

Scoil an Chlochair

Our Annual Digital Learning Plan

School Year 2026/2027

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:

- Scoil an Chlochair, Kilbeggan is a vertical, co-educational and rural national school located in Westmeath close to the border with Offaly. There is currently a pupil enrolment of 241. There are 14 teachers, 3 of whom work in special education contexts and 2 who work in our two ASD classes. There are 4 Inclusion Support Assistants (ISAs). The school derives much of its population from the surrounding parish, with some pupils travelling from the surrounding towns to our school each day.

1.2 School Digital Learning Vision:

- The vision of our school community for digital learning is to realise the potential of digital technologies to create 21st Century learning experiences that enrich pupils' learning and develop their transferable skills. These learning experiences should empower pupils to become engaged thinkers, active learners, knowledge constructors and global citizens. The Board of Management, parents and the staff of Scoil an Chlochair will work together to embed the effective use of digital technologies in our teaching, learning and assessment practises to ensure that young people emerge from primary school equipped with the competencies to navigate the new digital world.

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

- Scoil an Chlochair teachers are currently using digital technologies to support teaching and learning, but not to assess teaching and learning. We aim to focus more on using digital technologies to ethically and effectively manage, monitor and record pupil progress and as a result enhance differentiated teaching and learning.
- We have built good links with Ericsson's in Athlone and have received training in coding and the use of Microbit's. We have also visited the campus on a number of occasions in the past.
- The senior classes in the school are becoming proficient in the use of block coding and robotics through the Lego League project. This competition has close links with our local university Tús Athlone

1.4 Brief account of the school's digital technologies infrastructure:

- In Scoil an Chlochair each teacher has their own laptop and each mainstream classroom has a Promethean Activ Panel. The AEN teachers have a projector and smart board. The school have a 45 Chromebooks with 30 desktop computers and 25 ipads which help to support the embedding of digital technologies into teaching and learning practices and teachers' individual practice.

2. The focus of this Digital Learning Plan

We undertook a digital learning evaluation in our school during the period August 2024 to November 2024. We evaluated our progress using the following sources of evidence:

- Discussion group amongst the student council representatives
- Discussed with teachers in a staff meeting about apps that would enhance teaching and learning in their everyday teaching.
- Teacher checklists

2.1 Our previous digital learning plan(s) led to the following developments:

- We previously focused on assessment in relation to digital portfolios. We specifically looked at Seesaw in relation to teacher and student self assessment. This is still ongoing in classrooms.

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

- We will work on robotics and coding for the Senior Classes and improve their understanding of these concepts. This in turn will be shared amongst the whole school community.
- We will embed book creator, google docs and google slides in each class as a tool for creative writing and for research purposes. It will also be very useful for our many EAL students in Scoil an Chlochair.
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3. Digital Learning Action Plan

Dimension: Teaching and Learning	Domain: 2 – Learner Experiences
Standard: 2.1 Pupils engage purposefully in meaningful learning activities	
Statement(s) of Practice: 2.1 Pupils engage purposefully in meaningful learning activities	
<p>TARGET(S): <i>(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).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils use digital technologies for sourcing, exchanging of information to develop understanding and support basic knowledge creation. <p><i>Actions are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timebound (SMART) activities that will be required to achieve that target.</i></p>	

ACTION <i>(What needs to be done?)</i>	CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS <i>(What are the desired outcomes?)</i>	PERSONS RESPONSIBLE <i>(Who is to do it?)</i>	TIMEFRAME <i>(When is it to be done by?)</i>	ACTION COMPLETED?
At some staff meetings 5-10 minutes will be given for a TeachMeet to share new apps, digital tools which will support digital learning in the school.	Sharing of good practice and challenges at staff meetings. Review data collected regarding pupil surveys and update digital learning plans .	ICT Co-ordinator Teachers	Each staff meeting	
Pupils will create ebooks at least once a term incorporating other content creation applications. Infants -2nd Class: will use book creator app to consolidate learning in curricular areas. 3rd - 6th class: Pupils will create a digital books on a chosen SESE topics/	By the end of each term, each class/pupil will have created at least one finished ebook. Teaches will embed digital technologies into teaching, learning and assessment.	Students Class teachers SEN teachers	Summer Term 2027	

Curricular content using the Book Creator app independently or in small groups.				
Pupils when sourcing information for projects will use safe reputable sources of information. Sources include Britannica Schools and DK Find Out. They will use Kiddle as a search engine. Images students use will be from Creative Commons, Pixabay, Pics4learning.	Children will be aware of where to source information images for projects. Pupils will use images in projects.	Students Class teachers	When the students are undertaking independent project work in class.	
Pupils will present digital books to their peers.	Students peer and self assessment during presentations.	Students	Termly peer assessments	
Senior students will collaborate with Westmeath County Council STEM co-ordinator in relation to STEM projects including Lego, VEX robotics as a co-operative learning tool	Students will work each term on a specific goal/project. To be decided with consultation with the STEM co-ordinator	Students		
ICT Committee will meet every month to evaluate progress and give feedback on what is going well in the senior classes		Students/ICT Co-ordinator	Monthly meetings	
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?				

Additional Focus for 2026/2027:

We will establish a pupil-led ICT Committee comprising representatives from 2nd to 6th Class. This committee will support the promotion of digital learning across the school, assist with basic troubleshooting, and contribute ideas for the safe and effective use of technology. We will also plan for the introduction of the Coding Ireland programme to be rolled out in senior classes (3rd–6th) beginning in September 2027. This will further enhance pupils' computational thinking, problem-solving skills and engagement with coding.

Additional Actions:

ACTION: Establish and run an ICT Committee with pupils from 2nd–6th Class.
CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS: ICT Committee formed, meets regularly, supports digital initiatives, promotes pupil leadership.
PERSONS RESPONSIBLE: ICT Co-ordinator, Class Teachers.
TIMEFRAME: Established by October 2026 and ongoing.

ACTION: Prepare for implementation of Coding Ireland programme.
CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS: Teachers trained, resources ready, implementation plan in place.
PERSONS RESPONSIBLE: ICT Co-ordinator, Senior Class Teachers.
TIMEFRAME: Throughout 2026/2027.

ACTION: Implement Coding Ireland programme in 3rd–6th Classes.
CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS: Structured coding lessons, improved computational thinking.
PERSONS RESPONSIBLE: Class Teachers.
TIMEFRAME: Beginning September 2027.

ICT Committee (2026/2027)

An ICT Committee will be established with pupils from 2nd–6th Class. The committee will promote digital learning, support teachers and pupils, and encourage safe and responsible use of technology.

Roles may include:

- Digital Leaders – support use of devices in class
- Tech Support – assist with basic troubleshooting
- Content Creators – help showcase digital work
- Online Safety Ambassadors – promote safe internet use

Coding Ireland Programme

The Coding Ireland programme will be introduced for 3rd–6th classes from September 2027. This will support the development of computational thinking, creativity and problem-solving skills.

Updated Action Plan Summary

Action	Success Criteria	Responsible	Timeframe
ICT Committee	Committee formed, meets regularly, pupil leadership evident	ICT Coordinator, Teachers	Oct 2026 onwards
Coding Ireland Prep	Teachers ready, resources prepared	ICT Coordinator, Senior Teachers	2026/2027
Coding Ireland Rollout	Coding taught in senior classes	Teachers	Sept 2027

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