



## Cloontuskert National School

### Our Annual Digital Learning Plan

2025/2026

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](#).

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#### 1.1 School Details:

- Cloontuskert N.S. is a DEIS rural six teacher mixed national school under the patronage of the Catholic Bishop of Elphin. There are currently 82 pupils in the school, four mainstream teachers and a full-time S.E.N. teacher. A second S.E.N. teacher attends the school for 10 hours per week.

#### 1.2 School Digital Learning Vision:

- Cloontuskert National School is a school where moral values such as honesty, fairness, justice, truthfulness, tolerance, concern for and a responsible attitude towards others is fostered and encouraged. Therefore, the staff of the school strives to create a happy, safe environment for the children where they feel secure and included, knowing that if they have concerns, they will be listened to with understanding and respect and that these concerns will be acted upon. The school promotes the development of self-esteem and encourages the child's inner sense of responsibility. Every effort is made so that the children and staff may work together in an environment conducive to learning and where trust is built with the support of the parents/guardians.
- ICT is an essential and dynamic tool in modern education. At Cloontuskert National School, we recognise its vital role in both teaching and learning, as well as its importance in developing key digital skills among our pupils.
- We value the positive impact ICT training has had on our school, particularly in increasing staff engagement and enthusiasm for using technology in the classroom. Our focus remains on continually enhancing the use of ICT to enrich the educational experience. We are committed to fostering a learning environment where pupils grow as confident, capable, and independent users of technology—building on their digital skills year after year.

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

- A lot of progress has been made regarding digital technology with the implementation of the Digital Learning Plan 2022 - 2025
- All class teachers report that they are using digital technology daily
- Pupils and Teachers are quite enthusiastic about digital technology
- Staff members are motivated to engage with CPD
- Teachers are open and willing to enhance their digital learning.

- Staff are willing to share knowledge, ideas and resources.

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

- The principal's office is equipped with a laptop, printer and a photocopier/scanner.
- We currently have 16 iPad and 2 common use laptops in the school with one storage and one charging trolley.
- A second photocopier/printer is in the SEN room
- All laptops and iPads are networked to our own internal network including networked printing.
- Each of the 4 main classrooms have an interactive whiteboard and laptop.
- Our two SEN teachers also have their own laptops.
- There is a fully functional and up to date school website [www.cloontuskertns.ie](http://www.cloontuskertns.ie)
- The school has an active Facebook page.
- Our current broadband provider is Ripplecom, as dictated by Department of Education and Skills Schools Broadband scheme. We have e-fibre broadband and a/c wireless access points circulated around the school to maximise coverage.
- We use Aladdin Connect for all school administration and communication.
- We have Google for Education set up in our school and use a shared drive for all staff.

## **2. The focus of this Digital Learning Plan**

We undertook a digital learning evaluation in our school during the period September 2025 – October 2025. We evaluated our progress using the following sources of evidence:

- Guidance was sought from a PDST facilitator on picking out focus and targets for this year's plan and guidance on using digital technology.
- The views of the children in the Senior Room on the use of Digital Technologies were gathered during a class discussion on school technology.
- A digital learning team is established in the school.

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

- Updated our Acceptable Usage Policy
- Created a new school website
- Adopted Aladdin Connect and set up e-payments and messaging for parents
- Set up Google Suite in Education, including new email addresses for all staff which are shared with parents and the school community.
- All Student Support plans are shared with the relevant staff on Google Drive
- Accessed training around the new Digital Learning Framework with the PDST
- Accessed training around implementing Digital Technology in the school with Oide through a number of onsite visits and meetings with all staff.

- Updated the school Wi-Fi, with higher internet speeds
- Purchased an internet safety training bundle for teachers, parents and children through Cyber School.
- Celebrated Safer Internet Day by inviting the local Community Garda to talk to the children
- Employed an external guest speaker to speak with 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class to talk about social media and being safe online.
- Employed an external IT consultant to act as a support desk when necessary.
- Bought additional digital technologies, Bee Bots etc.
- Updated interactive white board in 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> classroom and installed a new interactive white board in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> classroom.
- Licenses bought for online programmes, Bua na Cainte, Explorers etc.
- Computer and coding classes for a seven-week block annually for 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class.
- Bought a yearly subscription for Maths games, Mangahigh from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class and its renewed annually.

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

- We will set up a Digital Learning Team within our school which will aim to identify digital technologies (apps, websites, software) that continue to support teaching & learning & communicate those deemed as valuable to the school community.
- Continue to be proactive in teaching the children and their parents about online safety.
- We will aim to improve the management of iPads by investigating & researching the suitability of a Management system for the current iPads.
- Book Creator to be implemented and used in all classrooms – mentoring system whereby the Senior children work with the younger children to create books on literacy.

### 3. Digital Learning Action Plan

<b>Dimension:</b> Teaching & Learning	<b>Domain:</b> Learner Outcomes
<p><b>Standard:</b> The teacher has the requisite subject knowledge, pedagogical knowledge and classroom management skills. Students enjoy their learning, are motivated to learn and expect to achieve as learners.</p>	
<p><b>Statement(s) of Practice:</b>            Teachers use a range of digital technologies to design learning activities for their pupils.            Teachers design or adapt learning experiences that incorporate digital technologies and make learning activities relevant and meaningful to support pupils' learning.            Students use appropriate digital technologies to foster active engagement in attaining appropriate learning outcomes.            Students have a positive attitude towards the use of digital technologies and are aware of possible risks and limitations.</p>	
<p><b>TARGET(S):</b> <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"> <li>• Digital technologies to be used by teachers and pupils across all subject areas.</li> <li>• Staff will become more efficient and confident using ICT.</li> <li>• Digital safety module to be completed with all class groups during the school year.</li> </ul>	

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

<b>ACTION</b> (What needs to be done?)	<b>CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS</b> (What are the desired outcomes?)	<b>PERSONS RESPONSIBLE</b> (Who is to do it?)	<b>TIMEFRAME</b> (When is it to be done by?)	<b>ACTION COMPLETED?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To expand the use of digital technologies in delivering the curriculum and ensure that all students experience digital learning activities regularly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers will use a wider variety of interactive programmes when delivering the curriculum.</li> <li>• Students will have access to a greater number of IT devices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class Teachers</li> <li>• Digital Learning Team</li> </ul>	October 2025 – June 2026	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All students should have access to digital technologies at least on two occasions weekly.</li> <li>IT devices will have age-appropriate games and activities</li> <li>All teachers to update their classrooms app lists regularly.</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Book Creator to be used in all classrooms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Senior Pupils will work with the Junior pupils to create books based on Literacy and Maths</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class Teachers</li> <li>Digital Learning Team</li> </ul>	November 2025 – June 2026	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital Safety module to be completed: January to become internet safety month</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All students will have been taught a module on internet safety and risks</li> <li>Tie in with Safer Internet Day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class teachers</li> <li>Digital Learning Team</li> <li>Outside experts if needed necessary</li> </ul>	January 2026	

### 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?

Cuntas Míosuils  
Feedback from Pupils and Teachers  
Feedback at staff Meetings.  
Monitoring Book Creator and displaying the books in the classroom.  
Evaluating Progress in June 2026

## **Communication and Implementation of the Plan**

This plan will be communicated to all parties and will be published on the school website. The Principal in conjunction with the BOM will be responsible for the implementation of this plan.

**Signed:**

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**Chairperson of the BOM**

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**Principal**

**Date: 13th February 2026**