

Our Lady of the Wayside NS Kilternan



Mission Statement:

As well as being an important educational resource, the ability to use ICT effectively is a vital life skill in modern society. At Our Lady of the Wayside N.S. our aim is to produce learners (pupils and staff) who are confident and effective users of ICT. We strive to achieve this aim by:

- Helping all staff and pupils to explore the learning resources provided by ICT.
- Helping all children to use ICT with purpose and enjoyment.
- Helping all children to develop the necessary skills to exploit ICT.

Rationale:

Our school requires ICT

- To provide the best possible education for all our pupils.
- To provide a powerful and up to date teaching resource for all our teachers.
- To allow for more effective administration.
- To help provide more effective communication with staff and parents.
- To prepare children for life in a technologically advanced world.

To what use will ICT be put?

- School Administration
- Research software.
- Adventure games that stimulate higher order thinking and problem solving.

- Word processing of children's work.
- Research on the internet.
- Digital recording
- Storage of records.
- Special Needs pupils

Actual Usage of ICT in School:

ICT and the Curriculum

ICT is integrated with as many curriculum areas as possible throughout the school. All of our classrooms have interactive whiteboards which can be used in the teaching of all subjects.

We also have educational software for a wide variety of subject areas. ICT is also integrated into project based learning. ICT is not considered a standalone activity.

It is used in the teaching and learning of many areas of the curriculum. We feel that ICT should be used as a tool by teachers and children alike and that learning should be through ICT rather than learning ICT skills in isolation.

We feel that pupils should not use computers and IT equipment in isolation from the school curriculum but instead should use this equipment to enhance their learning and as a means of presenting their work and as a research method for projects. ICT use reinforces existing curriculum activities and discovery learning approaches are supported by ICT.

ICT Skills taught in the context of the Curriculum - Progression

Junior & Senior Infants:

Children should be enabled to:

- Name the computer parts: monitor, keyboard, mouse, processor, printer.
- Basic care of a computer.
- Turning on and off the computer in the correct manner.
- Using space bar and return keys.
- Finding letters and basic words.
- Manipulating the mouse using software for painting, games and jigsaws.
- Pen thickness and colour change.
- Using educational software to reinforce class work in English, Irish and Maths.
- Aware of the internet and google.
- Print from ActivPrimary.
- Using pictures/ camera/ whiteboard to create a story. (Photostory)

- Filming and photographing Aistear play sessions to discuss with the children and for them to make their own assessment of their play

1st & 2nd Class:

Children should be enabled to:

- Revise the computer parts.
- Turn on and off the computer.
- Open and close files.
- Use space bar and return keys.
- Use shift key for capital letters.
- Use Microsoft Word for word processing.
- Format font type and size.
- Use Clip Art.
- Use appropriate educational software to reinforce class work.
- Show an awareness of the internet, google and Youtube (teacher supervision)
- Print from ActivPrimary.
- Use pictures/ camera/ whiteboard to create a story.
- Show children's work on IWB
- Basic Word Processor skills
- Google image selection, copy and paste
- Google Earth/maps

3rd & 4th Class:

Children should be enabled to:

- Revise work done in previous classes.
- Practice typing.
- Undertake Word Processing – correcting mistakes, spellcheck, etc.
- Format text.
- Save to file.
- Print from file.
- Microsoft Excel: create documents
- Introduction to Powerpoint.
- I.C.T. skills – MS paint, scanner, digital camera & video
- Use appropriate educational software to reinforce class work.

5th & 6th Class:

Children should be enabled to:

- Revise work done in previous classes.

- Word processing – producing newsletters, booklets and magazines
- Format text – borders, margins, tables.
- Import graphics.
- Use the internet under supervision.
- Research using google (reliable sites)
- Send and receive e-mails under supervision.
- Use databases to store, process and retrieve information.
- Video – used for project work.
- Social networking & Safety – email & web
- Use appropriate educational software to reinforce class work.

Children with special needs:

Children should be enabled to:

- Use literacy software: Word Shark, Clicker
- Use numeracy software: Number Shark.
- Develop typing skills.
- Name computer parts: monitor, keyboard, mouse, processor, printer.
- Understand the basic care of a computer.
- Turn on and off the computer.
- Use space bar and return keys.
- Find letters and basic words.
- Manipulate the mouse using software for painting, games and jigsaws.
- Change Pen thickness and colour.
- Use educational software to reinforce class work in English, Irish and Maths.
- Have awareness of the internet and google.
- Print from ActivPrimary.
- Research topics of interest.
- Develop Fine motor skills – competency using mouse and keyboard etc.
- Present work orally to a camera

Resources:

- Interactive Whiteboard
- Digital Camera
- Desktop Computers (in class)
- Scanner (access)

- Printer
- Wand/Pen/Mouse
- ActivInspire
- Microsoft Office

Websites / Programs:

- Bua na Cainte
- Planet Maths
- ActivPrimary
- Grow in Love
- SESE – Powerpoints & Videos
- Literacy Shed
- GoNoodle
- Formation website
- Class Tools Timer
- Woodlands Kent
- Language games online
- Active Inspire
- Movement breaks interact games
- Mindfulness videos/ music
- Maths Magician
- Crickweb
- Photostory
- Splash Maths
- Chicktionary
- Spell Mania
- Free Sums
- Hour of Code – decoding programme
- English Type

- Lexia
- Ipads / Tablets/ Laptops

Summary of School Audit:

Current Infrastructure:

- In keeping with our mission, we perceive computers being used as a tool of teaching and learning in each classroom. All computers are networked to our own internal network including networked printing.
- Our current broadband provider is Eircom, as dictated by the Department of Education and Skills schools Broadband scheme.
- There are 2 laptops and 2 ipads for use in Special Needs area.
- There are also 6 tablets for use in classrooms.
- Each classroom has a data projector, interactive white board and teacher computer.
- There are 69 student, teacher, SNA and office computers.
- There are 10 digital cameras in the school for use by classes.

Current Usage of Facilities:

- Computers are used as a medium of teaching and learning in all the classrooms, therefore it is not necessary to timetable computer hours.
- Current usage includes pre-reading and early reading work; pre-number and early number work; mathematical application; development of thinking and problem solving skills; word processing; desktop publishing; typing skills; internet work; presentation of project work; development of fine motor skills.
- Staff are encouraged to attend ICT courses for up-skilling and continuous professional development.

Additional Information:

ICT Co-Ordination:

- The school has a teacher who holds responsibility for ICT.

- Any IT faults which cannot be rectified by hardware users are to be reported to the ICT co-ordinator.
- Anti- virus Protection is installed on all computers.

Access:

- Pupils and teachers have permanent access to ICT.

Special Needs:

Computers are provided in the learning support rooms and resource rooms as we recognise the potential of ICT to enhance the learning opportunities for pupils with special needs. Children with specific writing, reading and numeracy needs are using ICT to provide alternative and complementary educational experiences. Laptops and ipads are also provided where appropriate.

Exceptional Students:

ICT is also used in all classrooms to challenge and extend the educational opportunities for pupils with above average attainment.

Maintenance:

We use Elmar Langbroek for our IT needs.

School Website:

- The school hosts a site at www.ourladyofthewaysidens.ie
- School newsletters and other news items will regularly be added.
- School policies that are relevant to parents will also be added to this site.

Communication and Ratification:

Reviewed by staff in May 2016

Ratified by the Board of Management on 27th March 2017