed up for Aladdin software in June 2020 and use this primarily for attendance monitoring, report cards and communication with parents.
- ✓ The ipads and computers are regularly monitored, protected and upgraded by out IT consultant.
- ✓ The school changed its email address in 2020 to school@stconals,ie
- ✓ Several staff utilised youtube studio during the successive lockdowns as a way to teach concepts, particularly in Mathematics and Irish. Links to these are provided on the classes page on the school website.
- ✓ Each teacher was provided with a dedicated school email address in 2020.
- ✓ The school signed up for the Blacknight hosting service in 2020.
- ✓ Major investment into IT resources has been funded from the Dept. grants. 16 ipads were purchased in 2019, while another 10 arrived in the spring of 2022. 30 Chromebooks were leased in the spring of 2022 to be used by the senior room pupils and the S.E.N. teachers.
- ✓ Software has been regularly purchased for the S.E.N. department to aid with our diagnostic suite of tools.
- ✓ Reading Eggs was purchased in 2021 to enhance the enjoyment and proficiency of English.

1.4

St. Conal's N.S. IT Audit: 2019		
	2013	2019
Personal Computers	7	14
Laptops	4	10
iPads & Tablets	0	16
Photocopiers	1	1
Networks	1	1
Digital Cameras	1	3
Digital Camcorders	1	1
Wireless keyboards	4	4
Overhead Projector	1	1
Wireless mice	4	4
Portable data projectors	1	0
Short throw data projectors	4	4
Internal Webcams	3	7
External Webcams (HUE)	1	1
Software in use 2019: Creative writer 2 MS Office 2010 & 2016 (SAMI): (Word, Excel, Publisher & Powerpoint) Wordshark Numbershark The computer classroom Mavis Beacon typing Printmaster Eurotalk Gaeilge 1 & 2 I Love Maths I Love Spelling Ultimate Maths Invaders Typingclub.com	Eclipse Crossword Maker Kidsperation Type-to-learn IXL.com Lexia Howtodraw.com Maths made easy Inspiration Oxford Reading Tree Tizzy's Toy Box Pingu and friends Jolly Phonics Lucid Cops	

2. The focus of this Digital Learning Plan

We undertook a digital learning evaluation in our school during the period 2018-19. We evaluated our progress using the following sources of evidence:

- Teacher/pupil surveys, discussion with neighbouring schools and the local Education Centre, staff meeting and BOM meetings, PDST in-service with Mr. David Brennan on October 24th, 2019, attendance at DLP in-service courses.
- We evaluated the results of our surveys and feedback from relevant parties as follows in order to prioritise items in our plan:

	Yes %	No %
Does your family have a personal computer at home?	52	48
Does your family have a laptop at home?	77	23
Does your family have a tablet at home?	82	18
Does your family have internet at home?	91	9
Does someone have a basic mobile phone at home?	59	41
Does your family have a smartphone at home?	95	5
Does your family have an email address?	91	9
Are you allowed to use the digital camera at home, if you have one?	45	55
Are you allowed to use the personal computer or laptop at home, if you have one?	61	39
Are you allowed to use the tablet/ipad at home, if you have one?	86	14
Are you allowed to use the internet at home?	89	11
Are you allowed to play on the playstation/wii/x-box/DS or any other games system at home, if you have one?	91	9
Are you allowed to use a computer/ipad/tablet/laptop at home?	98	2
Do you use your home computer/tablet/laptop/ipad for **typing** or **gaming** or **both**?	Typing: 11% Gaming: 32% Both: 57%	
Are you allowed to use a mobile phone or smartphone, if you have one?	80	20
Are you allowed to send messages online?	48	52
Are you allowed to use the printer at home, if you have one?	41	59

Do you have a 3D printer at home?	2	98
Do you like using IT at home or at school?	89	11
Have you ever sent an email from home?	36	64
On a scale of 1-10, how good are you on a computer?	1-5: 34% 6-10: 66%	
Do you play online games?	57	43
PUPILS: Which <u>**one**</u> do you enjoy the best: reading a book, sport, dance, a hobby, TV, music, playing a computer game or something else?	Sport: 57% Hobby: 11% Gaming & Music: 7% each Dance & Books: 5% each TV, Horse-riding, Interacting with people, Other: 2% each	

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

- **Domain 1**: **Learner Outcomes**
  Pupils enjoy their learning, are motivated to learn and expect to achieve as learners
- **Domain 3: Teacher's Individual Practice**
  The teacher selects and uses planning, preparation and assessment practices that progress pupils' learning

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

Standard	Statement(s)
Pupils enjoy their learning, are motivated to learn and expect to achieve as learners	Pupils use appropriate digital technologies to foster active engagement in attaining appropriate learning outcomes.
The teacher selects and uses planning, preparation and assessment practices that progress pupils' learning	Teachers use a range of digital technologies to support assessment of learning and assessment for learning.

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

- Teachers engage continuously in CPD in relation to IT
- Making research fun, interesting and relevant to them using kiddle.co and kidrex.org web browsers
- Internet Safety - safe searches, teacher ipad (supervision), Webwise, talks for parents and children

The BOM:
- The BOM coordinates with the principal to identify, prioritise and authorise the purchase of IT for the school.
- The BOM reviews purchases and the IT needs of the school at regular intervals.
- The BOM conducts an annual Child Protection Review in which it evaluates the safety of the children re the internet.
- The BOM authorises biennial Cyber Safety talks for pupils and parents.

The principal:
- The principal coordinates with the staff to identify and prioritise the purchase of IT for the school.
- The principal has coordinated the purchase of hardware and software since 2007 and is au fait with many of the digital technologies in use in the school since then.
- The principal coordinates with an IT advisor who updates hardware twice annually and advises on IT requirements.
- The principal coordinates with the Board of Management to source funding for prioritised IT equipment and in-service courses.

- The principal processes all paperwork to do with the procurement of hardware and maintains records of same.

The students completed an IT survey in 2018. The results were as follows:

- PUPILS: What is the hardest thing about using IT?
  Typing: 23%
  Freezing: 11%
  Battery life, Editing, Setting it up, Changing backgrounds, Learning new things, WiFi codes: 5% each
  Other activities combined: 36%
  (23% find typing hard but only 11% want to learn how to do it better.)

- PUPILS: What do you find easy about using IT?
  Typing: 25%
  Gaming: 14%
  Turning it on & Internet: 9% each
  Youtube: 7%
  Emails & Messaging: 5% each
  Other activities combined: 26%

- PUPILS: What would you like to learn to do in IT that you can't do already?
  Nothing (19 out of 44): 43%
  Type properly: 11%
  Coding: 9%
  Email, Edit videos & Be generally good on computers: 5% each
  Other (1 child each): 22%

- PUPILS: List all the IT you know the names of:
  Smart tv, iPad, iPod, personal computer, laptop, smartphone, Wii, PS 3& 4, xBox, Nintendo Switch, Tablet, Interactive Board, Digital camera, PS Vita, 3D printer, Speakers, printers, Kindle, 3DS, 2DS, 1DS, Internet, Apple watch, Leapfrog, Databasing, Applications, Security, Social media, Online shopping, Youtube, Online reading, Word processor, Email, Facebook, Google, Safari, Firefox, Snapochat, Instagram, Whatsapp, Messenger, Twitter, Skype, Games, iCloud, Servers, Pinterest, Tumblr, iMessage, Houseparty, MacBook, Bluetooth, Chromecast, NexusTV, AppleTV, Google car, Console, IT support, Networking, Basic phone, ooVoo.

Staff:

Training completed by all or some members of staff:
- Interactive Whiteboard course
- Photocopier training course
- ICT Facilitator

- Beginner & intermediate computer courses
- Word processing
- Digital camera courses
- Scratch coding

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

- As a whole school we will focus on using 2 apps/utilities in particular – *Google Classroom/Workspace & Book Creator*
- Help the children to gain independent learning skills in relation to the use of ipad, pc, camera, etc.
- Ensure children are motivated to learn in order to achieve i.e. SeeSaw pick their best piece of work, use Book Creator/Adobe Spark as plenary or topic studied
- Teachers will use IT as an assessment tool, parents will also be included in this initiative e.g. invited to view digital portfolios (e.g. Google Workspace) on parents' night, using apps at home.

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 Plan

DOMAINS: **Learner Outcomes**, **Teacher's Individual Practice**
STANDARD(S):   ● Pupils enjoy their learning, are motivated to learn and expect to achieve as learners   ● The teacher selects and uses planning, preparation and assessment practices that progress pupils' learning
STATEMENT(S):   ● Pupils use appropriate digital technologies to foster engagement in attaining appropriate learning outcomes   ● Teachers use a range of digital technologies to support assessment of learning and assessment for learning.
TARGETS: (What do we want to achieve?)   ● Pupils will use digital technology to collect evidence and record progress, enjoying the process and highly motivated.

2019/2023 Digital Learning Plan

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 in the school?)
Junior /Senior Infants/1st ● Teachers using IT will use **SeeSaw App** in the classroom. ● Pupils will utilise **Sock Puppets and Chatterpix** to develop oral language skills as Gaeilge/Béarla ● Teachers will actively engage with the **Scoilnet** resources and websites ● Teachers will reflect on the use of **Sock Puppets and Chatterpix** and share their	Easter 2022-June 2023 September 2022- June 2023 September 2019- June 2023 September 2023	The use of **Sock Puppets and Chatterpix** will be trialled in April 2021	Teachers are familiar with and confident using the apps to be explored at their class level. Pupils have actively engaged with digital tools and/ or created content on a topic of the teachers' or pupils' choice. Pupils have presented their work to their peers.	● iPads ● Accessibility features on iPads engaged ● HTML Heroes- Webwise ● Myselfie and the Wider World - Webwise ● Scoilnet Websites ● Apps:

experience at a staff meeting.			Teachers have shared their opinion and experience of the apps with the whole staff at staff meeting.	- Book Creator - Chatterpix - Sock Puppets
2nd/ 3rd Class: ● Teachers will engage in CPD to upskill on the cross-curricular use of the **Book Creator App.**	Easter 2022- June 2023		Teachers are familiar with and confident using the apps to be explored at their class level.	
● Pupils will create **one digital book a term in 2022/23** on a chosen topic using the **Book Creator app** independently or in small groups.	2022-2023	The use of **Book Creator** will be trialled in September 2022.	Pupils have actively engaged with digital tools and/ or created content on a topic of the teachers' or pupils' choice.	
● Pupils will present their digital books to their peers.	2022-2023		Pupils have presented their work to their peers.	
● Teachers will reflect on the use of **Book Creator** and share their experience at a staff meeting.	September 2023		Teachers have shared their opinion and experience of the apps with the whole staff at staff meeting.	
● **Reading Eggs** will be trialled by the middle classes.	2021-2022			
● Ipads will be used to research projects.	2021-2023			
● Teachers will actively engage with the **Scoilnet resources and websites**	September 2019- June 2023			
4th, 5th and 6th Class: ● Teacher will engage in CPD to upskill on the cross-curricular use of	Easter 2022- June 2023		Teachers are familiar with and confident using the apps to be explored at their class level.	

chromebooks and **google classroom/workspace.**		The principal facilitates a CPD Croke Park hour on **SeeSaw App Digital SALF Folder in February 2021**	Pupils have actively engaged with digital tools and/ or created content on a topic of the teachers' or pupils' choice.
● Students will engage in the **Myselfie and the Wider World Programme.**	January 2023-June 2023		
● Teachers will reflect on the use of chromebooks in their classroom.	September 2023		Pupils have presented their work to their peers.
● Teachers will actively engage with the Scoilnet resources and websites.	September 2019- June 2023		Teachers have shared their opinion and experience of the apps with the whole staff at staff meeting.
SEN / Learning Support Teachers			
● Teachers will engage in CPD to upskill on the cross-curricular use of **Book Creator** application.	September 2022-June 2023		Teachers are familiar with and confident using the apps to be explored at their class level.
● Pupils will actively use **Reading Eggs** to improve literacy.	September 2021-June 2023		Pupils have actively engaged with digital tools and/ or created content on a topic of the teachers' or pupils' choice.
● Teachers will begin to utilise the **Accessibility** functions on their iPads for student usage.	September 2021-June 2023		
● Teachers will reflect on the use of **Book Creator**, **Reading Eggs and any other software** in their work.	August 2021		Pupils have presented their work to their peers.

Teachers have shared their opinion and experience of the apps with the whole staff at staff meeting. |

School Level:	Time Frame			
● The school will participate in the **Internet Safety Day** organised by Webwise	5th February 2020			
● Croke Park meetings will be used to instruct/review aspects of the Digital Learning Framework.	2019-2023			
● Teachers post websites/suggestions about ICT in the school on the staff notice-board (Possibly use post it notes)	Daily Availability			
● Teachers and classes will co-teach and **peer tutor** in certain areas.	Informally			

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

- Teachers will show evidence of this in their Cuntais Míosúla
- The Digital Learning Plan will appear on the agenda for the upcoming staff meeting
- Notice Board to include ICT notifications
- Notifications on ICT courses to be emailed to staff by the principal

Signed: _____   Date: _____
(Chairperson of the Board of Management)