

School Improvement Plan Report 2020/21 Digital Learning

The purpose of this report is to assess the progress made based on targets set out in our previous School Improvement Plan 2019/20. With the current school year having faced further school closures, the incorporation of remote teaching and the utilisation of digital learning has become an important factor in our teachings. It is the purpose of this report to analyse the progress made in relation to staff upskilling re digital learning and ICT.

As a means of assessing our progress staff members were surveyed via Microsoft Forms (Appendix 1). An email containing a link to the website was sent to all teaching staff on April 19th, 2021.

Staff members reported an increase of upskilling from 3.13 to 3.75.

All staff members described their IT support / training as either good, very good or excellent. However, 25% of staff members felt that were had not been sufficient support / training provided.

A very large majority of staff reported an increased skill in using all ICT/ digital learning resources that are in use throughout the school.

The PDST had contacted Mr O' Boyle on 12/9/2020 offering school support for the current school year. Following meetings and discussions re remote support, staff were surveyed on 30/11/2020 (Appendix 2) to determine what areas of digital learning could be supported. 46% of staff members selected "Embedding ICT in the classroom". PDST support was provided via zoom on 11/3/2021 to teachers from 3rd to 6th Class and on 29/4/2021 for teachers working from Junior Infants to 2nd Class. The model of this support was to demonstrate the "flipped classroom approach".

Presently, further support is also scheduled for 14/5/2021 to aid the school's digital learning team in updating our Digital Learning Framework which guide us in the setting out of targets for the upcoming 2021/22 school year and the remainder of our current year. There will also be another training session for all teaching staff which will take place before year end. It is the aim of this last session to assist staff members in any areas they may feel require further support. If the staff do not have a preference, the use of I-Pads in the classroom will be the main training topic. This decision was derived from the initial staff survey carried out on 30/11/2020 where 27.3% of staff had selected "Tablet devices for teaching, learning and assessment" as the second most popular option.

In relation to IT support, Mr O'Boyle continues to work with Techsure and his digital learning team to ensure support is provided to staff members. Staff members can now access remote IT support through contacting Techsure directly if Mr O'Boyle or any other members of staff are unable to resolve the issue.

While the findings of this report have deemed that there have been positive developments in terms of digital learning within Scoil Bhríde, we will continue to set new targets within our

annual DLF document to ensure this progress continues to be made. Feedback from all stakeholders will be held in high regard as we strive to develop the use of our digital resources in teaching and learning for the future.

OUR SELF-EVALUATION REPORT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN

In the last year, we have looked at teaching and learning in our school to find out what we are doing well. This is what we discovered:

High level of engagement from our pupils.

Kind dedicated and professional staff.

High level of staff engagement at a local level and with PDST in CPD around ICT, Literacy and Gaeilge during the school closure.

Covid Response plan was very successful. Staggered breaks worked well, hand hygiene, staggered starts and finish.

The Accelerated Reader programme was introduced to the school after considerable effort by the Accelerated Reader team in upskilling and preparing books for the programme. This is still in pilot phase.

The advance of the Digital learning Strategy went well. The enforced school closure due to Covid 19 saw a need for staff to upskill in Seesaw. Teachers supported each other and in house tutorials between staff for other staff worked well.

Spellings for me was piloted this year. We are looking at changes we can make to the program for next year.

STEM Pilot will be completed by 4th class. This was supported by the PDST.

Literacy plan is being updated.

SPHE plan updated.

Upskilling in literacy and Gaeilge with PDST was useful and helped inform decisions for policy changes and Gaelbhreach targets.

Updated child safeguarding, anti-bullying, critical incident and health and safety policies.

Bua Na Cainte was introduced to 5th class.

Student Council continued later in the year outdoors. As a result of Covid 19, the elected student reps from last year continued and new representatives will be elected next year.

The introduction of Aladdin Connect in 2019/20 has been very helpful in the administration of the school.

Literacy Lift off was postponed along with Early Intervention programmes due to Covid 19 safety protocols.

Plans for a two-year cycle for SESE and areas of literacy to further support teachers in multi grade class were decided upon.

The In-school management team engaged with CSL (Centre of School Leadership) in group coaching sessions.

This is what we did to find out what we were doing well, and what we could do better:

Handwriting was identified as a priority. Subcommittees researched and a pilot will take place in 3rd and 4th class next year.

Parent survey during the school closure. 75% expressed concern about wellbeing because of covid. This is the rationale behind wellbeing being the School Self Evaluation topic for 2021/22.

Staff input and survey into the curriculum planning changes.

Use of PIEW planning framework (Pilot, Implementation, Embedding, Waiting List)

Use of CSL coaching by the ISLM team.

This is what we are now going to work on:

Wellbeing plan for School Improvement for next year.

Music Generation project for next year for the whole school supplemented by the BOM and PC.

Continued pilot of the Accelerated reader programme.

Handwriting pilot in 3rd and 4th class.

Spellings for Me pilot to continue in 3rd and 4th.

Following meetings with the PDST the digital learning framework will look at the theme of story telling and use digital resources to aid storytelling in literacy. Support will be provided by the PDST in term one of next year.

Following a meeting with the Digital Learning Team and Facebook grants the school will apply for the Facebook community grant next September.

Next year we plan to bring back Literacy Lift off and Early Intervention programmes because of staff c19 vaccinations.

Inclusion will restart in September 2021 for all pupils in Coisceimeanna.

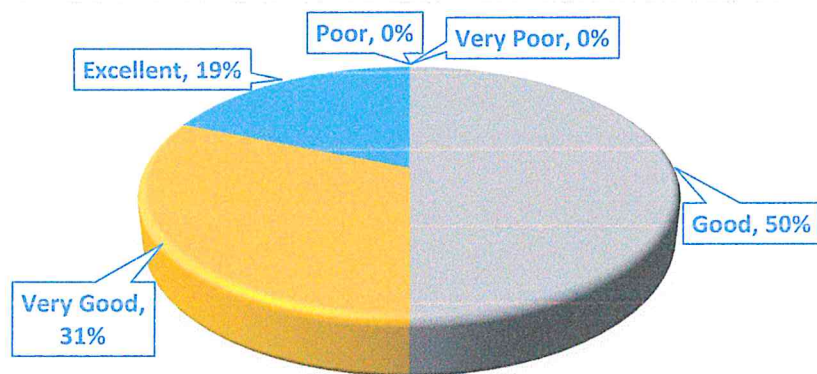
Appendix 1

Digital Learning Staff Survey 23/4/2021

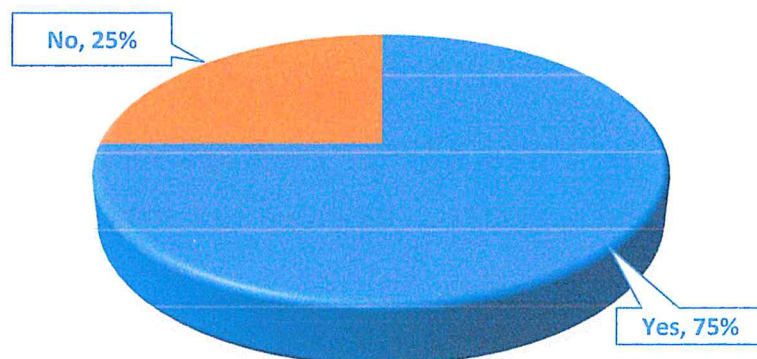
1. With 1 being the lowest and 5 the highest, what number would best describe your skill level in the use of ICT and digital learning prior to the beginning of our 2019/20 school year?

Average staff skill level: 3.13

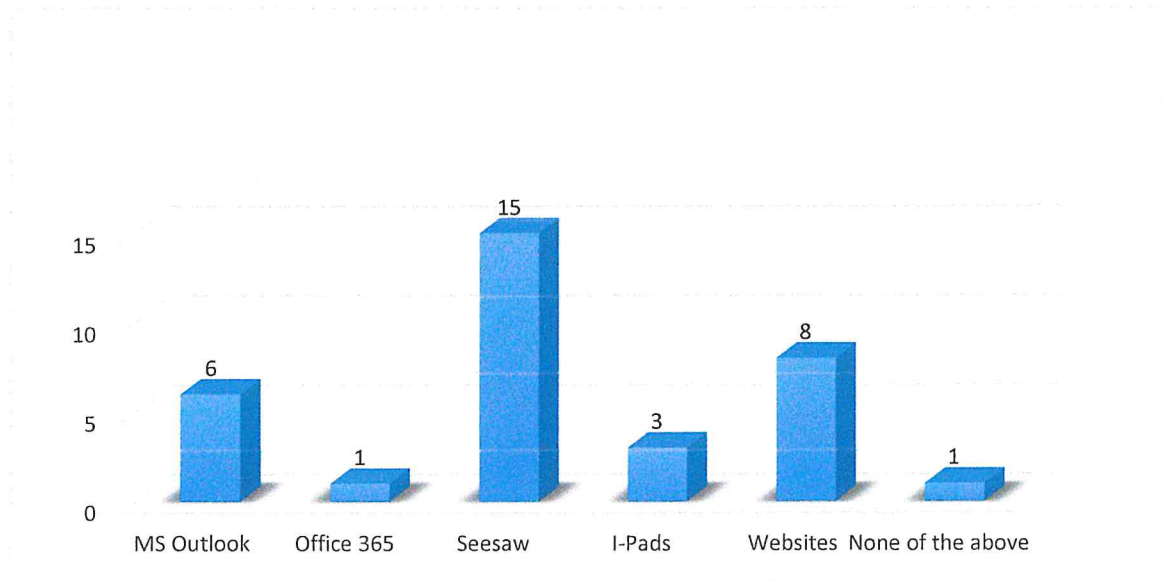
2. How would you best describe the level of support that was provided to digital learning and ICT since the beginning the school year 2019/20 to present day?



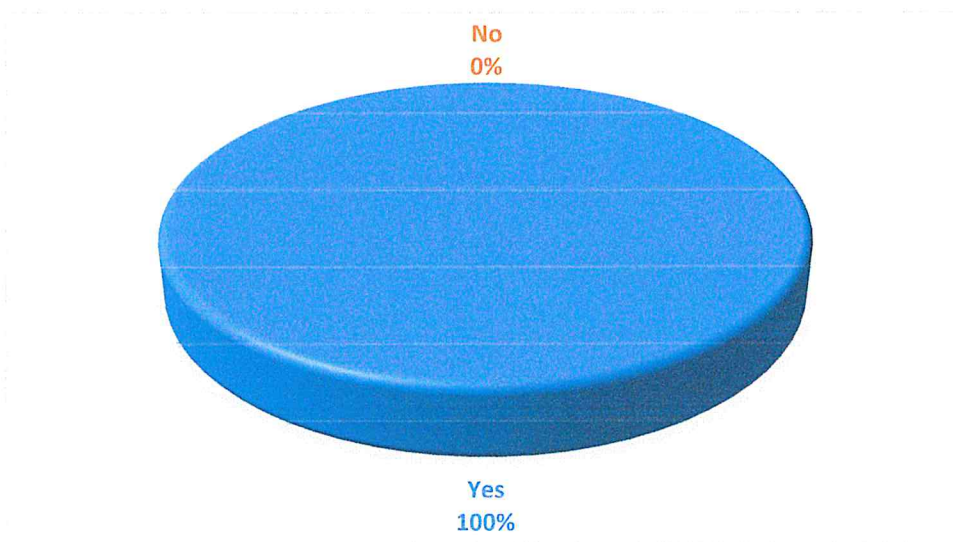
3. Do you feel you have received enough training / support since the beginning of the school year 2019/20 to present day?



4. In what areas, if any, of digital learning and ICT do you feel you have upskilled since the beginning of the school year 2019/20 to present day?



5. Do you feel your skills in the use of ICT and digital learning have improved since the beginning of the school year 2019/20 to present day?

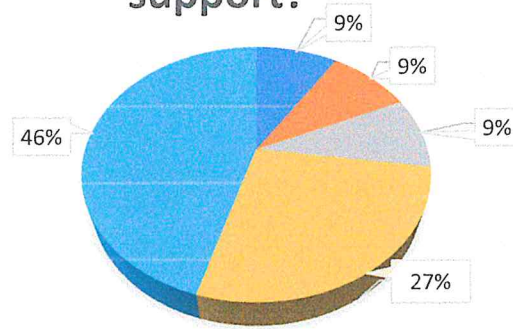


6. With 1 being the lowest and 5 the highest, what number would best describe your current skill level in the use of ICT and digital learning?

Average staff skill level: 3.75

Appendix 2

In what area of digital learning would like support?



- Blended/distance learning methodologies and platforms
- Supporting high risk students remotely with digital strategi
- Digital learning planning / Contingency planning
- Tablet devices for teaching, learning and assessment
- Embedding ICT in the classroom