What is the new Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027?

The Department of Education has published a new Digital Strategy for Schools. The purpose of this new Strategy is to ensure that young people in our schools, can benefit as much as possible from digital technologies. It aims to support you to develop a range of digital skills that will help you in school and in your daily life. The Strategy's work will start this year and continue to 2027.

The vision of the new Digital Strategy is that digital technology can help to make education better for all young people in schools across Ireland. The new Strategy aims to support all pupils and students to develop digital skills and benefit from the potential of digital technology, while also staying safe and well when online.

How was the new Digital Strategy for Schools developed?

To develop the new Strategy, the Department of Education held a consultation to listen to the views of many different groups involved in education. This included focus groups held with primary and post-primary students. Children and young people's opinions on how technology can support teaching, learning and assessment, digital wellbeing and online safety and other areas of concern were heard and taken into consideration.
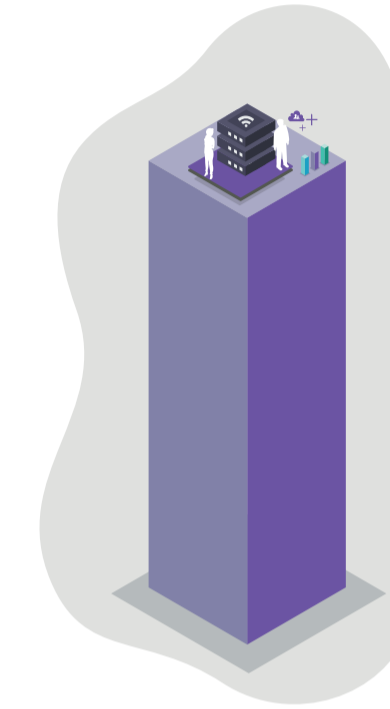
What does the new Digital Strategy for Schools mean for me and my school?

The strategy has three 'pillars' of work. It will be supported by funding from the Department of Education.

The Department of Education used all of the feedback from this consultation and the learning from the previous Strategy (2015-2020) to design this new Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027.
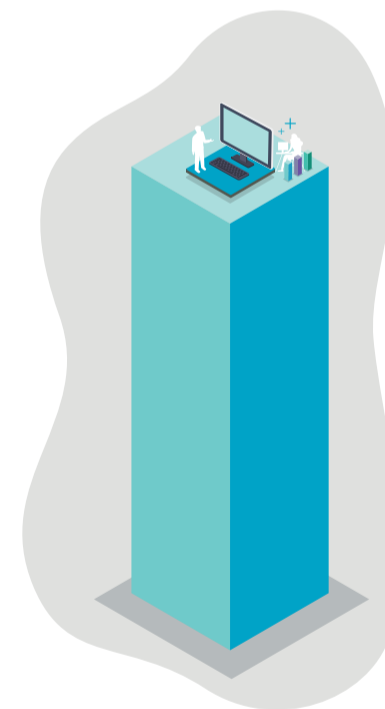

Pillar 1 Supporting the embedding of digital technologies in teaching, learning and assessment

This pillar focuses on ensuring that digital technologies are embedding into teaching, learning and assessment in our schools in a way that helps you to learn. It also aims to support teachers in effectively using technology to support your learning and to support you in developing a range of digital skills
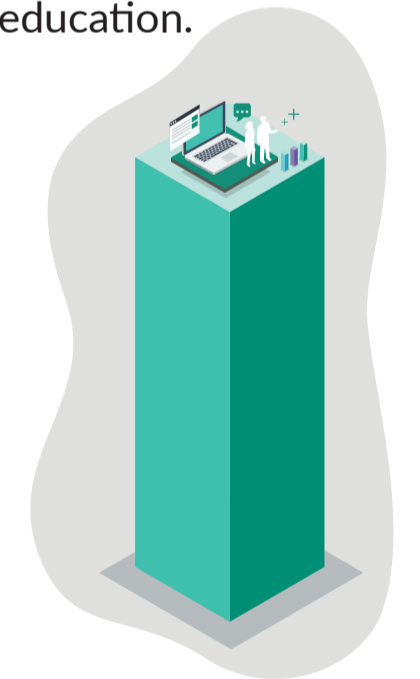

Pillar 2 Digital Technology Infrastructure

This pillar is about the technology itself: the devices that we use, the apps and programmes that help you with your learning and the broadband connectivity in your school. It talks about how to support schools in buying and maintaining digital devices and other technology-related items.

Pillar 3 Looking to the future: policy, research and digital leadership

There are always a lot of new developments in digital technologies, such as new programmes and apps. There are new and faster devices and of course, new opportunities and challenges that arise when you are using the internet and digital technologies. This pillar of the Strategy is about changes in digital technologies in the future. It will help the Department of Education and schools to include technology in the way they work with some other strategies and policies that are important in education.

What happens now?

This will help us to plan for the future of digital technology in schools. This Digital Strategy will be supported by two Implementation Plans. These plans will set out actions that need to happen, so that schools can make the best use of digital technology, to support your learning.

The first Implementation Plan will cover 2022-2024.

The Department of Education will then do a review, to see if the goals set out are being achieved. This will help to plan for the next phase of implementation, from 2025-2027.

As part of this review we will want to hear from you, to learn about how the new Digital Strategy for Schools supports your learning.

You can read the full Strategy online at www.gov.ie......