

ST.BRIGID'S GNS, KILLESTER, DUBLIN 5



ICT POLICY

Mission Statement

At St. Brigid's GNS, we recognise the importance of ICT as a vital and creative tool to enhance and extend the teaching and learning of every day lessons. By providing every opportunity for the use and integration of ICT in lessons, we endeavour to enrich the environment and experiences for everyone in the school community.

Our aim is to produce learners (both pupils and staff) who are confident and effective users of ICT.

Aims

- To enable all staff to become confident users of ICT
- To enable all children to become confident using ICT in a purposeful and enjoyable way
- To help the children develop the necessary skills to exploit ICT
- To inform the children's attitudes regarding the role of ICT in society, including the benefits and challenges of ICT use
- Use ICT to develop partnerships beyond the school

Rationale

Why does our school require ICT?

- To provide teachers with powerful and up to date teaching resources
- To provide our children with every opportunity to better their ICT skills
- To increase the children's confidence in using of ICT
- To provide more effective communication with staff, parents, and with the wider community
- To enhance and improve school administration
- To capture and record important events
- To prepare children for life in a technologically advanced workplace
- To keep up to date with the most modern teaching methods

To what use will ICT be put?

ICT is used in many ways at St Brigid's GNS

1. School administration purposes – using Aladdin
2. Games that stimulate higher order thinking and problem solving
3. Research on the internet

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4. Word processing
5. Communication via email
6. Communication via our website www.stbrigidsqns.ie and twitter page [BrigidsGNSKillester](#)
7. Digital recording of teaching and learning, achievements and daily events
8. Storage of Records of achievement / portfolio assessment, files and photographs
9. Special Educational Needs – special applications and software

Summary of School Audit

Current Infrastructure

- Each of our mainstream classrooms is equipped with an interactive whiteboard, overhead projector and a laptop.
- Our support rooms are equipped with laptops.
- The principal's office is equipped with a laptop and colour printer and the secretary's office is equipped with a PC and photocopier machine.
- There are digital cameras in the school available for use by the classes.
- There are 10 IPADs in the school for use.

Current Usage of Facilities

Computers and interactive whiteboards are used as a medium of teaching and learning in all the classrooms. Current usage of software in St. Brigid's GNS include;

- Applications for pre-reading and early reading work,
- Applications for pre-number and early number work
- Mathematical application
- Development of thinking and problem solving skills
- Internet and research work
- Word Processing
- Research in all school subjects
- Development of fine motor skills

St. Brigid's GNS currently has access to websites with resources to enhance teaching and learning in the classroom.

Additional Information

Roles and responsibilities

- The school has an ICT team, led by the Principal and Deputy Principal, who holds responsibility for ICT.
- The class teacher is responsible for the e-learning experiences of individual children. It is their responsibility to ensure that every child has equal access to ICT in the school and to promote a digital learning atmosphere through teaching and learning.

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Access

Pupils and teachers have access to ICT. Teachers access the school software system Aladdin on a daily basis.

Special Needs

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.

Exceptional Students

Where applicable, ICT may be used in classrooms to challenge and extend the educational opportunities for pupils with above average attainment.

Health and Safety

- All new computers and laptops purchased will comply with European regulations regarding radiation. Dedicated power points are/will be installed for all computers, and fused plugs used.
- It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure that classroom ICT equipment is stored securely and is always unplugged / turned off at the end of each day.
- An adult will always supervise children when they are accessing information via the internet. The service provider does filter information but staff are ultimately responsible for information accessed by pupils.
- The school has an Internet Acceptable Use Policy in place.

School Website

- The school website hosts a website at www.stbrigidsgns.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

This policy was ratified by the Board of management on March 15th 2017