

FAQ Document

This document contains questions and answers based on the discussion at the end of the webinars. It will be updated as our series progresses with new material that has been discussed during each Q&A session.

1. How does the Digital Learning Framework (DLF) link with School Self-Evaluation (SSE)?

The six-step planning process outlined in the DLF is identical to that contained in the SSE document, *Looking at Our Schools*, and the structure of both policy documents mirror each other. This design is deliberate so that both align and can be used to support each other, for example, in the following ways;

- Digital Learning can be used as the discrete area of focus for a school's SSE. If the school chooses to focus on digital learning, they should work from the teaching and learning dimension, as per current SSE guidelines. In this case, the digital learning plan is the school's SSE plan also.
- If, however, the school is focusing on a different area in terms of their SSE, oral language for example, they will need a separate digital learning plan. In this case, some of the actions set out in their digital learning plan could perhaps help to achieve some of those also included in their SSE plan.

2. How can the school's vision for digital learning be communicated within the school community?

Some of the ways that you could communicate the vision for digital learning to the school community include:

- School newsletter
- School website
- As part of a parents' open evening
- School noticeboard

3. What advice would you give around setting up a Digital Learning (DL) Team?

Ideally, there should be teachers with varying levels of competence in digital technology represented on the DL team. It is important to include teachers who may

be engaging with digital technology for the first time, as well as those who are more experienced. This will show staff that the embedding of technology in teaching, learning and assessment is for all staff members. School management should also be represented on the DL team.

4. How might the DL team go about narrowing their focus to a particular standard?

During the initial stages, the DL team should become familiar with the standards and statements in the DLF by browsing through the framework and perhaps choosing one or two standards they feel would prove beneficial to explore further. These may then form the basis for the later gathering of evidence.

5. How does a school apply for school support from the PDST?

The principal of the school can make an application for support on the PDST website under the relevant section, primary or post primary. The roll number of the school is needed and the current password is Schoolsupport2018. Schools can submit one application per year listing three preferred areas of support.

6. What are the contact details for the PDST Technology in Education Broadband helpdesk?

The Broadband Service Desk can provide technical support and can answer your queries relating to broadband. Their phone number is 1800 334466.

7. Are the videos from this webinar/ good practice videos available to view online on line?

Yes. Videos exploring good practice in terms of digital learning are available to view in the 'Good Practice' section of the PDST technology in education website, www.pdsttechnologyineducation.ie. The videos from this webinar outlining the digital journey of DLF trial schools also feature in our DLF seminars and will be featured in upcoming webinars throughout this series.