St Louis High School

Annual Digital Learning Plan

School Year 2024/2025

This document records the outcomes of our current digital learning plan, including targets and the actions we will implement to improve teaching, learning and assessment practices using digital tools. This plan was informed by the Department of Education's 'Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027' and the Digital Learning Framework.

1.1 School Details:

St. Louis High School

Rathmines

All girls secondary school – 660 students approximately

1.2 School Digital Learning Vision:

The vision for Digital Learning in St. Louis High School includes the following:

Learners

- Accept ownership of their learning – involving the ability to become self-directed learners.
- Achieve personal learning goals and succeed in various learning activities.
- Develop new forms of learning and collaboration to support different ways of learning.
- Actively engage in learning – both in and out of school.
- Use digital technology critically and ethically.

Teachers
- Take a more facilitative role, providing learner–centred guidance and feedback, and engaging more frequently in exploratory and team-building activities with the learners.
- Support an enquiry-based process and enable learners to work on solving complex real-world problems by engaging in collaborative project-based learning activities that go beyond the classroom.
- Support learners to create and innovate so that they are engaged in managing their own learning goals.
- Accept ownership of their own professional learning and where possible, participate in learning communities that make extensive use of technology.

School
- Develop policies and practices for the safe and ethical use of digital technologies by all members of the school community.
- Support inclusion and the individual learning needs of all students.
- Support the existing vision for learning, teaching and assessment practices within the school.
- Strengthen its existing relationships with the wider community, both local and global, and in particular, connecting more with parents/guardians and students in their homes through the use of digital technology.

Parents/Guardians
- Collaborate with and participate in school activities and programmes using digital technologies.
- Assist with workshops on Digital Technology and Internet Safety.
- Assist the guidance department with Careers Day and other events in school.
- Support the school with feedback on the digital learning plan and how St Louis High School can improve under the Three Pillars identified in the 'Digital Strategy for Schools 2027'.

The Digital Learning Strategy in St. Louis High School will ensure that:

- All learners will be supported to reach their full potential.
- All learners will be supported to have appropriate and equal access to digital technologies, in particular individuals at risk of educational disadvantage and those with additional learning needs.

- The use of digital technology becomes a core component of the educational journey as basic literacy and numeracy skills are with a deliberate and increased use of digital technology in teaching, learning and assessment.
- All teachers are supported to further embed the use of digital technologies in tehie classrooms to support all learners in a safe, responsible and ethical way.

1.3 Brief account of our strengths with regard to digital technologies for teaching, learning and assessment in our school:

Pillar 1 – Teaching and Learning

The integration of digital technologies is embedded across the school to support teaching learning and assessment. Subject departments are encouraged to reflect on digital technology integration at subject department planning meetings and CPD is actively promoted and encouraged. We have introduced 'Digital Connect' peer training at staff meetings. This affords all staff the opportunity to share digital learning experiences with colleagues. This year, we had feedback on the 'Nurture' assessment tool, Artificial Intelligence and how teachers are incorporating this in the classroom, Canva, Padlet, Excel and OneNote. All staff have engaged with Wriggle Connect and have completed five hours of bespoke training using O365.

From March 2020, MS Teams and OneNote are the primary Teaching, Learning, Assessment and Communication tools for school management, teachers, students and parents. The school actively promotes the ethical use of digital technologies throughout junior cycle and senior cycle programmes. Students will explore digital learning themes as part of SPHE, IT and Self-Management and Social Education.

Pillar 2 – Digital Technology/Infrastructure

All classrooms in SLHS have access to the Internet and a data projector. There are two computer rooms available to all subject teachers on a booking system. This year, the school has invested in three interactive whiteboards which it is hoped will further enhance the teaching and learning experiences for students. As part of the SSE process a review will be conducted next year to assess if further investment in these interactive boards will be considered.

St Louis High School employs Microsoft Office 365 as the main Teaching, Learning, Assessment and Communication platform. The school endeavours to educate all stakeholders in relation to climate change and therefore actively encourages a move from textbooks and paper resources, to digital versions of the same content where possible. Management and staff are also using Office 365 as the main online communication tool. There are no longer significant demand on the two dedicated computer rooms. Instead, students are encouraged to bring

their own devices – either laptop, tablet or mobile phone. There is also a digital bundle available to students through the service provider, Wriggle.

Pillar 3 – Looking to the future: policy, research and digital leadership
The challenge for this year is to further develop the digital skills of both staff and students, in order to embed digital technologies as a teaching, learning and assessment tool, and to exploit the functionality of MS Office 365 to meet the needs of all the school community. As part of the SSE process next year, the digital learning team would like to research how the key stakeholders; learners, teachers and parents, are using digital technologies to support teaching, learning, assessment and communication with school. The school is committed to inculcating a learner-centred approach where all learners develop the skillset to negotiate this complex digital world. All policy decisions regarding digital technologies will assess how the learning experience and learner outcomes can improve.

Digital Leadership will be actively promoted with staff and learners. A Digital Leader programme will be established in TY promoting student leadership. TY Digital Leaders will support first-year students with all issues relating to technology. A support team will be established, and training will be available to all students who would like to participate. The objective is to promote Digital Technology.

All staff will be actively encouraged to join the digital learning team, and all are welcome to attend our meetings. The 'Digital Hub' on Teams is an excellent example of 'Digital Learning in Action' as all staff actively use the hub to share resources, collaborate with colleagues, promote digital learning CPD, post all technical issues and offer guidance and support to colleagues how to resolve these issues.

2. The focus of this Digital Learning Plan
We undertook a digital learning evaluation in our school during the 23/24. We evaluated our progress using the following sources of evidence:
- Focus groups with Digital Learning Team
- Focus groups with Subject Departments
- Engagement with Wriggle Connect
- Engagement with the Digital Hub
- Monitoring of technical issues and recovery times

2.1 Our previous digital learning plan(s) led to the following developments:
- Introduction of the Digital Hub.
- Wriggle Connect – bespoke O365 training for all staff.
- Additional investment in the school device rental scheme supporting our most vulnerable students.
- Introduction of the Digital Connect concept – encouraging staff to support staff in their Digital Learning journey.

- Upgrading of the school Wi-Fi.
- Upgrading of all data projectors in the school – all data projectors are Wi-Fi enabled and can connect to teachers' devices.

2.2 This is what we are going to focus on to improve our digital learning practice further
In accordance with the Digital Learning Strategy St Louis High School will focus on:

- Actively promoting the use of the Digital Hub. Encouraging all staff to actively collaborate and share digital learning experiences.
- Promoting our 'Digital Connect' strategy. Encouraging all staff to share Digital Learning experiences at staff meetings.
- Building learner and staff digital leadership teams. The objective of these teams will be to promote the use of digital learning tools to support teaching and learning, identify issues with digital learning infrastructure and engage and research informing the school's digital learning policy.

- Expand the school's device rental scheme. The school has two chrome book trolleys and one iPad trolley, available for the device rental scheme. This scheme is invaluable to our most vulnerable students in SLHS. Our school is committed to promoting our ethos of inclusion and therefore recognizing how the digital divide has impacted on so many of our students. The school is most fortunate to have the device scheme in place and will continue to promote and develop this scheme where appropriate

3. Digital Learning Action Plan

Dimension:PP Teaching and Learning	Domain: 1 – Learner Outcomes

Standard: Students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and understanding required by the postprimary curriculum

Statement(s) of Practice:
Students use appropriate digital technologies to foster their active, creative and critical engagement in attaining challenging learning outcomes. Students use digital technologies to collect evidence and record progress. Students use digital technologies to collect evidence, record progress, evaluate and reflect, and to create new solutions and/or products.

TARGET(S): *(These are generally based on learners acquiring new knowledge, skills and/or attitudes as well as the method of attainment. They should lead to improved learner outcomes).*

- Establish a 'Digital Leadership Team' promoting peer learning and technical support for all learners.
- Induct all first-year students on O365. Offer support, guidance and training as part of SPHE and wellbeing programmes.
- Foster a culture of collaborative learning practice throughout the school – encouraging peer learning within the year group and across year groups.

Actions are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timebound (SMART) activities that will be required to achieve that target.

ACTION (What needs to be done?)	CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS (What are the desired outcomes?)	PERSONS RESPONSIBLE (Who is to do it?)	TIMEFRAME (When is it to be done by?)	ACTION COMPLETED?
All first-year students will be set up with O365 account and will receive training on how to use the applications.	All first-year students will be able to: • Send and receive emails • Join a Teams call • Submit an assignment on Teams • Understand online etiquette when using school apps • Understand online ethics when using school apps	The Digital Learning Team will support all first-year students with this action TY Digital Leaders will assist all first-year students with training and technology support. A mentor system will be established which will be led by Digital Learning teacher, Danielle Mac Lennan	September – November	

	• Prepare a PowerPoint presentation • Create files and folders on their OneDrive • Upskill in MSWord, Excel, Sway			
A Digital Leader programme will be established in TY promoting student leadership. TY Digital Leaders will support first-year students with all issues relating to technology. A support team will be established, and training will be available to all students who would like to participate. The objective is to promote Digital Technology.	• 12 Digital Leaders will be appointed in TY supporting all first-year students with onboarding to O365 applications • A culture of digital learning collaborative practice will be established within the student body	The Digital Learning Staff Team and the TY Digital leaders.	September – May	
BYOD – The school will continue to develop our BYOD policy. Students may bring their own device or avail of the device rental scheme. The school actively supports our most vulnerable students and is deeply committed to reducing the digital divide amongst our learners.	• Every learner in the school will have access to a device and will be proficient in accessing all technology necessary to support their learning journey.	The senior leadership team in conjunction with the care team and year heads.	September - May	
Digital Connect – the school will build on the wonderful collaborative culture to enhance the sharing and collaborative practice relating to digital learning. Staff will be actively encouraged to share best practice as to how digital technologies are	• A culture of digital learning collaborative best practice will be established.	The senior leadership team in conjunction with all staff.	September – May	

supporting teaching, learning and assessment. Infrastructure SSE Audit - The digital learning team will evaluate how the investment in digital technologies is perceived by key stakeholder, teachers, parents, guardians, learners. This research will inform policy decisions moving forward. Expand the use of the 'Digital Hub' in promoting digital learning across the school.	• All stakeholders will be asked to complete a comprehensive research survey on their user experiences in relation to digital technologies in SLHS. • All staff will actively use the Digital Hub to share resources and any useful links promoting digital learning. All staff should record any technical issues with devices or equipment on the IT log. This log is checked daily by the office and senior leadership teams and escalated to our technical support service provider when necessary.	The digital learning team and the senior leadership team. Senior leadership team Office team IPAK – technical support	September – December September – December	

MONITORING & EVALUATION PROCEDURES
How are we going to monitor our progress? Do we need to make adjustments? Have we achieved our target(s)? How do we know?

End-of-Year Review:

- The Digital Learning Team met on four occasions during the year.

- The Digital Learning Team administered a student survey and a staff survey to gather evidence on the progress of the school's digital strategy in 2023. This survey informed policy and practice decisions in the 23/24. See appendix for details on research conducted.
- Whole staff training with Wriggle Connect. All staff have completed 5 hours, bespoke training, on the platform.
- Whole staff training facilitated by staff members. Digital Learning slots were available during three staff meetings during the year. Staff members delivered training on Padlet, Canva, Excel and One Note.
- The shared online space, the Digital Hub, was further promoted and all staff have access to this shared digital learning space. New staff members receive training as part of Induction.
- Nurture Assessment platform was introduced and tested by a core team of staff. As part of an extensive evaluation process and consultation with the Nurture team, it was agreed that Nurture was not the best fit as an assessment tool moving forward. All staff were consulted as part of this pilot initiative however, the research conducted outlined that the enhanced features in Teams and on VSWare are sufficient at this time and no further investment is necessary in assessment tools.