

CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL

Report to: People Committee

Date of Meeting: 3 October 2019

**Subject: Education Service Digital Learning Strategy and Implementation Plan
2019 - 2022**

Report by: Lorraine Sanda, Improving Outcomes Manager

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This paper presents the Education Service Digital Learning Strategy and Implementation Plan 2019 - 2022. The Strategy, *Developing a Digital Culture in Education*, sets out a clear vision and rationale focusing on transformation in our schools and early learning establishments.

2.0 Recommendations

It is recommended that the People Committee provide comment and approve the Strategy at Appendix 1.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1 Digital technology is transforming the way that we live our lives, impacting on learning, and future careers of all our children and young people. It is vital that we provide our educators with the digital tools and skills to enhance and increase opportunities for your children and young people to learn and achieve.
- 3.2 This Strategy will support the Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal in particular align with the development of Digital Hubs and Skills and Inclusion Programme. This Strategy takes into account and supports the Clackmannanshire Council Digital Strategy 2019-2025 which was agreed by Council on 18 April 2019. It takes into account the Scottish Government's 2016 publication: *Enhancing Learning and Teaching through the use of Digital Technology, A Digital Learning and Teaching Strategy for Scotland*.
- 3.3 In developing the strategy, the Service took account of the views of young people, educators, academics and partners. Latest and best practice across Scotland and internationally was also researched and considered.

3.4 The Strategy has four main aims:

- To further develop the skills and confidence of all educators in the appropriate and effective use of digital technology;
- To improve access/remote access to a range of digital technology for all learners;
- To ensure that digital technology is evident in all areas of curriculum design, delivery and assessment; and
- To empower leaders to drive forward and further develop innovation and investment in digital technology.

3.5 It supports the four priorities in the Clackmannanshire National Improvement Framework to: Improve Attainment in Literacy and Numeracy; Improve Health and Wellbeing; Close the Attainment Gap; and Improve employability skills and positive destinations.

3.6 The Implementation Plan sets out the actions that are required to start delivering on the Strategy. A Full Delivery Plan with milestones and timescales will be developed, monitored and reported on annually through the Education Service Reporting and Planning procedures.

4.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications. The intention is to implement the Education Service Digital Learning Strategy and Implementation Plan 2019 - 2022 within existing budgets.

5.0 Sustainability Implications

There are no sustainable implications

6.0 Exempt Reports

6.1 Is the report exempt? No

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box)

Clackmannanshire will be attractive to businesses & people and
ensure fair opportunities for all

Our families; children and young people will have the best possible
start in life

Women and girls will be confident and aspirational, and achieve
their full potential

Our communities will be resilient and empowered so
that they can thrive and flourish

The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

N/A

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes No

9.0 Legality

9.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers.

Yes No

10.0 Appendices

Appendix 1: Developing A Digital Culture in Education

11.0 Background Papers

Clackmannanshire Council Digital Strategy 2019-2015

A Digital Learning and Teaching Strategy for Scotland

The Future of Education and Skills, Education 2030. OECD.

Author(s)

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Approved by

| NAME | DESIGNATION | SIGNATURE |
|----------------|-------------------------|---|
| Anne M Pearson | Chief Education Officer |  |



CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL
EDUCATION SERVICES

DEVELOPING
A DIGITAL CULTURE
IN EDUCATION



A STRATEGY FOR TRANSFORMING LEARNING
ACROSS CLACKMANNANSHIRE
2019-2022

WELCOME TO OUR DIGITAL STRATEGY

We are very proud to deliver this ambitious digital learning strategy for the children and young people of Clackmannanshire.

We live in a period of major transformational change. We must embrace the opportunities that digital technology and the internet presents and we must support our children and young people with the challenges it brings.

Digital technology will have a major impact on future careers for our children and young people, both in the way that they work and in the work that they do.

The strategy will help us to improve access to digital devices and the internet as well as developing the skills of our school leaders, educators and learners

It will ensure that Clackmannanshire's schools are future-focused and that they make the most of digital tools to benefit learning and teaching.

August 2019



**DIGITAL
CLACKS**
EMPOWERING LEARNERS



**Cllr Graham Lindsay
Education**



**Anne Pearson
Chief Education Officer**

RATIONALE

Technology is changing the way in which we live, learn and work. Across Scotland local authorities, businesses and education are increasingly using a 'Cloud First' approach to digital. This approach seeks to make information and services available 24/7, from any device, anywhere in the world.



The Scottish Government policy is clear digital technology can make a substantial contribution to the improvement agenda by enriching education across all areas of Curriculum for Excellence.

This strategy runs parallel to [Clackmannanshire Council's Digital Strategy 2019-2025](#) enabling the Council of the Future, and builds upon the '[Enhancing learning and teaching through the use of digital technology](#)' strategy published by the Scottish Government.

"If used effectively and appropriately, digital technology can enhance learning and teaching, equip our children and young people with vital skills and crucially, it can lead to improved educational outcomes." (Education Scotland, 2016)



The 'Enhancing learning and teaching through the use of digital technology' strategy aims to ensure that Digital Learning is embedded across Curriculum for Excellence (CfE), an integral part of initial Teacher Education and part of the Professional Standards set by the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS).

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) recognises, in its publication – The Future of Education and Skills, Education 2030, that today's learners face unprecedented challenges and opportunities because of the rapid advances in technology which *unless shared with a purpose* may widen inequalities and exacerbate social fragmentation.

This Education Services strategy also seeks to support the Scottish Government's wider DIGITAL OFFICE priority - delivering a digital first approach that enables councils to provide better services to their citizens.



AIMS OF OUR STRATEGY

SKILLS

To further develop the skills and confidence of all educators in the appropriate and effective use of digital technology.

ACCESS

To improve access/remote access to a range of digital technology for all learners.

CURRICULUM

To ensure that digital technology is evident in all areas of curriculum design, delivery and assessment.

LEADERSHIP

To empower leaders to drive forward and further develop innovation and investment in digital technology.



INTRODUCTION

The Education Service has six big goals and this digital strategy seeks to support all six. Learners and staff will benefit from the use of digital tools and this should in turn affect learning and teaching experiences within our schools. Technology is already being used to engage more effectively with families and there is increasing evidence that digital can help deliver services effectively and efficiently.



Clackmannanshire Context

The Education Service in Clackmannanshire serves three secondary schools, eighteen primary schools, three standalone nurseries, eleven nursery classes, two specialist provisions and one special school, supporting a school population of approximately 6,650 pupils and 1,280 members of staff.

The school estate approach to digital infrastructure has been to group schools into clusters focussed around each of the three secondary schools. All schools have wireless, wired connectivity and a variety of digital technology available including PCs, laptops, Apple Macs and iPads. Most classrooms feature an interactive whiteboard and many are adding visualisers and coding robots.

Digital Schools

The 'Developing a Digital Culture in Education' strategy will build upon the good work we have already been doing. We have invested in infrastructure to be able to support the use of video conferencing and Bring Your Own Device in teaching and learning. We have used video conferencing successfully to deliver lessons between classrooms in our three secondary

schools. Guest wifi is already available in all of the academies and this has been used successfully to develop the capacity to support a full BYOD roll out in future.

There are currently (May'19) two schools which have been awarded the 'Digital School Award', with one of the schools additionally achieving the Cyber Resilience and Internet Safety Badge. There are a further five Clackmannanshire schools working towards achieving the 'Digital School Award'. All of the major technology companies Apple, Microsoft and Google offer schools various accreditation programmes and as the projects driving this strategy are put into action there's scope for accreditation being an opportunity for our schools.

National initiatives such as Digital Scotland have seen internet access improve dramatically in Clackmannanshire and now 99% of properties in Clackmannanshire will access superfast fibre broadband.

Digital Tools

Glow, Microsoft 365, Wordpress Blogs, Show my Homework and Twitter are already used to support learning and teaching and links with parents. All education services across Scotland are progressing with their use of digital tools within Education, some favour the use of Microsoft software accessed from a windows based IT estate, while others favour Google running on Chromebooks and others heavily support the use of iPads. This strategy doesn't seek to be tied to any one particular hardware or software estate and instead work towards the right technology being available at the right time in the right place and meeting the right need.

Digital Hubs

The Council's digital strategy seeks to create digital hubs within the authority, Ceteris, Co-Lab and tourist hubs are aiming to become a focus for the local community in terms of digital access. Education will look to connect with these hubs and seek to improve awareness and encourage new ways of working.

NIF Framework

This digital strategy will directly impact upon Clackmannanshire National Improvement Framework (NIF) Plan's 4 priorities:

1. Improving attainment, particularly Numeracy and Literacy
2. Closing the attainment gap
3. Improving the health and wellbeing of children and young people
4. Improving employability skills and post-school destinations



SKILLS

AIM: DEVELOP THE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE OF OUR EDUCATORS

We will develop our educators' skills in appropriate and effective use of digital technology to support teaching and learning for the purpose of developing lifelong learning skills. It will be our educators and not the digital technology itself that will be the key to delivering improved educational outcomes for our children and young people. Our children and young people will only get the most out of digital technology when it is skilfully deployed to support their learning. It is vital therefore that our educators have the skills, confidence and knowledge to know when and how digital technology can be deployed effectively.

The development of skills amongst educators will be enhanced by a Career Long Professional Learning programme, supported by Education Scotland. This will encompass Internet Safety, Cyber Resilience, Digital Literacy and Computational Thinking.

ACCESS

AIM: IMPROVE ACCESS TO DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY FOR ALL LEARNERS

Although access to digital technology will not by itself lead to an improvement in educational outcomes, it is central to that aim. If all of Clackmannanshire's learners are to benefit from an education enhanced by digital technology, action must be taken not only to bring the digital infrastructure of education establishments up to standard but also continually to review and improve that provision to achieve sustainability.

CURRICULUM

AIM: ENSURE THAT DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IS A CENTRAL CONSIDERATION IN ALL AREAS OF CURRICULUM ASSESSMENT AND DELIVERY

The importance of our learners being able to use a variety of digital technologies and possessing a range of digital skills in today's increasingly digitised world is clear. All educators have a responsibility to ensure that learning in this evolving digital world continues to be relevant and engaging to our children and young people. We can embrace the opportunities digital provides in enhancing and extending learning opportunities via anytime, anywhere support, resources and online collaboration and productivity tools. We can learn from business and transform the way we deliver content and resources. It is possible now to create high quality multimedia learning content such as digital video explanations, animations, virtual tours and podcasts. This means that we have an opportunity to enhance and extend learning to benefit our children and young people in ways we could never before have imagined. In analysing the associated data we can personalise learning and gain insights to support learners in ways that

just would not before have been possible.

LEADERSHIP

AIM: EMPOWER LEADERS TO DRIVE INNOVATION AND INVESTMENT IN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY FOR LEARNING AND TEACHING

The increased use of digital technology in our education establishments will require careful planning and due consideration of the local context. Leaders must be central to that planning process.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

A full Project Management Plan will be developed, tracked, monitored and evaluated through the Clackmannanshire National Improvement Framework (NIF) Programme.

PROJECT DELIVERY

There are a number of projects currently underway which will contribute to how Education Services will realise their ambition of 'Developing a Digital Culture in Education'.

- Project 1: Digital Clacks
- Project 2: FLIP Plus
- Project 3: 1+2 Clacks
- Project 4: Flexible Learning Individual Pathways in School (FLIP)
- Project 5: Flexible Learning Individual Pathways in School (FLIP) on Demand
- Project 6: G-Suite for Education and Chromebooks

Project 1: Digital Clacks

In delivering on our vision and strategy we will follow a staged implementation plan that meets priority needs:

- Engage with schools and partners to inform our delivery and rollout plans.
- Engage with partners to offer CLPL sessions and Digital Clacks events

Actions

- Establish team and engage partners. Set up Digital Action Group from Education services and key partners
- Identify Digital Leads for each school and create networking opportunities- physical and virtual
- Create 'Digital Clacks' branding and engagement channels for all work in promoting our overall Digital Learning Strategy and supporting schools to implement
- Launch and promote Clackmannanshire's Digital Learning Strategy to all schools via face to face events and online channels
- Increase range of CLPL opportunities

Project 2: Flexible Learning Individual Pathways in School (FLIP) Plus

FLIP PLUS is a virtual/distance approach we are developing initially for a priority group of young people who do not access school

- We will provide accessible technology, collaboration with Community Learning and Development (CLD) Support Workers and engaging, relevant virtual learning opportunities to support to these young people.
- Develop online spaces, collaboration and efficient digital management processes for the CLD team's Youth Awards Programme.

Actions

- Creation and development of Virtual Platform for FLIP- Flexible Learning Individual Pathways
- FLIP Phase 1- FLIP site created, G Suite domain registered (flipclacks.org) and order of 30 Chromebooks +4g for pilot users in target group- FLIP PLUS (not in school priority)
- FLIP Phase 2- roll out devices and FLIP (G-Suite) virtual learning accounts for CLD Awards programme and activities pilot group and their systems/procedures. Onboard staff and students.
- FLIP Phase 3- roll out FLIP accounts and onboard schools at risk groups to access from school and undertake CLD Awards as self study/ in-school supervision.
- FLIP Phase 4- widen range of virtual learning opportunities to include badged challenges that any young person could undertake at anytime and submit for verification.
- FLIP Phase 5- wider roll out of anytime 'Learning Essentials' to include Literacy, Numeracy, HWB and Digital Skills activities + resources with points system quizzes for self assessment.
- Support schools to develop Family Learning opportunities via their own digital channels
- Support schools to adopt Digital Parental Engagement methods and share examples via Digital Clacks channels
- Conduct audit of staff confidence in a) Using Digital collaboration tools to deliver anytime learning and b) Delivering revised Technologies outcomes

Project 3: 1+2 Clacks

1+2 Clacks will make best use of digital apps and collaboration tools to support delivery of the 1+2 strategy for languages learning

- We will harness digital technology to provide efficient and effective delivery of languages learning to our children and young people
- We will develop a resources website and virtual classroom for collaborative projects, Professional Learning and live lessons.

Actions

- Creation and development of 1+2 Clacks virtual learning space and Professional Learning support site
- 1+2 Phase 1- Site designed and launched with resources content from around the web
- 1+2 Phase 2- Launch LIVE learning between schools following a calendar of events and recorded for virtual learning space
- 1+2 Phase 3- Power Language deployed
- 1+2 Phase 4- Integrate 1+2 badged challenges into FLIP site
- Engage with IT to evaluate wider roll-out of independent G Suite to schools and implications for accounts management/admin

Project 4: Flexible Learning Individual Pathways in School (FLIP)

FLIP IN SCHOOL is an approach we are developing for a group of young people who are at risk of disengaging from school

- We will provide in school access to engaging online learning experiences and wider achievement opportunities with a focus on Youth Achievement Awards, HWB and Digital Learning
- We will develop on demand learning challenges and self-service resources. Collate and curate existing online resources to benefit learners

Actions

- FLIP is developed further to include SQA qualifications for increased choice and flexibility of curricular offer
- FLIP offers virtual work experiences
- FLIP offers increased range of badged challenges
- FLIP engages with Forth Valley College to widen the offer to include college courses
- Increased access to devices in all schools with further Chromebook rollouts
- Increase number of Google Certified Educators.
- Hold x3 further Digital Clacks Teachmeets.
- FLIP is able to offer personalisation and choice to primary learners undertaking e.g. Topic work by offering virtual learning experiences and challenges

Project 5: Flexible Learning Individual Pathways in School (FLIP) on Demand

Flexible Learning Individual Pathways in School - FLIP ON DEMAND will provide flexible, anytime learning experiences and distance learning opportunities for any/all of our children and young people to enhance learning and increase choice.

- Increase choice and extend pathways by widening our distance learning opportunities and have schools provide virtual SQA courses and experiences

Actions

- FLIP is developed further to include increased range of SQA qualifications for extended choice and flexibility of curricular offer
- FLIP offers greater range of virtual work experiences and virtual apprenticeships
- FLIP offers increased range of badged challenges
- FLIP engages further with Forth Valley College to widen the offer to include college courses
- Contribute and benefit from Digital developments within the Regional Improvement Collaborative
- Increased Access to devices in all schools with further Chromebook rollouts
- Increase number of Google Certified Educators
- Hold x3 further Digital Clacks Teachmeets
- FLIP is embedded across all schools and flexible learning is the norm
- Ongoing increase in Digital Schools Awards across estate
- Ongoing increase in adoption of G Suite across all schools
- Digital culture is established and embedded
- Include Digital Learning in local authority review visits and ensure it is key focus
- Conduct audit of staff confidence in both a) Digital collaboration and b) Technologies outcomes. Aim for demonstrable increase on 2020 data

Project 6: G-Suite for Education and Chromebooks

We are partnering with Google and Council ICT Services to deliver an Independent G Suite for Education domain to meet the needs of our FLIP PLUS group and CLD work.

This will give us a fully-featured G Suite for Education admin account which will allow us to gain independent control of accounts, manage devices and provide safe and restricted access to YouTube and other apps for learning

Evidence from other schools and local authorities in Scotland, as well as internationally, it is clear that using Chromebooks in education as part of a Digital Learning Strategy is having recognisable impact on learning and teaching in schools. With that in mind, we will support our schools that are keen to use Chromebooks and use G-Suite.