Digital Learning Framework Evaluation: Starting Off

The Educational Research Centre, Drumcondra, Dublin, has been asked by the Department of Education and Skills to evaluate the national implementation of the Digital Learning Framework (DLF). This questionnaire is part of that evaluation.

The purpose of the questionnaire is to gather information about your school's digital technology context and should be completed during the seminar with the PDST advisors.

Only one questionnaire per school is required, which may mean that two respondents from the same school attending the same seminar should complete this questionnaire together. If you and your colleague are attending seminars on two different days, we invite you both to complete the survey on these two separate occasions.

The questionnaire is intended to take no more than 15 minutes to complete.

Your responses are very important in helping us to understand the successes and challenges in implementing the Digital Learning Framework in a wide variety of school settings.

In Spring 2019, we will invite a representative subset of schools (150 primary and special schools and 100 post-primary schools) to take part in a longitudinal study of the DLF implementation. This will involve the completion of short surveys by school staff on three further occasions (Spring 2019, 2020 and 2021).

This study is conducted in compliance with the GDPR framework. No personal information, such as IP address, person name, gender or age group, is collected in the course of the survey. The survey involves identifying your school by providing the roll number. The roll number will be matched with other school-level information that is in the public domain such as enrolment size and DEIS status for analysis purposes. The results of individual schools will **not** be published: only group-level aggregates will be reported on. As soon as the survey period is complete, i.e. within three months of the Spring 2021 data collection, the roll numbers will be permanently deleted from the survey dataset.

If you have any questions about this evaluation please contact **dlf@erc.ie**.

Many thanks for your participation and the best of luck with your work on the DLF.

Please type your school's roll number below.
*Please ensure that the format is five numbers and one capital letter, e.g. 12345Y. ***

Please type the name of your school below. *

How many people are completing this questionnaire? *

- ( ) One

- ( ) Two

- ( ) Three or more

Are you (or either/any of you, if multiple respondents) taking the lead in implementing the DLF in your school? *

- ( ) Yes

- ( ) Unsure

- ( ) No

What is/are your role(s) in the school?
*Tick all that apply. ***

- [ ] School principal

- [ ] Deputy principal

- [ ] Assistant principal

- [ ] Class or subject teacher

- [ ] SET teacher

- [ ] Other

Has your school established a Digital Learning Team? *

- ( ) Yes

- ( ) No

Which dimension of the Digital Learning Framework is your school planning to focus on?
The Digital Learning Framework has two Dimensions - Teaching and Learning, and Leadership and Management - and in each dimension, there are four domains. Schools usually focus on one of these eight domains in developing their Digital Learning Plan.

- ( ) A domain in the *Teaching and Learning* dimension (one of: learner outcomes, learner experiences, teachers' individual practice, teachers collective/collaborative practice)

- ( ) A domain in the *Leadership and Management* dimension (one of: leading teaching and learning, managing the organisation, leading school development, developing leadership capacity)

- ( ) Unsure

Which one of the following best describes your school's current level of practice in relation to embedding digital technologies in teaching, learning and assessment?
Digital technologies refer to electronic tools, systems, and devices that generate, store or process data. These include computers, tablets, software and applications, websites, social media, multimedia, online games, robotics, cloud computing, and mobile devices.

○ Emerging (little or no embedding of digital technologies)

○ Developing (limited embedding of digital technologies)

○ Intermediate (moderate embedding of digital technologies)

○ Advanced (fairly extensive embedding of digital technologies)

○ Highly advanced (extensive and innovative embedding of digital technologies)

Which one of the following best describes teachers' current patterns of embedding digital technologies into teaching, learning and assessment?

○ It is quite uniform or similar across teachers

○ There is some variation across teachers

○ There is a lot of variation across teachers

How would you rate the following aspects of digital technologies in your school (i.e. as they relate to the needs and priorities of your school)?

	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor
Number of computing devices (desktops, laptops, tablets)	○	○	○	○	○
Age and condition of computing devices (desktops, laptops, tablets)	○	○	○	○	○
Availability of digital devices such as whiteboards, digital projectors	○	○	○	○	○
Availability of digital tools such as data sensors, cameras, assistive devices, robotic toys (e.g. BeeBots)	○	○	○	○	○

Awareness of suitable software and apps for teaching and learning	○	○	○	○	○
Availability of suitable software and apps for teaching and learning	○	○	○	○	○
Broadband/wireless connection/speed	○	○	○	○	○
Technical support and maintenance	○	○	○	○	○
Teachers' overall level of knowledge and skills in using digital technologies for teaching and learning	○	○	○	○	○
Teachers' overall level of use of digital technologies for teaching and learning	○	○	○	○	○
Pupils'/Students' overall level of knowledge and skills in using digital technologies for learning	○	○	○	○	○
Pupils'/Students' overall engagement with digital technologies as part of teaching and learning	○	○	○	○	○

Has your school commenced development of a Digital Learning Plan?

○ No, not yet commenced development

○ Yes, it is in the early stages of development

○ Yes, it is in the latter stages of development

○ Yes, it is completed

To what extent does or will your Digital Learning Plan feature in your school's overall School Planning Processes over the 2018-2019 school year?

○ To a large extent

○ To a moderate extent

○ To a small extent

○ To a very small extent or not at all

Please indicate how likely your school is to use the following strategies to promote the implementation of the DLF among the teaching staff in your school:

	Definitely yes	Likely	Unsure	Unlikely	Definitely no
Professional development delivered by some school staff (e.g. digital learning team members) to a larger group of staff	○	○	○	○	○
Professional development delivered by an external provider to school staff	○	○	○	○	○
Dedicated time allocated to DLF during staff meetings	○	○	○	○	○
Dedicated time allocated to DLF during Croke Park hours	○	○	○	○	○
Team teaching (e.g. more digitally experienced staff leads and models good practice)	○	○	○	○	○

Mentoring (e.g. digital champions in the school provide support to other school staff)	○	○	○	○	○
Having teachers participate in online forums or courses	○	○	○	○	○
Liaising or collaborating with other local primary school(s)	○	○	○	○	○
Liaising or collaborating with other local post-primary school(s)	○	○	○	○	○
Other strategy not already listed above	○	○	○	○	○

If you selected 'other strategy not already listed above', please describe it here:

Please select up to five of the following as your school's priorities for implementing your Digital Learning Plan:

You can select up to five options. If you want to change your selection, click again on an item that you have selected to de-select it and then make your new selection.

☐ Developing a whole-school approach to using digital technologies for teaching and learning

☐ Developing teachers' skills in using specific apps or software for teaching and learning

☐ Making improvements to the sharing of teaching documents or resources (cloud- or server-based)

☐ Developing a class/year level specific approach to using digital technologies for teaching and learning

☐ Enhancing the use of digital technologies in certain subject areas

☐ Enhancing the use of digital technologies for assessment **for** learning

☐ Enhancing the use of digital technologies for assessment **of** learning

☐ Furthering the use of digital technologies to support learners with special educational needs

☐ Using digital technologies to promote learners' interest and engagement

☐ Using digital technologies to improve learning outcomes

☐ Enhancing use of digital technologies for management and administration (e.g. attendance, communication with parents)

☐ Making improvements to digital technology infrastructure (number and quality of computing devices and/or tools)

☐ Making improvements to technical maintenance and support for teaching and learning

☐ Making improvements to the quality or speed of (broadband) connectivity

☐ Other

How is technical support provided in your school?

○ **All** technical support is provided for by a member of school staff

○ **All** technical support is provided for by an external technical support company

○ Technical support is provided for by a **mixture** of internal and external support (e.g. member of staff looks after software and external company looks after hardware)

○ We have **no** technical support arrangements at present

○ [Other]

How would you rate the effectiveness of the technical support in your school at present?

	Highly effective	Quite effective	Somewhat effective	Not effective
For keeping computing devices in good repair	○	○	○	○
For keeping devices up to date with software, virus scans, etc.	○	○	○	○
For keeping other devices (e.g. printers, projectors) in good repair	○	○	○	○
For maintaining connectivity	○	○	○	○

How much, approximately, does technical support cost per school year?
Please do not include costs relating to purchase of hardware, software or broadband/connection services.

○ Less than €500

○ Between €500 and €1,000

○ Between €1,000 and €2,000

○ Between €2,000 and €3,000

○ Between €3,000 and €4,000

◯ Between €4,000 and €5,000

◯ Between €5,000 and €7,500

◯ Between €7,500 and €10,000

◯ More than €10,000

Is there capacity or opportunity for your school to collaborate with neighbouring schools to improve technical support?

◯ Yes, definitely - we already do this

◯ Yes, we are currently exploring this as a possibility

◯ Yes, although this has not been explored

◯ No, this is unlikely

If you would like to receive a copy of your school's responses to this survey, please enter one valid email address below:

Please confirm this email address:

If you do not wish to receive a copy of your school's responses to this survey, do not enter any email address, and click Finish.

Thank you very much for completing this survey and good luck with your work on the Digital Learning Framework. If you have any questions about this evaluation, please contact **dlf@erc.ie**.