



# **VENERABLE EDWARD MORGAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## **Digital Strategy 2025-26**

This Document is a statement of intent within Venerable Edward Morgan. It was developed through a process of consultation with Key stakeholders and in correspondence with the School's planning and review schedule.

This sets out a framework by which to work.

<b>Approved On:</b>	<b>March 25</b>
<b>Next Review:</b>	<b>March 26</b>
<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Cllr D L Mackie</b>

*Learn, believe, achieve together*

*Dysgwch, credwch, cyflawnwch gyda'ch gilydd*

# Digital Strategy

## Purpose and Objectives

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## Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this digital strategy aims to ensure that at Venerable Edward Morgan School we embed technology into our pedagogy to enhance learning experiences for our learners, and ensure they are digitally literate and prepared for their future endeavours in a digital environment.

It will identify how we will support all those in our school community with the use of digital tools, as well as identify the rational for the choices that have been made, taking into account the views of all our stakeholders.

Wales' Digital Competency Framework (DCF) is now one of three statutory cross-curricular elements of the Curriculum for Wales. As a school, we are implementing technology into our pedagogy to support our learners' development and understanding of how technology can be used for purposeful means.

This strategy will address how we will support staff with CPD in order to support their confidence and competence in the use of technology in their pedagogy, this will enhance teacher effectiveness in improving learner outcomes.

This digital strategy also addresses impact of technology on our wider school community. We will streamline our administrative processes through effective use of digital tools at our disposal; support our families with information and guidance on how they can support the digital experiences of their children, and ensure our process comply with GDPR.

## Infrastructure

**Digital Learning Platform-** Venerable Edward Morgan School makes use of Wales' Hwb digital platform as it's primary online platform for our learners. Through this platform our learners have access to a range of digital applications on Hwb, which they can make use of within their pedagogy.

Our staff have support with regards to how to make use of the digital applications available to them on the platform. Ideas on how they can adapt their pedagogy to achieve their learning objectives utilising technology through the SAMR model.

**Devices-** We **have achieved** the device to pupil ratio set by Flintshire County Council, which allows our learners access to technology within their pedagogy.

Nursery to year 2      3:1 devices to learners

Year 3 & Year 4      2:1 devices to learners

Year 5 & Year 6      1:1 devices to learners

We have chosen to make use of iPads, Chromebooks and laptops to support

Through Hwb funding we have been able to achieve the pupils ratio set by Flintshire LA.

The school is setting aside £8550 of it's annual budget to ensure that our digital devices are kept up to date, with it's software accepting updates from it's operating system.

**Sustainability-** In order to maintain our device to pupil ratio for devices, we have a five year rolling programme to replace devices as they reach their 'end of life'. We will remove devices which have been replaced to ensure that our infrastructure can continue to work at an optimum level.

We will need to consult with our school's IT technician and the Local Authority when making significant changes to the number of devices it is using and how we intend to use them. We will also carry out intermittent reviews via the school's IT technician to ensure that the infrastructure can support the technology usage. As newer technology develops, schools will need to assess and update their infrastructure accordingly to ensure it will support the technology of the school effectively. This will be recorded via meeting minutes, shared with the relevant governing bodies and reflected in updates to this strategy on an annual basis.

**Digital Equity-** To ensure that no learner is left behind we are mindful of the need to ensure there is digital equity for all learners. Through our use of the Hwb platform, all users have access to the suite of digital applications used in the classroom while at home.

**Remote Learning-** In the event of school/classroom closures the school has a plan in place to support learners remotely. Learners in need of a device can borrow one from the school, and the serial number of the device and charging support is noted at the point of issue. When supporting learners remotely we **explain the remote learning plan for the school and refer to:**

- **Synchronous/Asynchronous delivery**
- **Synchronous - split delivery to support families with multiple children??**
- **Asynchronous - initial delivery through video/written guidance??**
- **Number of members of staff if live lessons??**
- **Type of activities set**
- **Feedback that should be expected by learners**
- **Timeframe learners are expected to complete the work in**
- **Expected engagement levels**
- **Activities set to factor in digital equity**

- **Support for families with access to data while at home**

## Stakeholders

This strategy's primary objective is to ensure that the use of technology in schools enhances the learning experiences of all learners. Ensuring that they gain an understanding of how to make use of technology in a safe way and understand how the digital world is used for a positive impact, but also how some use it to take advantage of others.

**Learners-** All decisions made by the school will centre around the impact made on developing the understanding and application of the learners in the school. Our learners will develop an understanding of the application of digital tools. These are incorporated into pedagogical activities and will support the development of a thorough understanding.

As our learners progress through their school life there will be increased opportunities for learners to choose which tools they make use of to show what they have learnt.

Learners with **ALN** are supported through the school's ALNCO; they identify where technology can be used to support the learning needs of those individuals and ensure that staff are trained in how to make use of that technology in their pedagogy.

**Teaching staff** - Staff need to be equipped with the knowledge and skills to effectively implement technology into their teaching of Curriculum for Wales and ensure coverage of the DCF. This is done through continued professional development with support on the digital tools they will be required to use and ensure skills are up to date.

Staff are supported with implementing digital technologies into their pedagogy by developing their understanding of the SAMR model and how it can support the class teacher's choices of learning activities. All staff have access to ongoing CPD of the tools available on the HWB platform and explanations of the SAMR model and other aspects of the Curriculum for Wales through a website created to support staff.

**Wider School Community** - We support parents with new developments in online safety to effectively support their children with using digital tools safely outside of their school life. Online safety training is available along with access to external support.

Fostering links with the community beyond immediate family members needs to be developed, where learners can share their understanding of how digital technology can be used to enhance the lives of those users. As a school, we will actively participate in Safer Internet Day activities recognising that every day is a safer internet day.

**Administrative staff** - Our school business manager makes use of technology to improve the efficiency of how we work. We **have moved** to a paperless system to ensure that data received from parents/guardians is stored online and GDPR compliant.

**Governors-** School Governors are supported in understanding how the school makes use of digital technologies to support the teaching and learning of the school. School Governors are aware of how the school chooses to invest in technology and training to further the development of our learners.

## Scope and Limitations

**Curricular integration-** As a school we look to ensure that digital skills are developed throughout a learners time with us. We embed the DCF into teaching and learning as one of the core cross

curricular elements of the Curriculum for Wales. Teachers make use of the applications available to them through the Hwb platform, and identify where they have implemented the DCF skills in their chosen learning activities.

**Resource Constraints-** We have set out to ensure that our learners have access to devices which allow them use a range of applications with which to complete a task. The use of the Hwb platform allows users access to several digital resources to use throughout their education in Wales ensuring equitability for our learners.

As a school we have set aside **£8550** of our school budget to ensure we are able to continue to maintain our identified level of device to pupil ratio.

**Accessibility-** All learners have equal access to devices which they can use to support their learning assignments. Learners with **ALN** have the ability to make changes to the accessibility settings to allow them to make effective use of the devices. Teachers are aware of features within the applications which can be used to support learners with difficulties. **Our ALNCO identifies where additional resources are required and these are used to support learners and staff.**

## **Compliance with Laws and Regulations (GDPR)**

All education technology used in the school complies with The Data Protection Act 2018 is the UK's implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We make use of Wales' Hwb platform, where all applications used by staff and learners are compliant with GDPR.

All additional digital applications used within the school are compliant with GDPR regulations, these are:

<b>Seesaw-</b>	<b>GDPR Compliant</b>
<b>BookCreator-</b>	<b>GDPR Compliant</b>

Our learners make use of the Hwb platform, which allows them to access their digital learning accounts outside of the school building. Staff who access their Hwb accounts are required to use Multi Factor Authentication as their accounts have access to data pertaining to learners.

We make use of the 360Safe and 360Digi assessment tools on the Hwb platform to evaluate our online safety policies, practices and provision, as well as evaluate their whole school approaches to digital learning.

## **Accountability and Responsibilities**

Due to the whole school impact of technology within the school's ecosystem overall responsibility falls on the schools' **Headteacher**.

We have identified **Mrs Langley** as our school's Digital Safeguarding Officer.

\*Elements of the school's digital strategy are disseminated to other staff members. Our school has appointed a Digital Lead, who has responsibility for overseeing that learners are being given the opportunity to experience and develop their digital skills through the DCF.

The **Headteacher and Digital Lead** have responsibility for the procurement of devices to support learners in their learning experiences.

Each class teacher has a responsibility to ensure that they are incorporating DCF skills in the pedagogy where appropriate.

We have an appointed two Governors (K Morris, J Higgins) to oversee Digital within the school.

**Using the Hwb platform ensures that the digital applications learners are using are compliant with GDPR and any additional applications used by staff are checked to ensure they are GDPR compliant.**

## **Review and Updates**

Due to the nature of the Digital World which we are currently living in we have identified the need for **annual** reviews of the applications which teachers use within their pedagogy.

An assessment will be made against the delivery of the DCF, to ensure that the digital tools and applications are allowing learners to apply the skills and experiences identified in the DCF.

We will endeavour to ensure that we make use of emerging technology where appropriate and within GDPR, to support our learners understanding and development.

Support and training for staff will be available to enable them to make effective use of the applications which are made available to them.

## **Effective Communication**

This digital strategy is part of our school's policies and procedures, it is shared on our school website to allow all stakeholders to understand the processes by which the school implements technology to support and enhance learning.

We identify opportunities for staff, learners and parents to develop their understanding of the digital world to ensure they are equipped to engage in a safe manner. Staff are supported with ideas which they can incorporate into their pedagogy.

Staff have the opportunity to identify digital tools which they would like to incorporate into their pedagogy. These requests are dealt with by the school's digital lead.