



Our e-Learning approach to the Year 10 Curriculum: A Parent's Guide

The advance of technology in learning and teaching in St. Mary's Grammar School has paralleled the advance of technology in our society. Every facet of life is becoming increasingly reliant on technology and our aim is to equip our pupils accordingly. We have integrated the use of digital technology at a whole school level to allow our pupils to gain access to increased opportunities for personalised learning, enriching their digital competencies and allowing them to flourish academically and personally. **In our Year 10 Curriculum, we have carefully and strategically planned for implementing an exciting, comprehensive and innovative e-Learning approach.**

What does an e-Learning approach in the curriculum mean?

In St. Mary's Grammar, our vision for e-Learning in the curriculum is to embed the use of technology in classroom learning, **to allow for a more digitally rich, collaborative and engaged space for our pupils to learn and flourish.**

Our staff have invested considerable time and energy over the past year to provide Year 10 pupils with **colourful, engaging and interactive digital resources of an extremely high standard.** These high quality resources include digital workbooks and worksheets that can be annotated and also used as a point of reference on the iPad for learning and revision. The digital material also includes podcasts, videos and Key Note and Power Point presentations. The range and variety of material provided to our Year 10s, **will to allow them to extend and deepen their learning and ensures a consistent pupil experience of using technology in St. Mary's Grammar.**

All resources for our pupils can be accessed on the iPad, a PC or any digital device. These resources have been arranged in subject folders to improve pupil organisation and also to allow pupils to access resources if they are absent or have missed work.

In each of their subjects, pupils will use these digital worksheets and workbooks in a variety of ways:

- Pupils will write and annotate on workbooks and worksheets using the application Notability.
- Pupils will use workbooks and worksheets as a point of reference and will complete tasks in written form, in a notebook/ sketch pad, using pen and paper.

What are the benefits of an e-Learning approach to the curriculum in St. Mary's Grammar?

- ✓ **To promote the well-being of our pupils by significantly reducing the weight of their schoolbags**
- ✓ **To ensure a consistent pupil experience to the use of technology in St. Mary's**
- ✓ **To develop our the digital skills of our pupils**, creating responsible digital citizens
- ✓ **To enhance teacher- pupil communication and workflow**
- ✓ **To develop pupil confidence** in their own learning
- ✓ **To improve organisational skills of our pupils** – to prepare them for the coursework and Controlled Assessment elements of subjects at GCSE level
- ✓ **To improve revision and independent learning** – all resources are organised in subject folders for the academic year to allow pupils to review their learning on a regular basis and to access material if they are absent

Will my child continue to use pen and paper?

An e-Learning curriculum **will not replace the traditional use of pen and paper**. Our approach to raising standards of pupil literacy through the curriculum remains an integral focus. We understand the importance of preparing our Year 10 pupils in their move towards GCSE examinations, and so we will continue to develop their writing and skills of communication. **We will continue to encourage and direct our pupils to submit written work of a high standard and the use of writing in traditional paper notebooks and exercise books will be retained in the classroom to ensure this.** All CMs will continue to be completed in written format to adequately prepare our pupils for completing written examinations, under timed conditions at GCSE level.

Overview of e-Learning in the Year 10 Curriculum:

Subject	Digital Workbooks, Textbooks and Resources are available for pupils on the iPad	Traditional paper notebooks/ exercise books are used for writing notes and completing written tasks	CMs are in written form and are completed on paper
Art	✓	✓ (Sketch pad used)	✓
English	✓	✓	✓
Careers	✓	x	No CM in this subject
Drama	✓	x	Skills based assessment
French	✓	✓	✓
Geography	✓	✓	✓
History	✓	✓	✓
Home Economics	✓	x	✓
Irish	✓	x	✓
iMedia	✓	x	CM completed digitally
LLW	✓	x	No CM in this subject
Maths	✓	✓	✓
Music	✓	x	✓
Science	✓	x	✓
Spanish	✓	✓	✓
RE	✓	✓	✓
Technology	✓	✓ (Sketch pad used)	✓
PE	✓	x	Skills based assessment

How can I support my child with homework in the mostly paperless approach?

The nature of completing homework and independent research continues to change with advancements and innovations in technology. **We will continue to direct our pupils on how they can be independent and responsible learners when using technology.** We would encourage parents to reinforce the message of responsible online use and monitor the activity of your child when online. We will be offering Parental Digital Workshops throughout the academic year to further support your role in your child's learning.