Langloan Primary School and Nursery Class

Digital Platforms Overview

In Langloan Primary School and Nursery Class we use a variety of digital platforms to share information, pupils’ learning, and to celebrate the success of our learners.

The information below will outline the digital platforms we use in our school and nursery and will highlight what each one is used for.

GLOW

GLOW is Scotland’s nationally available digital environment and can support learning across the whole curriculum. Glow is not just one place or platform, instead it offers a username and password that gives access to several different web services.

It is a platform used by all schools in North Lanarkshire. Every pupil has their own unique username and password, and pupils will use these details to login to both GLOW and Microsoft Teams. GLOW allows pupils and staff to have access to apps that support teaching and learning, such as, NLC Virtual Classrooms, Office365 and West Partnership.

Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams is a chat-based workspace in Office 365 that provides a secure and private area for staff and pupils to communicate. It can be accessed using the pupils GLOW username and password and is organised into class Team pages.

Pupils are manually added to the appropriate class Team page by the GLOW administrator, Mrs Paterson. This ensures they have full access to the relevant class page and helps to troubleshoot if any problems should arise.

Microsoft Teams is where pupils will access their weekly homework tasks, which will normally be set as assignments. Our pupils are used to this platform and use it in class from time to time. They are familiar with the functions and how to upload their completed homework to their teacher.

The class teacher may use the class Teams page to share photos of our pupils learning or to celebrate the success of our pupils. They may also use it to remind pupils of important events or deadlines or use it to share important class/school information.

It is worth noting that the class Team page is a safe space for our **pupils and their teachers** to communicate should it be needed. It is not a space for discussing things that have happened in class or to ask about the progress of your child as it is a public forum that all pupils in the class have access too. We would encourage you to use the appropriate means of contacting the school to request a meeting or phone consultation with the teacher. It should also be noted that it is not a space for advertising or for making complaints. Teachers are not expected to man their class Team page 24 hours a day, and we would urge that you refrain from posting late at night. If you have a question or query that requires a response, it is best to contact the school office in case it is missed on the thread.

You can find parent/carer user guides for Microsoft Teams on our school blog in the Digital Information tab.

Social Media- School Blog/ Twitter

North Lanarkshire Council is encouraging all schools to have a school blog and a school Twitter account as a means of staying connected with our parents and carers, and as a way of keeping them involved in the life and ethos of the school/nursery.

Our school blog address is <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/langloanprimary/>

This blog is used by both the nursery and the primary sector to share important information about our establishment. It is organised with a main news feed and has organised tabs along the top, so that people can navigate it and find specific information they may need. Our blog is also a way for us to maintain strong links with our parents/carers and the wider community.

To keep our parents/carers informed or the learning and key events happening within our school and nursery, staff will also use the school blog to share photos (if permission has been granted to do so), Sway presentations or videos of the pupils work or achievements.

Our Twitter handle is @LangloanPS. We have a Langloan Primary School account, which will be used to inform parents/carers of important information or events happening within our school and nursery. This account will also be used to share photos of whole school events.

Every class, including the nursery have their own Twitter pages too. We would encourage all our parents/carers to follow us on Twitter and to follow your child’s specific class page too. This will allow you to see what your child is learning or any events they have participated in. You can search for each class by typing, e.g., @Room1LangloanPS into the search bar in Twitter.

NB: ONLY PUPILS WHO HAVE BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION TO HAVE THEIR PHOTO OR VIDEO SHOWN WILL BE SHARED VIA THESE PLATFORMS.

Langloan Primary School App

Our school app will be our **main method of communication** between the school and our parents/carers. All correspondence will be shared on our app, and we therefore encourage parents/carers to download and use this platform.

The school app will be used to:

* Share important school and nursery information/dates for your diary.
* Alert parents/carers to events or trips that are happening in the school or nursery.
* Alert parents/carers to specific class events and information.
* Advertise fundraising events and concerts/services.

If you require support in downloading or installing the school app onto your phone or device, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to assist you with this.

Parent Portal

Parentsportal.scot was introduced in North Lanarkshire Council to reduce the ‘schoolbag run’, and to ensure that important and secure information was not being lost or damaged. It was also introduced to minimise the amount of paper being used across the authority. This portal was also seen as a way of reducing the administrative overload that schools face.

Parentsportal.scot provides access to a suite of online services. In Langloan Primary School and Nursery Class, we will use the Parent Portal services, which include:

* information about a child's education such as the school calendar and events
* booking your parents evening appointments
* access to your child's attendance and reporting absence
* completion of the annual data checks online
* online payment service for school meals and trips
* permission slips
* report cards
* allows you to update your own details as well as your linked child's details at any time.

If you require support in accessing or using Parent Portal on your phone or device, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to assist you with this.

Sumdog

Sumdog is a games-based learning platform that helps pupils to develop and refine their numeracy/maths and literacy skills. The platform itself is linked to the experiences and outcomes of the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence and is an adaptive learning platform, which tailors the level and the skill set based on the pupils’ abilities. This means that every child is working at their own level and pace.

Although it is a games-based platform, teachers are continually assessing pupils’ and setting their skills within the Sumdog app to help meet their individual needs. The app allows pupils to work on specific skills and it increases the difficulty or reduces the level of difficulty based on the pupils’ accuracy. That is why it is important that pupils complete Sumdog independently, ensuring the questions are pitched at their level of understanding.

Sumdog is used in P1-P7 within our school as part of their maths tasks and it is also used for homework tasks. All tasks are set by the teachers and are relevant to prior learning or current learning.

IDL

IDL is a computer programme based on helping pupils to develop their confidence and self-esteem in the areas of reading and spelling, and numeracy. It is proven to help children progress due to the nature and design of the tailor-made modules and lessons that are based on the child’s ability.

Your child will have taken a simple reading and spelling assessment in schools to determine a starting point on IDL. This ensures that they are working at an appropriate level relative to their reading and spelling ability, and the programme is individually tailored to meet their needs.

Written by: Mrs E Paterson

Date: May 2022