

Drummond Community High School

Digital Learning Policy

March 2023



Digital technology can make a significant contribution towards achieving these priorities. Where our staff are supported through professional development, resources and leadership, digital technology can enrich learning and teaching, help to raise levels of attainment and close the attainment gap. The skillful deployment of digital technology in our schools and early learning settings will also ensure our learners develop a level of general and specialist digital skills that are so vital for learning, life and work in an increasingly digitised world.

Enhancing learning and teaching through the use of digital technology
Scottish Government, 2016

Rationale

The Scottish Government priorities for Education are:

- **excellence through raising attainment:** ensuring that every child achieves the highest standards in literacy and numeracy, set out within Curriculum for Excellence levels, and the right range of skills, qualifications, and achievements to allow them to succeed; and
- **achieving equity:** ensuring that every child has the same opportunity to succeed, with a focus on closing the poverty-related attainment gap.

Delivering excellence and equity is a clear focus at Drummond Community High School. We are committed to ensuring that we do everything we can to raise attainment, close the poverty related gap and improve the life chances of our young people through high quality learning and teaching. We are therefore committed to enhancing learning and teaching using digital technologies.

Aims

At Drummond Community High School we aim to:

- promote the digital skills of our whole school community
- utilise digital technologies to meet the needs of all learners and support them to become more independent learners.
- enhance learning and teaching, ensuring that digital technology is a central consideration in all areas of the curriculum and in assessment
- ensure our learners have access to current digital technologies and resources

Learning and Teaching

At Drummond Community High School we are fully committed to the use of Digital Learning and Technologies to develop, support, supplement and enhance the learning and teaching experience for all our pupils. We are guided by the City of Edinburgh Council Framework for Teaching and Learning: Digital Learning (updated November 2020).

(See Appendix 1 Learning and Teaching for more information.)

Digital Equipment and Resources

Within Drummond Community High School each classroom is equipped with projection equipment or an integrated smartboard and the appropriate software, which all staff are trained in using effectively to enhance learning and teaching. Further to this, we have spheres, an IT suite and a Digital Design Suite which are used to support in STEM, Numeracy and Mathematics and Technology activities.

All pupils have access to 1:1 iPads within their classroom along with individual managed apple ID's (MAIDS) and separate Microsoft usernames and passwords. All staff have individual iPads, individual MAID's as well as separate Microsoft Office usernames and passwords.

Pupils and staff use the media functions on their iPads to support and record learning across the curriculum in and out of school on educational outings.

School Community Digital Skills Development.

Regular opportunities for professional learning for both teaching and non-teaching staff are provided in school to support digital learning and teaching and this continues to be a key focus of our School Improvement Plan (including lessons learned from the COVID pandemic). Staff can access further training and skills development through Edinburgh Learns.

Parents are supported with 'how to' guides and information regarding how to support learning at home online. Guides to support the use of Teams, OneNote, Words as well as Apple applications have been created by the Digital Learning steering group and shared with parents. Home learning is shared via Teams each week and parents are encouraged to engage with this method of communication.

Communication

We are committed to enhancing our communication and engagement with parents and carers using digital technologies and social media. We aim to reduce paper communication to a minimum.

We share information using the school and City of Edinburgh Council websites, social media (Twitter), emails and texts (using Seemis Groupcall).

Cyber Resilience and Internet Safety

In the digital world that our children now live in it is imperative that we understand who our children are talking to and what our children are doing when connected to the internet. Internet Safety is knowing how to maximise the user's personal safety and reduce security risks relating to confidential information and property associated with using the internet.

(See Appendix 2 Cyber Resilience and Internet Safety)

Digital Leaders

We aim to have a pupil Digital Leaders group that are involved in supporting learners in other classes with the use of digital technologies and have a say in improvements and the purchase of resources to enhance our provision. Digital Leaders will work alongside and support our Primary schools in the Drummond Learning Community in their Digital work.

Children's Rights

Drummond Community High School is a Rights Respecting School. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child apply at all times and this includes the time a young person spends on the internet.

We take a Rights Respecting approach to online life, supporting, empowering, and protecting children's inclusion, mental health and social interactions and have developed a DCHS iPad Code of Conduct (see Appendix 3).