The Importance of Digital Technologies in Supporting and Enhancing Learning

At Sinclairtown Primary, staff ensure to plan a rich and varied curriculum where technology is used to support learners across subject areas and digital skills are learned and developed. Digital technologies are used as a Universal support tool throughout the school. Then this technology can be adapted to meet the needs of targeted learners who may need additional support to access learning.

Preparing Pupils for Modern Life and Work

At Sinclairtown, our learning is linked to the Meta-skills which ensures our children are developing digital skills, but also skills for learning, life and work. We also ensure that every year, children revise and learn steps to stay safe online, therefore, ensuring our school values of respect and care are fostered not only in the 'real world' but also in the digital world too.

Enhancing Learning Through Engagement and Personalisation

Staff plan a wide range of learning experiences for our classes, we enhance learning in different ways by using different platforms to learn e.g. a game to practise skills or a video to revise teaching points. We also teach new digital skills so children can develop creativity and share their learning in different ways, such as creating presentations, movies and more.

Supporting Inclusive Practice and Equity

Sinclairtown Staff use a range of built-in technologies on our devices to support children in their learning. This could be a tool which would help read a text or support spelling in writing and this equips children with tools and skills to achieve success. As part of the Fife Council Transforming Learning agenda all P6-S6 pupils now receive an iPad which they can use both in class and at home to support and enhance their learning. Our learners have adapted very well to having access to these devices and we already notice personalised approaches to how children use them to help them learn.

Developing Higher-Order Thinking and Creativity

The range of resources available both physically and online allows teachers to teach a range of subjects and skills. This could range from coding simple robotic toys, animating, designing games, taking part in design and make challenges and more. All allowing and encouraging our children to develop higher order thinking skills and creativity.

Strengthening Collaboration and Communication

We have an established Digital Leaders Team of P6 and P7 pupils. They support pupils and staff alike across the school with their digital needs. This may be helping with technical issues and ensuring devices are updated; supporting with the set-up of digital lessons; running digital clubs for children or sharing important messages e.g. online safety. This helps create a community ethos where everyone shares the same messages. The Digital Leaders were instrumental in launching our Acceptable Use Agreement which all P4-7 sign to agree correct use of Digital Technologies in School.

Supporting Effective Assessment and Feedback

All our staff use online planning and tracking to monitor our learners and ensure we are tailoring learning to meet their needs and allow them to meet their potential. At times we use online assessments to test learning and map progress. For example, all P1, P4 and P7 pupils take part in SNSA (Scottish National Standardised Assessments) to record and compare our leaners with the rest of Scotland.