

Digital Learning Strategy 2023-2025



Introduction

The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the way we live and work.

When school and establishment buildings were required to close in February 2020, the interruption to young people's education was mitigated by the use of digital technologies to deliver learning and teaching. Subsequent periods of isolation for staff and young people have highlighted the need to develop the digital literacy of staff and learners and reinforced the continuing need to use digital technologies to support learning.

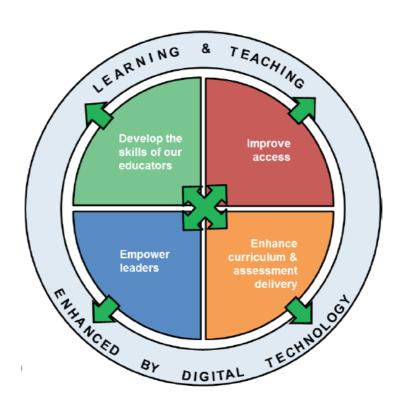
The rapid move to online learning during the pandemic saw a seismic shift in how digital technologies were embraced by educators and accessed by learners. We want to harness these experiences and drive forward further improvements that will help all of our children and young people reach their potential, irrespective of age, stage and socio-economic background.

Clackmannanshire schools and establishments were already on their way to embedding digital technologies, as outlined in the previous Clackmannanshire Education Service Digital Learning Strategy and Implementation Plan 2019-2022. The pandemic merely accelerated the rate at which we implemented the objectives therein.

However, it is evident that we need to build upon the developments we have made in the use of technology as we move forward, to ensure our children and young people continue to experience high quality, engaging and motivating learning experiences both within and outwith school. It is also clear that this use of digital technologies has become key to the future economic prosperity of Scotland and we have an obligation to ensure young people are equipped with skills for learning, life and work. Whilst we acknowledge the importance of digital skills for adults, this is particularly so for children and young people for whom a digital world is all they have ever known.

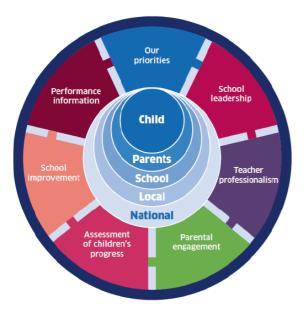
The Digital Learning Strategy 2023-2025 runs parallel to Clackmannanshire Council's Digital Strategy 2019-2025 and is underpinned by the Scottish Government's commitment to delivering excellence and equity in Scottish education.

This strategy is focused on supporting schools and establishments to be ambitious, innovative and forward thinking about working together to make a difference to all children and young people. It is important that our staff continue to collaborate with others for their own professional learning and to strengthen our capacity to develop digital skills within our children and young people.



Rationale - Aims of our Strategy

The Digital Learning Strategy 2023-2025 is underpinned by the National Improvement Framework's long term commitment to a collaborative approach to improving Scotland's education system and to achieving excellence and equity through raising attainment and improving outcomes.



Key priorities of the National Improvement Framework

- Placing the human rights and needs of every child and young person at the centre of education
- Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing
- Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children and young people
- Improvement in skills and sustained, positive schoolleaver destinations for all young people
- Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy

It is recognised that digital learning is constantly evolving and schools and establishments must embrace the developments brought about by the speed of change associated with digital technologies. It is clear that there are many existing practices and approaches which work well in our educational establishments in Clackmannanshire and should be maintained. Our strategy aims to build upon the good work that is already taking place and our priorities align with the four objectives of Scottish Government's Digital Learning and Teaching Strategy for Scotland:

Skills

Develop the skills and confidence of educators in the appropriate and effective use of digital technology to support learning and teaching

Access

Improve access to digital technology for all learners

Curriculum

Ensure that digital technology is a central consideration in all areas of curriculum and assessment delivery

Leadership

Empower leaders of change to drive innovation and investment in digital technology for learning and teaching

Implementation of our Strategy

Priority 1 - Skills

We will continue to develop educators' skills in appropriate and effective use of digital technology to support learning and teaching for the purpose of equipping young people with skills for learning, life and work. Skills development is also an integral component of the work Clackmannanshire is undertaking as part of the City Region Deal, which seeks to develop the metaskills of all young people. There is a need to build upon recent progress, working with staff, learners and families to embed a culture of digital learning and teaching across the curriculum.

'No significant learning can occur without a significant relationship' (Dr James Comer, 1995) It is recognised that it will be our educators and not the digital technology itself that will be key to delivering improved outcomes for children and young people. It is vital that all staff have the skills, confidence and knowledge to deploy digital technologies effectively. A commitment to continuous professional learning and the investment in that learning is the foundation of improvement. Working together and sharing knowledge and practice across Forth Valley and Scotland will support our longer term aims. We will form a working group, with representatives from our ELCs, primary and secondary schools, to ensure a consistent approach to embedding digital technologies across Clackmannanshire schools and establishments.

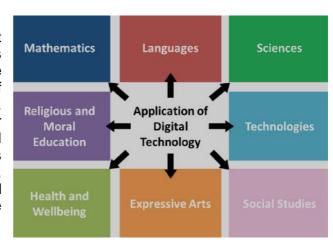
Priority 2 - Access

Digital technology gives young people access to their learning 24/7 and we have had to change the way we teach in line with the way young people now learn. Google Classroom is currently the preferred learning platform for schools and establishments and this provides teachers and learners with a range of high quality applications including Gmail, Google Docs and Slides, Calendar and Forms. Google Classroom enables teachers and learners to communicate, share resources, and set homework and learning tasks.

Our 10 year Digital Device Deployment Programme, launched in 2021/2022, is well underway and aims to provide Clackmannanshire learners with their own individual device to support learning. The equity afforded by this 1:1 rollout is supporting schools and establishments to provide an equal opportunity in learning for every young person, regardless of their needs or relative level of disadvantage. To ensue our learners with ASN are supported appropriately, we have a significant number of ipads which have also been distributed. All learners are enabled to access teacher support, collaborate with peers and use their devices to learn and present their learning in diverse formats. By providing digital devices, we can ensure that young people can access their learning within and outwith the building. The deployment project will run for 10 years; the first four years sees the multiple year group device rollout and then years 5-10 will focus on maintaining the deployed devices through replacement and refresh cycles.

Priority 3 - Curriculum

All educators have a responsibility to ensure that technology is a central consideration in all areas of curriculum, assessment and delivery. The use of digital technology must be an integral part of our curriculum offering, rather than an 'add-on'. We will ensure that aspects of Curriculum for Excellence relating to the use of digital technology and the development of digital skills are relevant, ambitious and forward looking, whilst committing to supporting, developing and embedding approaches to assessment that make effective use of digital technology.



This includes actively working with SQA to help develop and improve approaches to digital assessment and supporting establishments in delivering the revised technologies area of Curriculum for Excellence, with particular focus on digital literacy and Computing Science. Additionally, we will

support education establishments to identify how digital technology can be used to enhance learning and teaching across all curriculum areas, including the further development of consortia arrangements across our Academies and the Regional Improvement Collaborative.

Priority 4 – Leadership

Education Scotland has established a clearly defined vision of the roles of learner, teacher and head teacher and local authority in creating the culture which encourages and supports the development of digital skills. We will develop local strategies that will help educational leaders to ensure that all learners can benefit from an education enhanced by digital technology.

We also recognise the skills and expertise of some of our own practitioners and will be actively seeking to identify existing expertise within the staff complement and ensure that their knowledge is shared with others across our establishments. Additionally, we will seek to further provide leadership opportunities by encouraging them to deliver aspects of our training.

We aim to appoint a digital lead in each school and establishment to support with this. By providing access to a range of career long professional learning opportunities for educational leaders, we will enable them to make informed decisions about the best use of digital technology to enrich education and promote digital skills development. We will ensure that cyber resilience, responsible digital citizenship and internet safety is central to all digital technology used in our establishments and involve parent councils and parent/carer groups in discussions around the use of digital technology to help realise anytime/anywhere learning.



Clackmannanshire Digital Learning Strategy 2023-2025

	Key Actions	Lead responsibility	Timescale
1.1	Form a working group, with representatives from our ELCs, primary and secondary schools, to ensure a consistent approach to embedding digital technologies across Clackmannanshire schools and establishments.	 Senior Manager with responsibility for ICT Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact 	Sessions 2023 - 2024 and 2024-2025
	Ensure that all establishment and cluster plans include aspects of digital development.	 Senior Manager with responsibility for ICT Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact 	Sessions 2023 - 2024 and 2024-2025
	Identify a consistent approach to the development of digital skills both amongst staff and learners by offering a range of professional learning opportunities to maximise the use of technologies to support learning and teaching.	 Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact Education Scotland 	Session 2023 - 2024
1.4	Create a calendar of Career Long Professional Learning sessions for staff which enable them to build upon their knowledge.	 Digital Working Group Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact 	Session 2023 - 2024
1.5	Work together with our Forth Valley West Lothian Regional Improvement Collaborative, sharing knowledge and practice.	 Senior Manager with responsibility for ICT RIC 	Session 2023 - 2024
1.6	Raise staff awareness of GDPR requirements around the use of digital applications.	 Senior Manager with responsibility for ICT Data Protection Officers 	Session 2023 - 2024
1.7	Develop the involvement of and support for staff and learner digital champions.	Digital Working Group	Session 2023 - 2024
1.8	To implement a digital system for excursion and trip approval, replacing the current paper based system.	 Senior Manager with responsibility for ICT Health & Safety Manager 	Session 2023 - 2024

Pric	Priority 2 – To improve access/remote access to a range of digital technology for all learners and families			
	Key Actions	Lead responsibility	Timescale	
2.1	Continue to lead the Digital Device 1:1 Deployment Programme and track the impact of the project.	Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact	Sessions 2023 - 2024 2024-2025	
2.2	To raise the profile of online offerings, including Google Educator and Apple Teacher and ensure practitioners are kept abreast of any new digital developments to support learning.	 Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact 	Session 2023 - 2024	
2.3	Review of possible impact of moving to a digital delivery for some aspects of the consortium delivery of subjects in the senior phase.	 Senior Manager with responsibility for ICT Heads of establishments 	Session 2023 - 2024	
2.4	Ensure a targeted approach to widening pupil access to digital devices to support learning in class and at home, to reflect our commitment to digital equity and inclusion.	 Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact Education Scotland 	Session 2023 - 2024	
2.5	Expand family learning programmes established to mitigate inequity of support at home.	 Community Learning and Development Team Virtual Headteacher 	Session 2023 - 2024	
2.6	Raise parent/carer awareness of the use of digital technologies and how to support children and young people to maximise their potential.	 Senior Manager with responsibility for ICT Digital Working Group Parent Council Chairs 	Session 2023 - 2024	
2.7	Monitor the use of Google Classroom to ensure it is being utilised fully.	 Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact 	Sessions 2023 - 2024 2024-2025	
2.8	Develop a process of regular review of the digital status in establishments, including identification of infrastructure changes and key digital developments.	 Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact 	Sessions 2023 - 2024 2024-2025	

Pric	Priority 3 – To ensure that digital technology is evident in all areas of curriculum design, delivery and assessment.				
	Key Actions	Lead responsibility	Timescale		
3.1	To support establishments to identify how digital technology can be used to enhance learning and teaching across all curriculum areas and to ensure that the use of digital technology is a central consideration in the planning and delivery of learning and teaching across Curriculum for Excellence.	 Digital Working Group Digital Leads Education Scotland RIC 	Sessions 2023 - 2024 and 2024-2025		
3.2	Create a clear vision of what planning for effective digital learning and assessment looks like for establishments, ensuring equity is considered.	Digital Working GroupEducation ScotlandRIC	Sessions 2023 - 2024 and 2024-2025		
3.3	Review of use of digital devices/platforms to support assessment within learning. Work to identify opportunities to enhance assessment using digital technologies.	 Digital Working Group Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact SQA Liaison manager 	Session 2023 - 2024		
3.4	To evaluate how schools and establishments are using digital technologies to deliver learning and teaching, including a subject specific focus in secondaries.	 Digital Working Group Digital Leads Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact 	Session 2023 - 2024		
3.5	Create detailed digital skills progression pathways for the coverage of digital technologies at BGE and partnerships with college.	Digital Working GroupLocal Employability PartnershipForth Valley College	Session 2023 - 2024		
3.6	Support staff to access and apply relevant findings from research and professional learning which has a focus on digital learning and teaching to support improvement.	Digital Working GroupDigital Leads	Session 2023 - 2024		

Prio	Priority 4 – To empower leaders to drive forward and further develop innovation and investment in digital technology.					
	Key Actions	Lead responsibility	Timescale			
4.1	To provide access to a range of career long professional learning opportunities for educational leaders, allowing them to make informed decisions about the best use of digital technology to enrich education and promote digital skills development.	Digital Working GroupDigital LeadsEducation ScotlandRIC	Sessions 2023 - 2024 and 2024-2025			
4.2	Appoint a digital lead in each school and establishment, to support staff with the implementation of digital technologies and to evaluate the impact of the strategy.	 Senior Manager with responsibility for ICT Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact Heads of Establishments 	Sessions 2023 - 2024 and 2024-2025			
4.3	Identify existing expertise within the staff complement and ensure that their knowledge is shared with others across our establishments.	 Senior Manager with responsibility for ICT Heads of Establishments 	Session 2023 - 2024			
4.4	Link digital skills development and CLPL to the collaborative approaches identified with partners.	Digital Working GroupDigital LeadsEducation ScotlandRIC	Session 2023 - 2024			
4.5	Ensure that cyber resilience and internet safety are central to all digital technology use in the establishment.	 Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact Heads of Establishments 	Session 2023 - 2024			
4.6	To monitor the use of digital technologies and evaluate the impact of the Education Digital Strategy 2023-2025.	 Digital Working Group Digital Leads Senior Manager with responsibility for ICT Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact 	Sessions 2023 - 2024 and 2024-2025			
4.7	To support schools to work towards Digital Schools Awards Scotland.	 Digital Working Group Digital Leads Project Manager Digital Technologies and Glow Key Contact 	Sessions 2023 - 2024 and 2024-2025			