

**St. Nathy's College**

**Subject Department Plan for:**

***Information and Communication Technology***

**Year**

***2010-2011***

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### **1) Mission Statement**

Information and Communications Technology is a part of our everyday today. ICT is promoted as a basic skill at St Nathys to support student learning and student ability to learn.

### **2) Programmes and levels**

Students follow a programme of one class a week in 1<sup>st</sup> Year and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year of Junior Cycle.

Senior Cycle Students are involved in ICT during the LCA programme and in the preparation and research for their Portfolio in the Link Modules Subject as part of the L.C.V.P. Programme.

### **3) Subject Aims**

- Introduce the student to ICT building on their Primary School Experience.
- Give the Student basic ICT competency.
- To allow the Student to begin to appreciate the world of ICT.
- To foster an interest in ICT

### **4) Subject Objectives**

To develop the students skill level.

To allow the student time to explore the use of IT.

To reinforce the basic IT skills required to facilitate self learning.

Allow the student to familiarise themselves with the GUI and the typical GUI menu structures.

Allow the student develop their skills for storage and organisation of files.

## **5) Staff**

### **Subject Co-ordinator**

Gearoid O'Suilleabhain

### **Subject Teachers**

ICT

Gearoid O'Suilleabhain

Elizabeth Conway

### **Special Needs**

All Teachers involved directly or indirectly with Students with Special Needs will have varying degrees of involvement in the ICT program. The Subject Co-ordinator and all ICT teachers by the nature of their expertise maybe called upon to give ICT support for ICT used by Students with Special Needs, in some cases this may be a general query, a first port of call for support or having the knowledge to escalate the issue.

To date these queries are handled as they arise, in the event that these issues become numerous a procedure will be initiated.

## **6) Time Allocation, Options Structure and Timetabling**

1<sup>st</sup> Year and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year classes are allocated 1 class per week, the duration of this class can be 35/40 minutes depending on the timetable.

All first year and Second year students attend this class.

### **LCA Students**

LCA students are involved in ICT classes depending on the Modular choices chosen in their particular years. All LCA students are scheduled for a Core Information and Communications Technology Module and generally all students complete an ICT elective.

Other LCA Modules are partially completed using ICT where the Subject teacher chooses ICT as the method of completing the relevant module. This has been undertaken in the Mathematics Modules and the Reflective Modules.

### **Link Modules**

The link Modules Programme is followed by the majority of Senior Cycle students at St. Nathy's. All students who undertake this programme will be scheduled for the Computer Room for ¼ of the years Scheduled classes. This schedule is weekly or Bi weekly depending on the Link Modules Programmes Progress and this scheduling is co-ordinated by the Link Module Teachers, The L.C.V.P. Co-ordinator and the ICT teacher allocated to the Link Modules Programme

## **7) Grouping of Pupils (Mixed ability, streaming)**

## **8) Student Access to Subject/Level**

All 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year classes follow the same programme.

LCA Classes follow the LCA Programme.

The LCA programme is a common level Subject.

## **9) Class Organisation**

Classes are assigned to computing in their class groups in both 1<sup>st</sup> year and 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

## **10) Textbooks and Course Materials**

Prior to the 2008/2009 School year no School Textbook was suggested for Students. A review of the existing texts which were used as resources by the ICT teachers lead to the Selection of the following textbook,

“ICT Skills for the Classroom” By Michael Morgan Pub: Gill and McMillan

Due to the cost of this book all students were asked to donate towards the use of a pool of these texts for use during 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

This Text and system will be reviewed as appropriate, given the changing needs of ICT students.

## **11) Planning for Students with Special Needs**

Teachers are aware of student needs and adapt the delivery method to facilitate these needs.

## **12) Cross-Curricular Planning**

Junior Cycle:

To-date some attempts have been made to link with other subjects in first year, the first year schedule is very skill based and the material tries to support all subjects in preparing students to generate materials using computers.

Senior Cycle:-

Link Modules, The Link Modules has enhanced links with Career Guidance to include Qualifax and Qualifax introduction.

LCA Students:-

LCA students are encouraged to prepare materials for other Subjects and projects and tasks in other subject areas. The availability of the computer room has seen Teachers also using the ICT resources for this Cross-Curricular activity.

To date Cross Curricular activity has occurred in the following areas, this is an area that depends on timing and resources, but a small amount of forward planning assists.

Music Classes in Cakewalk, facilitated by the installation of Cakewalk.

Posters for English Class.

Materials for a Science Competition.

Graphs from Mathematics data.

To name a few.

### **13) *Effective Teaching Methodologies***

The Classes are Projector driven and files are stored by students on their own drives.

### **14) *Provision for Health and Safety requirements***

In accordance with School criteria.

### **15) *Curriculum Content***

#### **a) Year1**

Word/ Powerpoint following the prescribed text.

#### **b) Year2**

Excel/ Publisher following the prescribed text.

#### **c) Year3**

ICT is not delivered at present in 3<sup>rd</sup> year

#### **d) Year4**

There is no 4<sup>th</sup> Year at St. Nathy's

#### **e) Year5**

ICT is not delivered at present 5<sup>th</sup> year.

#### **f) Year6**

ICT is not delivered at present in 6<sup>th</sup> year.

### **16) *Homework Procedures***

At present there is not a program for homework in this subject area in Junior Cycle, the number of students with access to Computer hardware outside the school has risen considerably. The bringing in of homework has security implications and the ability of staff to verify the authenticity of the work is limited given the systems available in the school. The changing climate allows the review of this regularly.

### **17) *Assessment Procedures***

Junior Cycle students are assessed by the use of tests at 8 week periods  
Generally there are 2 assessments prior to Christmas, and 2 assessments after  
Christmas. These Assessments gauge Student retention.  
Each Student has their own User space and the work they have completed is stored  
there this is a more realistic measure of the students progress in tandem with the tests.

### **18) Record-Keeping Procedures**

Student grades are kept.  
Student files are kept on the server.

### **19) Reporting Procedures**

As the department is small in size the liason between the principal and tutor has been  
historically at end of term where any developments are discussed. The principal is  
kept informed of any issues as they occur.

### **20) Teacher In-Career Development**

In-Career Development is facilitated at St. Nathy's in a number of ways.

Education Centre Courses and Visits.

In Service Courses.

Attendance of Seminars.

Subject Specific Visits to Suppliers/Vendors.

At present the Following members of Staff are following the following programmes

Name	Date	Topic
G. O'Suilleabhain	Oct 2008-Oct 2009	Masters UL

**21) *DES Subject Department Inspection***

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendations:

Plan to Address Recommendations:

**22) Log of Plan Modifications/Reviews**

Review Date	Modification Recommendation	Urgency	Target Date	Comp.
12/1/09	Initial Draft Submitted to College President.	med	20/1/09	