

**NATIONAL DIGITAL LEARNING COUNCIL
DOUBLETREE HILTON EXCEL, LONDON DOCKLANDS
26 JANUARY 2017**

IN ATTENDANCE		
Janet Hayward [Chair] (JH)	Simon Billington (SBI)	APOLOGIES
Catherine Kucia (CK)	Kay Morris (KM)	Dilwyn Owen (DO)
Ty Golding (TG)	Hannah Mathias (HM)	Paul Watkins (PW)
Simon Brown (SBr)	WELSH GOVERNMENT	Alyson Nicholson (AN)
Chris Britten (CB)	Ruth Meadows (RM)	Mike Jones (MJo)
Gary Beauchamp (GB)	Chris Owen (CO)	Karen Cornish (KC)
Alison Howells (AH)	Lloyd Hopkin (LH)	Marian Jebb (MJe)
Gareth Dacey (GD)	Chris Roderick (CR)	

1. Welcome

- 1.1 JH welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for travelling to London.

2. Learning in Digital Wales Programme - Chris Owen

- 2.1 CO highlighted the new online adaptive tests which are due to be piloted in 2018 and rolled out fully throughout 2019. The project is being scoped out, to ensure its success.
- 2.2 New zones will be introduced across Hwb, covering various curriculum areas, including science and maths with the potential for others to be rolled out in future.
- 2.3 CO showed the new Hwb overview video produced by CDSM to be launched at the BETT Show. The video highlights the new features that have been introduced recently.
- 2.4 It was suggested there be more prominent branding in the video.
- 2.5 The five minute video will be broken down into 40 second chunks in the near future, to be uploaded to the platform as short help videos and these will be promoted via twitter.

Hwb statistics

- 2.6 CO stated that November had the highest stats to date, and that December's figures were also high, despite generally being a quiet month.

Content review

- 2.7 CO confirmed that all Hwb content and resources on Hwb are currently being reviewed for appropriateness and suitability, with Foundation Phase having been completed, Key Stage 4 materials to be considered next.

Hwb work Streams

- 2.8 In terms of short term developments regarding the platform, there will be a focus on user profiles and improving the user journey, including the provision of more customization features.
- 2.9 O365 self service console - further workshops to consider the next steps are planned to take place in February.

Online Safety Zone

- 2.10 [The new Online Safety Zone](#) brings together all of the former online safety features, while also adding further tools like Networks and an events calendar.
- 2.11 HM noted the dominance of younger learners currently shown on the site. CO stated that the zone is aimed at all age groups and will appear more mixed as more content is added.
- 2.12 CO requested that members take a look at the zone and provide any comments to the secretariat.

Action: Members to provide comments on the Online Safety Zone.

Safer Internet Day 2017 Event

- 2.13 Lynn Neagle will be hosting this year's event at the Senedd over lunch on 7 February. Speakers will include:
 - the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kirsty Williams AM, who will also announce [the winner of the Online Safety Zone logo competition](#);
 - Sally Holland, Children's Commissioner for Wales;
 - Kellie Williams, Digital Leader for North Wales School Effectiveness & Improvement Service; and
 - David Wright, Director of the UK Safer Internet Centre.

National Digital Learning Event 2017

- 2.14 CO provided an overview of the new approach being taken for this year's event. The 350-400 delegates will be split into two, with half attending a market place type event, while the other half will attend workshops linked to the various strands of the DCF.
- 2.15 The day will start with a keynote address from the Cabinet Secretary for Education, and end with a further keynote which is still TBC. Various Masters of ceremonies for the day are also being considered.
- 2.16 CO requested suggestions from members as to:
 - Keynote speakers
 - Key themes
 - Workshops

Action: Members to provide suggestions for speakers, workshops and themes for this year's NDLE.

- 2.17 It was felt that having an Estyn representative present, possibly to speak on the latest annual report, would be very important, in order to highlight the key messages.
- 2.18 It was also suggested that, when offering workshop choices in advance, the descriptions be more focused on literacy and numeracy outcomes, rather than pure technology, as this should be more relevant and helpful for teachers, widening these across the curriculum.
- 2.19 It was stated that more needs to be done to spread key messages across whole schools, as the majority those attending will already have been sold on the benefits, but they will need to feed back messages to their respective Senior Leadership Teams.

National Digital Learning Awards 2017

- 2.20 The categories for this year's awards will remain the same as for those in 2016.
- 2.21 Entries will open on 13 February and close on 7 April, with each category receiving promotion via social media channels for a week.
- 2.22 RM detailed proposals for the Awards from 2018 onwards to be brought under a new wider "teaching awards" banner. If agreed, the award winners would be announced in May 2018 and could potentially be invited to present at workshops during the NDLE in the summer term. More firm proposals around this will be put to the Council at a later stage.

3. Digital across the new Curriculum - Lloyd Hopkin

- 3.1 LH stated that the Assessment of Learning Experience groups met for the first time last week, with the work on developing the high level frameworks for each AoLE expected to be completed by June 2017.
- 3.2 The aim is for half of the Digital Pioneers to develop 'classroom task ideas', to give teachers a brief idea of how various elements of the DCF can be achieved. However it was stressed that these were merely ideas, rather than lesson plans, providing limited detail in order to encourage teachers to tie these into existing themes/plans and to make these more relevant and specific to their pupils.
- 3.3 Concerns were raised over these classroom task ideas and the way that these could potentially discourage teachers from showing innovation. This could be seen as a minimum requirement/tick box for teachers to achieve.
- 3.4 LH stated that this would be put to the Digital Pioneers Group and will bring this back to the Council at a later date.
- 3.5 HM questioned the listing of specific tools and programs that were stated in the early draft of the plans and suggested that these be removed.
- 3.6 There was positive feedback with regard to the DCF as a whole, with the purpose and intent having been made very clear and that this will lead the way in developing and the rolling out of the new curriculum following Professor Donaldson's review. However, concerns were raised over the potential for this to distort the IT-specific curriculum.

Professional Learning Offer (PLO)

- 3.7 LH provided an overview of the PLO being developed by the other half of the Digital pioneer schools. This encompasses training opportunities to be provided to teachers who need assistance with regard to the rollout of the DCF.

Action: Members to submit any comments on the Professional Learning Offer to the Secretariat.

Curriculum Mapping Tool

- 3.8 LH confirmed that the Curriculum Mapping Tool will be available to view soon.

Action: Secretariat to share the Curriculum Mapping Tool via the collaboration site.

Self-Assessment tool

- 3.9 CO provided an overview of the self-assessment tool - which will help teachers to identify gaps in their confidence with digital competence.
- 3.10 The tool is currently available via Hwb, though this will not be promoted until further changes have been made. Changes include:
- 3.10.1 The descriptions to assist teachers in establishing their current level will be expanded to make these clearer.
 - 3.10.2 Links to helpful resources to improve teachers' knowledge should also be provided.
- 3.11 Senior leadership teams will be able to view the perceived levels/abilities of their staff, though all statistics above this (from local authority level and up) will be anonymised.
- 3.12 Some members expressed concern over the potential for teachers to exaggerate their scores, if they know that headteachers will have access to these. It was stressed that this is merely a development tool to help teachers to identify any gaps in their knowledge and to offer guidance and support as to how these can be addressed through appropriate training and support packages.
- 3.13 The overall purpose of the tool is to inform the PLO and to raise the profile of any specific issues at school, LA or REC levels, but **not** to become an accountability tool.
- 3.14 It was suggested that the level ratings be amended to either consist of a sliding scale, a RAG (red,amber,green) status, or for the five options to become four, in order to prevent any "average" responses.

Action: Secretariat to circulate communications regarding the Self-Assessment tool.

4. Actions resulting from last meeting (13 December 2016)

Ref	Owner	Action
2.1	CR	Secretariat to add four purposes and WG representatives to ToR. <i>ToR revised and uploaded to collaboration site – members to provide any comments to secretariat by Friday 10 March.</i>
3.2	Members	Members to provide suggestions for stakeholders the Hwb Content Team can make links with.
3.7	Members	Members to provide any suggestions for HwbMeet table hosts to the secretariat.
3.8	Members	Members to provide any suggestions for NDLE keynote speakers to the secretariat.
4.4	KC	KC to provide list of Area of Learning and Experience (AoLE) Group members. <i>List of AoLE members uploaded to collaboration site.</i>
7.2	CR	Secretariat to compile and circulate list of Council achievements throughout 2015-16 academic year for next meeting. <i>List of achievements uploaded to collaboration site – paper for meeting on 26 January.</i>
7.3	RM/CR	RM/Secretariat to share new DCF communications. <i>Link to the new DCF FAQ document uploaded to collaboration site.</i>

5. Digital News and Information Task Force

- 5.1 HM provided a brief overview of the remit of the Task Force, chaired by Leighton Andrews. Their goal is to establish ways of improving engagement between the public and the National Assembly, through the use of digital services and platforms like social media, and will be required to deliver their findings by Easter 2017.
- 5.2 HM stated that future news stories will be written to appeal to a broader audience about issues that the general public can relate to, such as community based themes, rather than bills being passed and general Assembly Business.
- 5.3 The Group is also looking to explore and recommend the most effective ways in which the Assembly can deliver engaging and accessible news and info about its work in order to increase levels of public understanding and engagement with audiences who are currently disengaged with politics and Welsh affairs.
- 5.4 HM requested any suggestions for how this could be achieved. Ideas included:
 - Youtube videos similar to CGPGrey, which explain relatively complicated issues in a fun and straight forward, easy enough for anyone to understand;
 - the establishment of a people's parliament, similar to the one running in Ireland; and
 - possibly reinstituting the Youth Parliament which encourages pupils to participate in a Parliament/Assembly setting, allowing them to gain experience and see first-hand what is involved.
 - AMs buddying up with schools to build further links with communities, holding Q&A sessions with learners – either in person or virtually via skype.

- Schools being invited to attend sessions at the Senedd, similar to English schools being invited to visit Parliament.
- More technologically advanced tours of the Senedd and Pierhead building – possibly with wind-up story telling modules.
- More engagement with the Children's Commissioner to help improve engagement with children and schools.

Summary of Actions (26 January 2017)

Ref	Owner	Action
2.12	Members	Members to provide comments on the Online Safety Zone.
2.16	Members	Members to provide suggestions for speakers, workshops and themes for this year's NDLE.
3.7	Members	Members to submit any comments on the Professional Learning Offer to the Secretariat.
3.8	Secretariat	Secretariat to share the Curriculum Mapping Tool via the collaboration site.
3.14	Secretariat	Secretariat to circulate communications regarding the Self-Assessment tool.