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Supporting the Professional Learning of School Leaders and Teachers

# ICT Infrastructure Grant Exploring Possibilities (Circular 0039/2024)

Niall Larkin and Shelly Nerney

Oide Digital Technologies Team

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# Webinar Learning Intentions

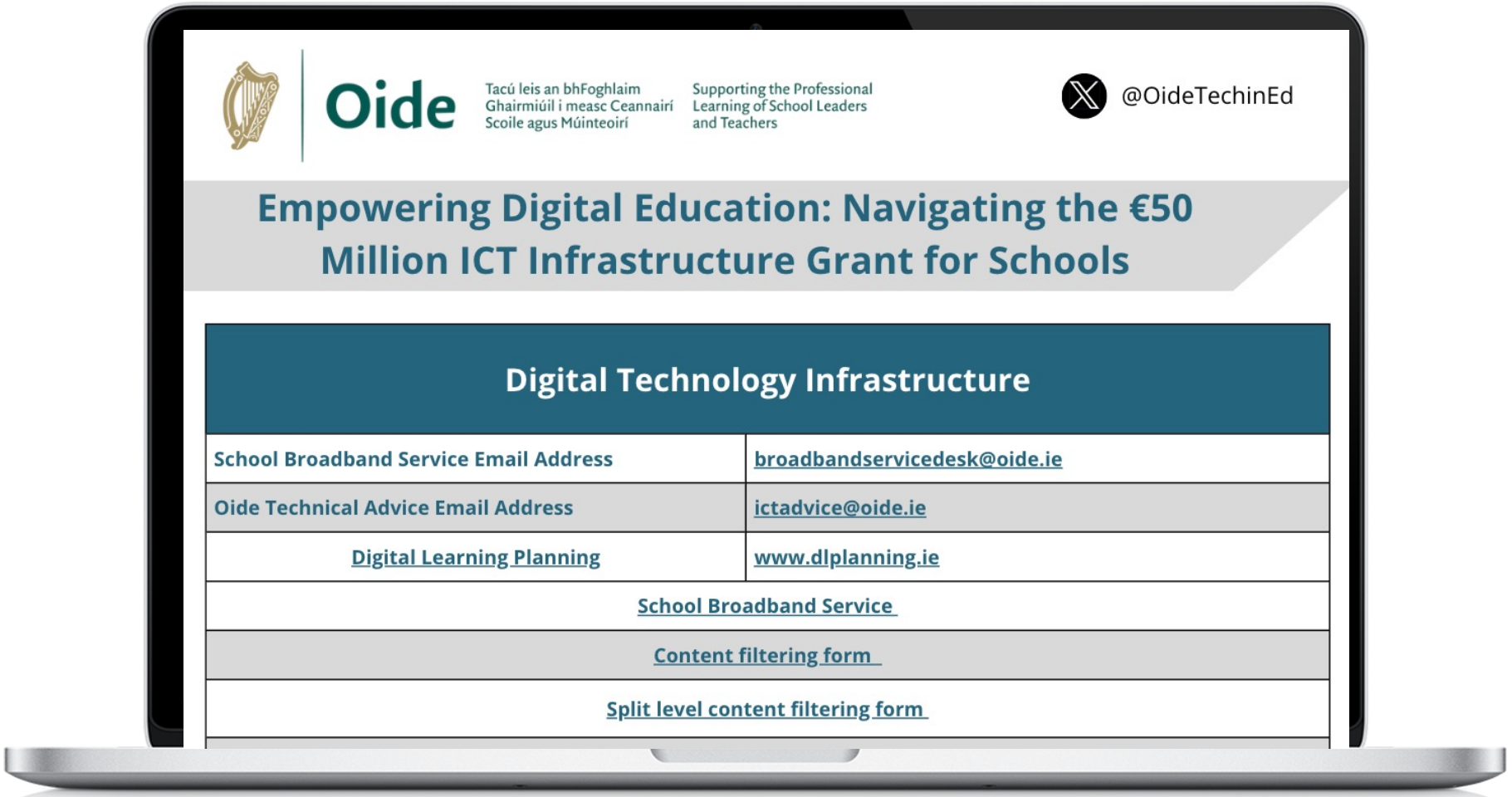
Participants will explore:

- Strategies to make best use of the ICT Infrastructure Grant (Circular 0039/2024) and how it relates to your school context
- How to connect Digital Learning Planning with the Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027
- How to weave available digital technologies into all aspects of learning, teaching and assessment.
- The supports, including professional learning supports available to schools.

# Previous Webinars for Digital Learning Leaders

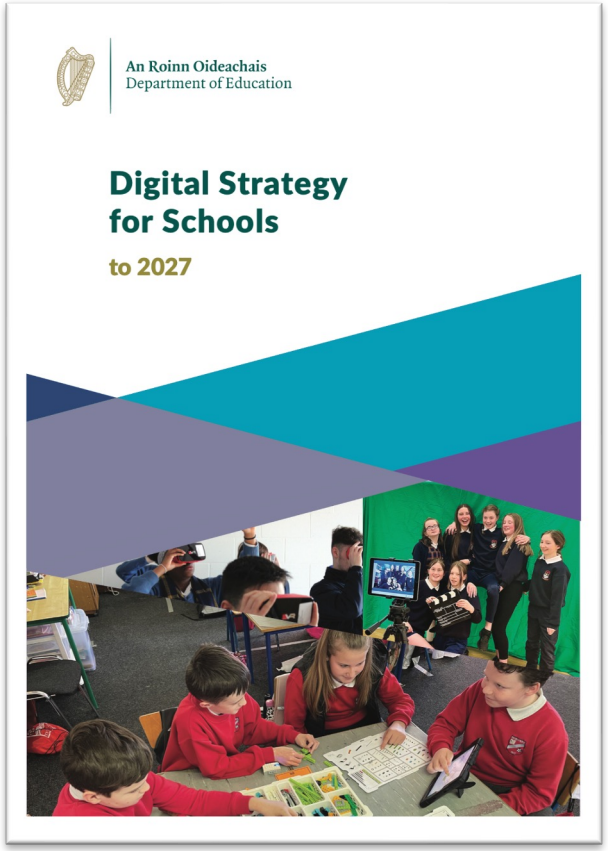
tiny.cc/oidewebinars

# Useful Links Document

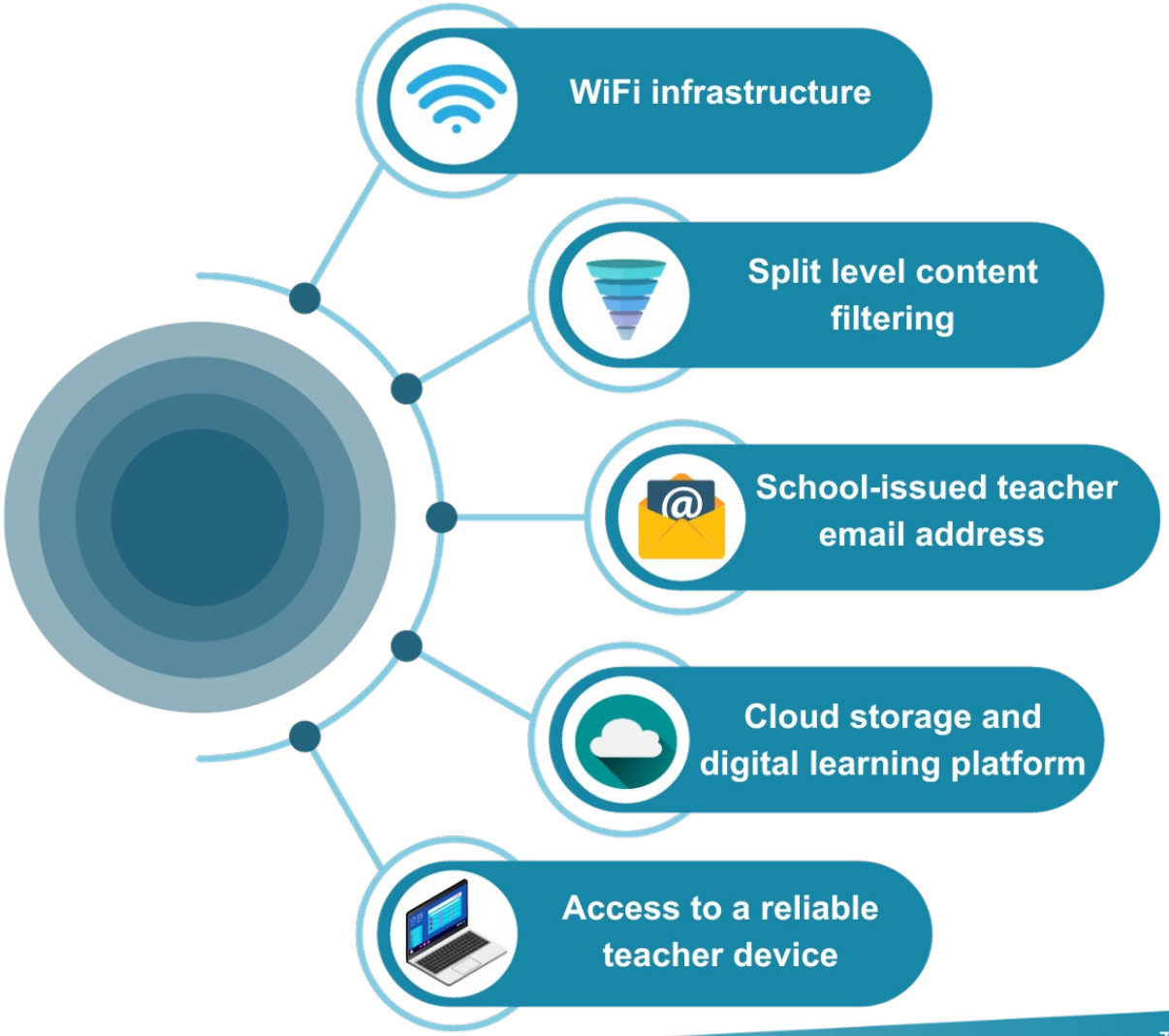


# Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027

A key objective of the strategy is to continue to realise the potential of digital technologies to transform the learning experiences of students and to help them to develop key digital skills to facilitate their participation in society and the economy as well as the transition to further and higher education and to the world of work.



# Recommended Infrastructure



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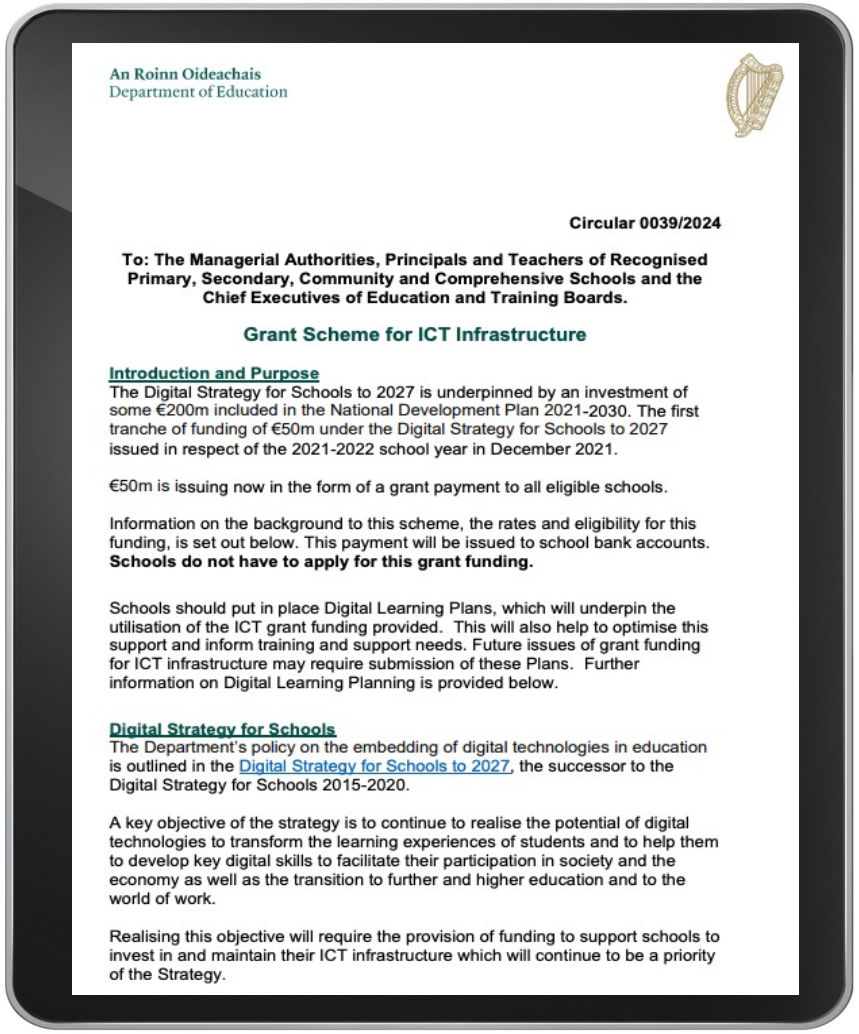
# Grant Funding

# ICT Infrastructure Grant 2023/2024



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

Circular 0039/2024

**To: The Managerial Authorities, Principals and Teachers of Recognised Primary, Secondary, Community and Comprehensive Schools and the Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards.**

**Grant Scheme for ICT Infrastructure**

**Introduction and Purpose**

The Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027 is underpinned by an investment of some €200m included in the National Development Plan 2021-2030. The first tranche of funding of €50m under the Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027 issued in respect of the 2021-2022 school year in December 2021.

€50m is issuing now in the form of a grant payment to all eligible schools.

Information on the background to this scheme, the rates and eligibility for this funding, is set out below. This payment will be issued to school bank accounts. **Schools do not have to apply for this grant funding.**

Schools should put in place Digital Learning Plans, which will underpin the utilisation of the ICT grant funding provided. This will also help to optimise this support and inform training and support needs. Future issues of grant funding for ICT infrastructure may require submission of these Plans. Further information on Digital Learning Planning is provided below.

**Digital Strategy for Schools**

The Department's policy on the embedding of digital technologies in education is outlined in the Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027, the successor to the Digital Strategy for Schools 2015-2020.

A key objective of the strategy is to continue to realise the potential of digital technologies to transform the learning experiences of students and to help them to develop key digital skills to facilitate their participation in society and the economy as well as the transition to further and higher education and to the world of work.

Realising this objective will require the provision of funding to support schools to invest in and maintain their ICT infrastructure which will continue to be a priority of the Strategy.

## Funding allocation model applying to the ICT Infrastructure Grant

1. All schools, primary, post-primary and special schools, will receive a lump sum of €2,000 (€1,000 in respect of fee-charging schools) per school.
2. A per capita amount will be paid as follows:
   a. €39.73 per mainstream pupil on the rolls on the 30th September of the year prior to the issue of the grant, in mainstream primary schools,
   b. €47.67 per special needs pupil on the rolls on the 30th September of the year prior to the issue of the grant, in special classes attached to mainstream schools, and per pupil in special schools.
   c. €43.70 per pupil on the rolls on the 30th September of the year prior to the issue of the grant in DEIS category primary schools.
   d. €47.67 per student on the rolls on the 30th September of the year prior to the issue of the grant in post-primary schools.
   e. €52.44 per student on the rolls on the 30th September of the year prior to the issue of the grant in DEIS category post-primary schools.
   f. €23.84 per student on the rolls on the 30th September of the year prior to the issue of the grant per student in fee-charging schools.

# ICT Infrastructure Grant 2023/2024

## Sample Primary School

Rural DEIS primary school with 100 pupils on the roll since September 30th will receive €6370

Mainstream primary school with 220 pupils on the roll since September 30th will receive €10740.60

# ICT Infrastructure Grant 2023/2024

## Sample Post Primary Schools

Mainstream DEIS Post primary school with 350 students on the roll since September 30th will receive €20,354

Mainstream Post primary school with 1000 students on the roll since September 30th will receive €49,670

# ICT Infrastructure Grants and Circulars

| 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2023/2024 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0001/2017 | 0011/2018 | 0018/2019 | 0031/2020<br>0032/2020 | 0077/2020 | 0027/2022 | 0039/2024 |

# Digital Learning Planning

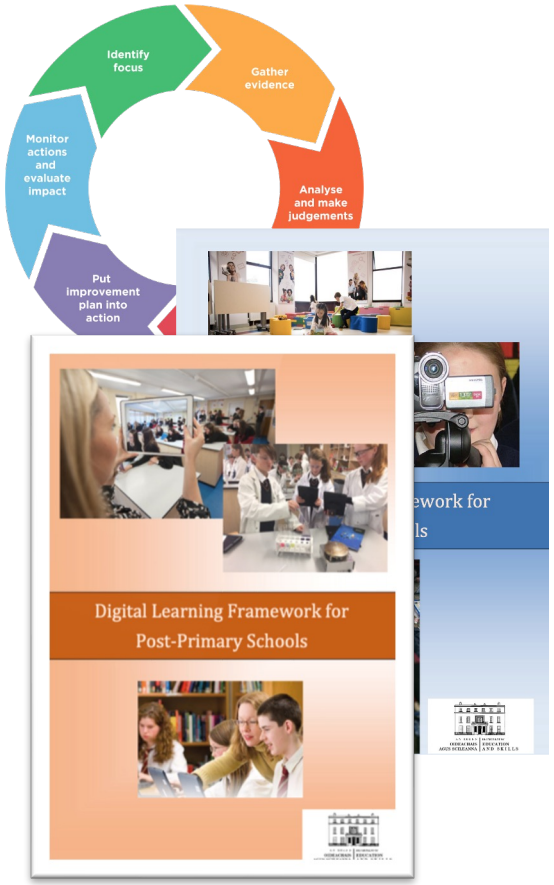
### 3. Digital Learning Action Plan

| | |
|---|---|
| **Dimension:** Teaching & Learning | **Domain:** LEARNER EXPERIENCES |
| **Standard:** 1.1 Pupils enjoy their learning, are motivated to learn and expect to achieve as learners | |
| **Statement(s) of Practice:** | |
| **TARGET(S)**: *(These are generally based on learners acquiring new knowledge, skills and/or attitudes as well as the method of attainment. They should lead to improved learner outcomes).* • | |

*Actions are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timebound (SMART) activities that will be required to achieve that target.*

| ACTION (What needs to be done?) | CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS (What are the desired outcomes?) | PERSONS RESPONSIBLE (Who is to do it?) | TIMEFRAME (When is it to be done by?) | ACTION COMPLETED? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

**MONITORING & EVALUATION PROCEDURES**
How are we going to monitor our progress? Do we need to make adjustments? Have we achieved our target(s)? How do we know?

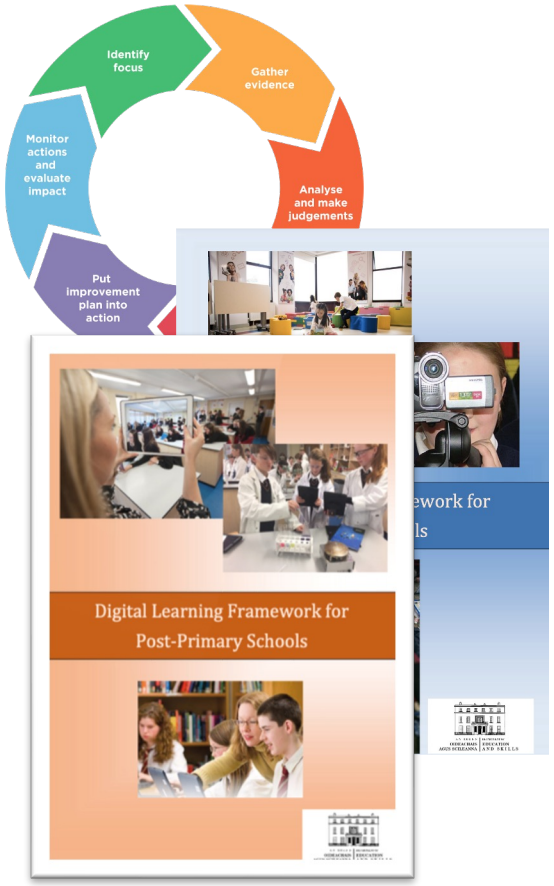


# Digital Learning Framework Refresher

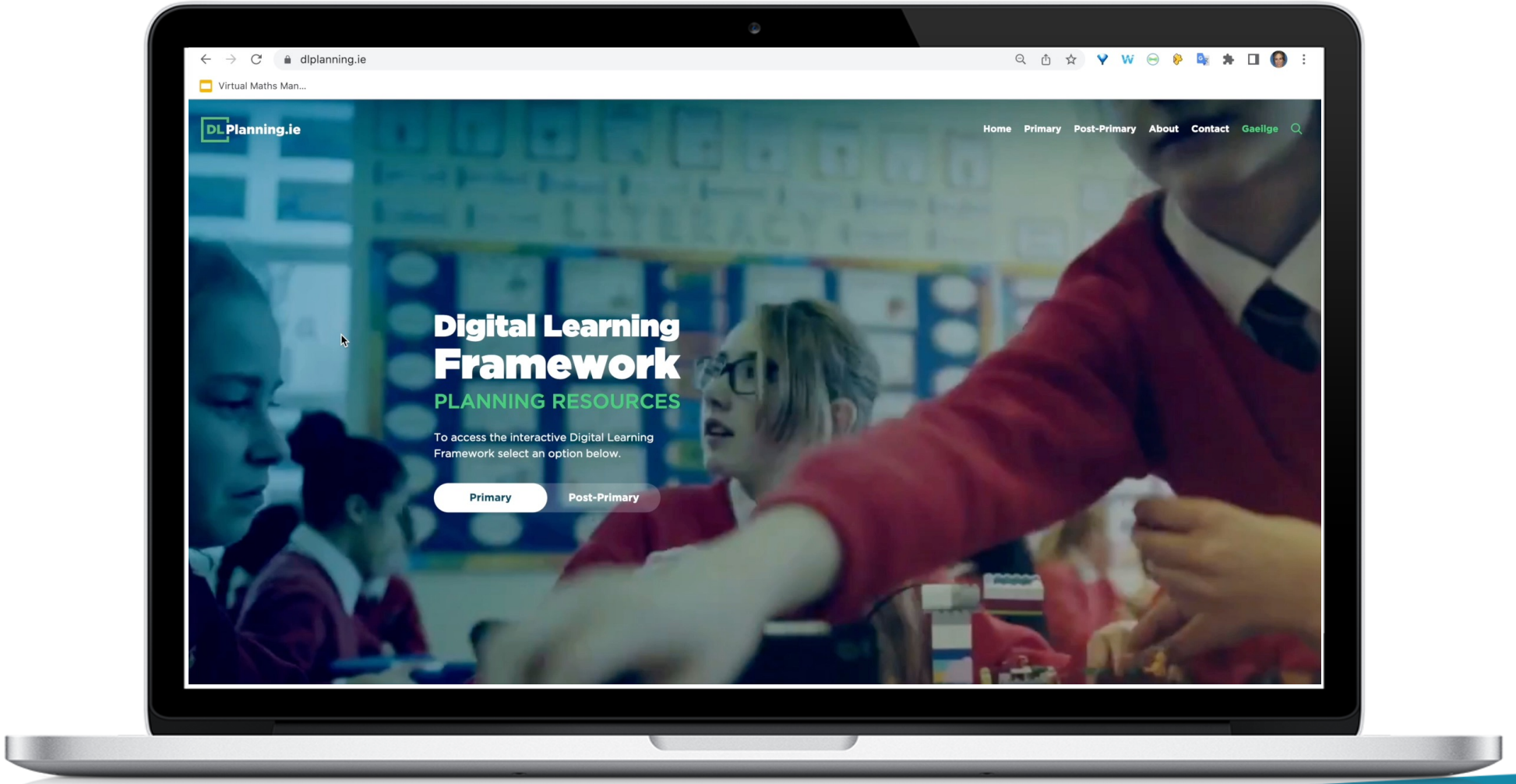
## Primary – teaching and learning

### DOMAIN 3: TEACHERS' INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE

| STANDARDS | STATEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE | STATEMENTS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE PRACTICE |
|---|---|---|
| **The teacher has the requisite subject knowledge, pedagogical knowledge and classroom management skills** | Teachers use a range of digital technologies to design learning and assessment activities for their pupils. | Teachers use a range of digital technologies to design new opportunities for learning, teaching and assessment. |
| | Teachers design or adapt learning experiences that incorporate digital technologies and make learning activities relevant and meaningful to support pupils' learning. | Teachers model high-level teaching, knowledge and skills, using digital technologies to support pupil creativity, innovation and knowledge creation. |
| | When teachers use digital learning activities, they evaluate their effectiveness, and revise their teaching strategies accordingly. | Teachers critically reflect and experiment with a range of digital learning activities, continuously evaluate their effectiveness, and revise their teaching strategies accordingly. |



# DLplanning.ie



# Developing a Digital Learning Plan

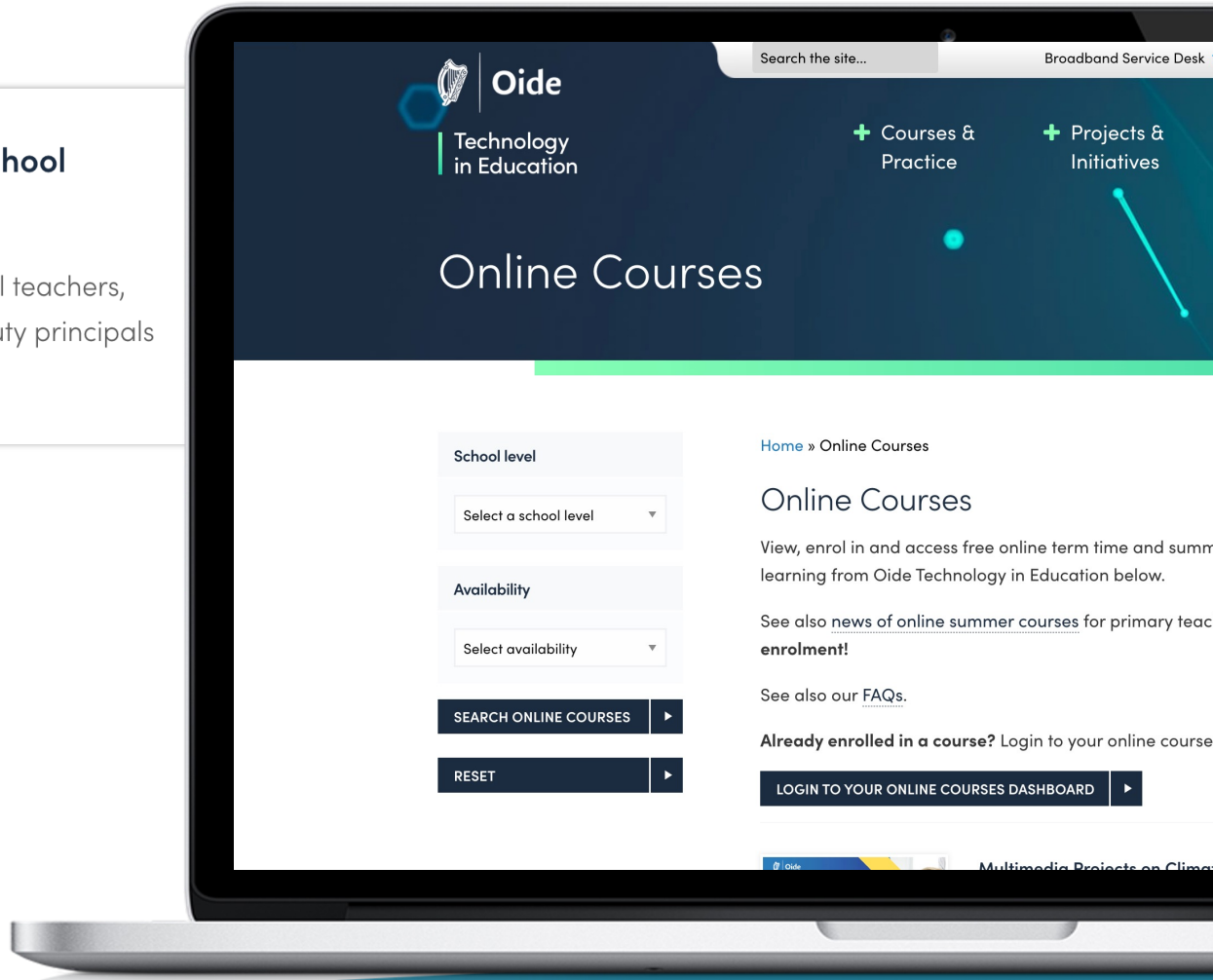
### Developing a Digital Learning Plan for your School – Short Version

**Course dates**: 21-08-23 to 21-06-24

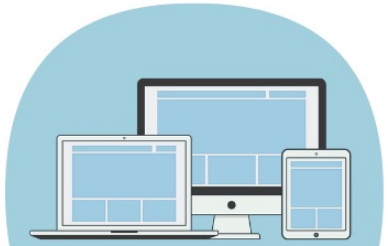
**Study time**: 4 hours

**Target audience**: All teachers, principals and deputy principals

**Places**: Unlimited

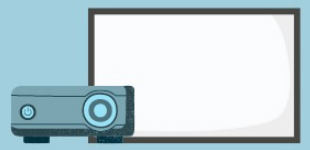


# What can grant funding be used for?



Teacher Devices

Student Devices



Interactive flat panels

Wifi and networking equipment

Cloud-based tools

Learning programmes and apps

ICT Equipment

Maintenance

# What should we buy?

- Consider your current devices
- What digital learning platform are you using?
- How many devices do you need? What classes will be using the devices?
- What is the lifespan of the devices you are looking at?

# Device Life Spans

- The average desktop computer will last between **5 and 8 years.**
- The lifespan of a laptop is approximately **5 years.**
- The lifespan of tablets is **4-5 years.**
- An interactive whiteboard will usually last around **7-8 years.**
- An interactive flat screen lifespan is **10 years.**

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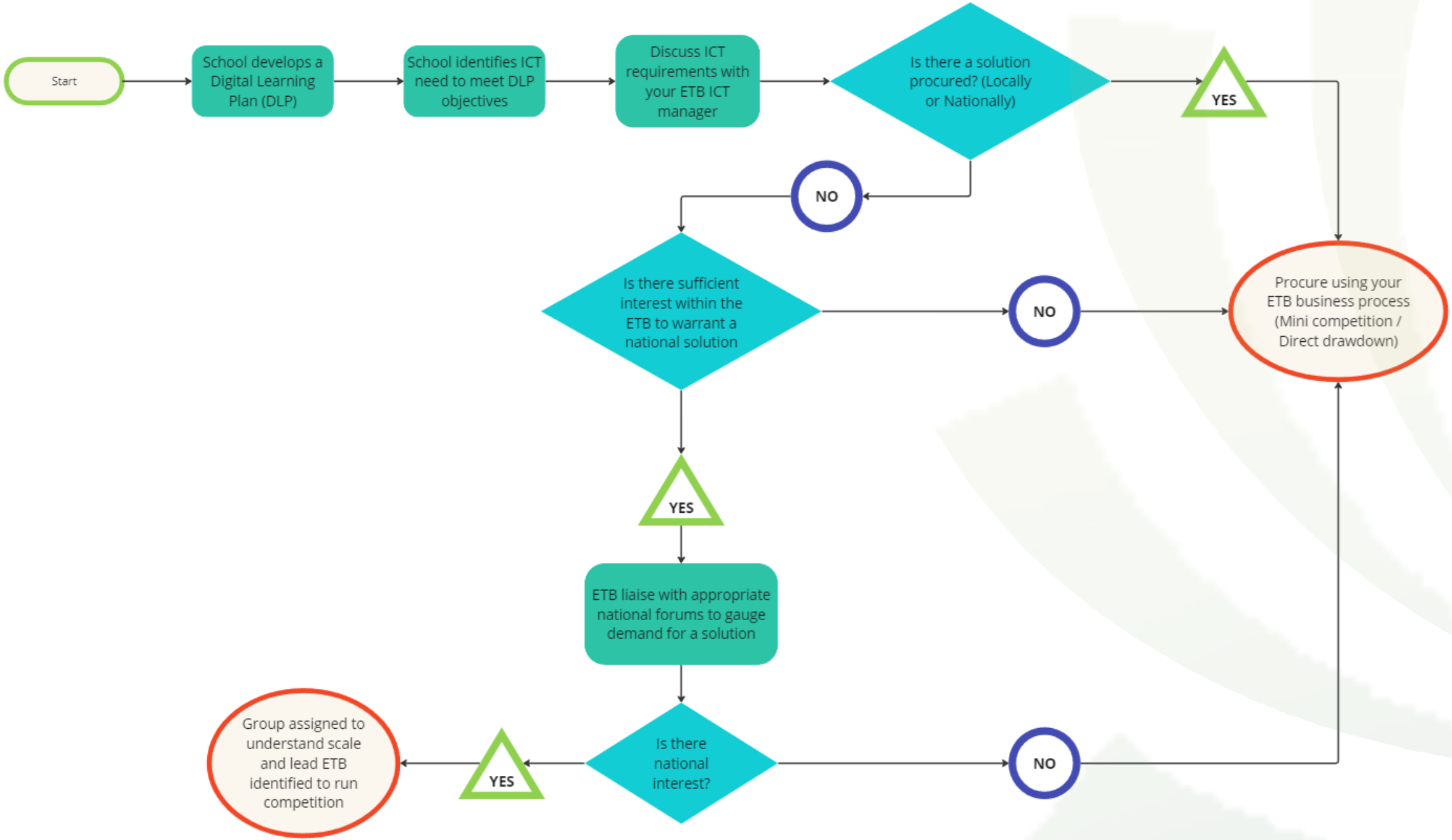
# Procurement Procedures

# ICT INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT IN A SAMPLE ETB



# SELECTION OF CURRENTLY AVAILABLE PROCURED SOLUTIONS

## Projector & Interactive Panels Framework

Suppliers for projectors:
Avio Presentation Systems/Cusken/Epson
Suppliers for interactive panels:
Avio presentation systems/Kyotech/Promethean Ltd./Prowise/SMART Technologies (GB) Limited

## iOS and macOS Computers

Supplier: Select or Wriggle
Make/Model:

- Apple MacBook Air (M1)
- Apple MacBook Pro 13.3" (M1)
- Apple MacBook Pro 16"
- Apple iMac 21.5"
- Apple iMac 27"
- Apple iMac Pro 27"
- Apple Mac Pro
- Apple Mac Mini M1
- Apple iPad mini
- Apple iPad 10.2"
- Apple iPad Air
- Apple iPad Pro 11"
- Apple iPad Pro 12.9"

## Computers/Notebooks & ICT Peripherals

Supplier: PFH Technology Group
Make/Model:

- Windows Desktop Computers
- Windows Mini Desktop Computers
- Windows Notebook Computers
- Windows Lightweight Notebook Computers
- Windows Ultraportable Notebook Computers
- Microsfot Surface Go 2
- DCG Computers
- Standard & High Spec Notebooks & PCs
- ICT peripherals

## Desktops & Laptops

Supplier: Dell
Make/Model:

- Dell
  - OptiPlex Mini Tower/Plus 7010, 13th Gen Core i5-13500, 16 GB
  - Latitude 5440, 14" (1920 x 1080), 13th Generation i5-1335U, 16GB
  - Latitude 5340, 13.3” FHD (1920 x 1080), 13th Generation i5-1335U, 16GB

## ICT Peripherals and Services

Supplier: Datapac Unlimited
Make/Model: ICT peripherals including

- Monitors
- Keyboards / Mice
- Headsets
- Webcams

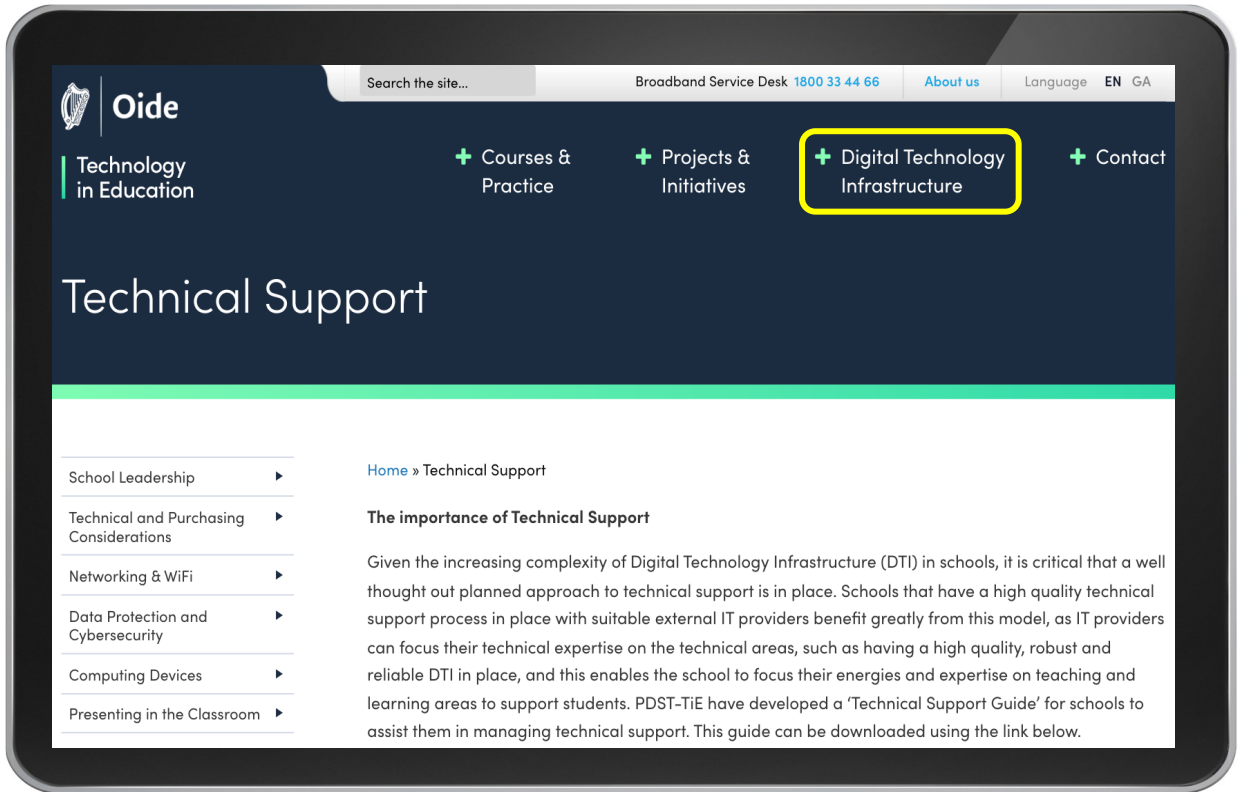
## Notebook & ICT peripherals & services

Supplier: Ergo Services Limited
Make/Model:

- Windows Detachable 2-in-1 Notebook Computers
- Windows Convertible 2-in-1 Notebook Computers
- ICT peripherals

Please note: Consult with local ETB procurement team, as certain frameworks may require a mini competition depending on numbers of devices ordered.

# Digital Technology Infrastructure Guides




- Leadership Guide
- Technical Support Guide
- Wi-Fi Network Guide
- Computing Devices Guide
- Cybersecurity Guide
- Printing Guide

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# Schools Broadband Programme

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# Schools Broadband Programme

What is your **vision for learning** that the technology infrastructure will support?

How strong and **reliable** is your **WiFi**?

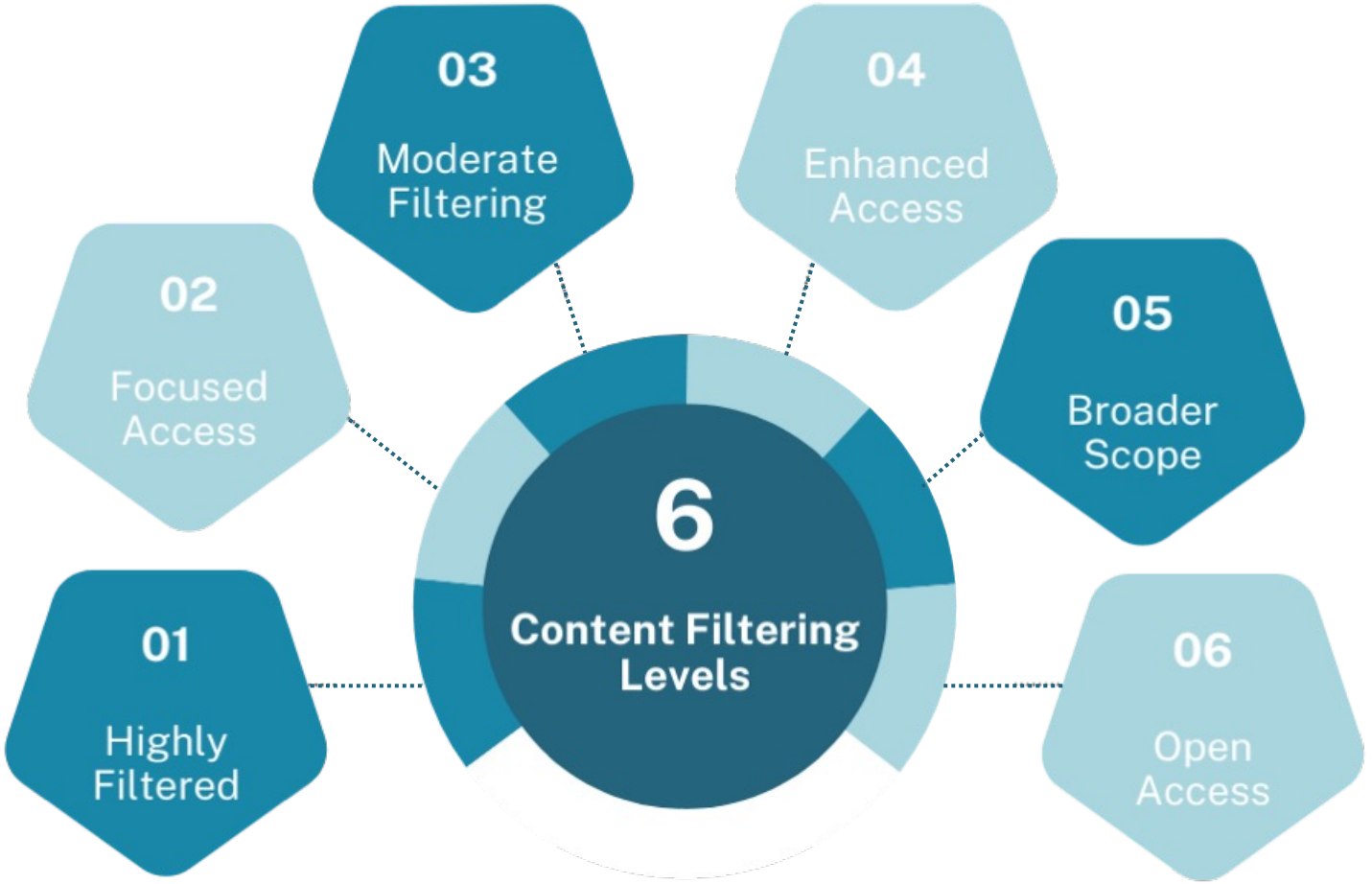
What is the **current** state of your physical digital **infrastructure**?

How many and what types of **digital devices** are available?

What **financial resources** are available to fund these improvements?

What **digital learning content**, tools, and resources do you want to make available to teachers?

# Content Filtering



# Content Filtering

- Split-Level Content Filtering
- Content Filtering Level CFL Form

**Split-Level Content Filtering Level Form (SLCF form)**

**To request two content filtering levels for your school please fill in the below remembering to include your School Roll Number and the number of devices requiring access to the 2nd filtering level.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **School Roll Number :-** | | * |
| **Number of Devices requiring access to the 2nd Filtering Level:-** (see https://support.scoilnet.ie/index.php/Filtering for more information) | | * |
| **Content Filtering Levels (Tick One Box Only for each Level)** | ***Main Level*** | ***2nd Level*** |
| **Level 1:** This level is the same as Level 2 but **blocks** websites belonging to the **Streaming Media, Online Storage** and **Internet Communications** category. | ☐ Yes Level 1 | ☐ Yes Level 1 |
| **Level 2:** This level is the same as Level 3 but **blocks** websites belonging to the **Games** category. | ☐ Yes Level 2 | ☐ Yes Level 2 |
| **Level 3** This level is currently used by the vast majority of schools. It gives access to millions of websites including games but **blocks** '**YouTube**' and websites that are categorized as **Personal** such as blogs and **Social Networking** such as Facebook. | ☐ Yes Level 3 | ☐ Yes Level 3 |
| **Level 4** This level allows access to the same websites as Level 3, but also allows access to '**YouTube**'. | ☐ Yes Level 4 | ☐ Yes Level 4 |
| **Level 5** This level allows access to the same websites as Level 4, but also allows access to websites that are categorized as **Personal** such as blogs. | ☐ Yes Level 5 | ☐ Yes Level 5 |
| **Level 6** This level allows access to the same websites as Level 5, but also allows access to websites that are categorized as **Social Networking** such as Facebook. | ☐ Yes Level 6 | ☐ Yes Level 6 |
| **Email Address** Please enter an email address so we can let you know when this has been setup. | | * |

# Content Filtering

**Content Filtering Level Form** **(CFL form - Levels)**

**To request a particular content filtering level for your school please fill in the below remembering to include your School Roll Number.**

**School Roll Number :-**

| School Name : | |
|---|---|
| **Content Filtering Levels** | ***Tick One Box*** |
| **Level 1:** This level is the same as Level 2 but **blocks** websites belonging to the **Internet Communications, Online Storage** and **Streaming Media** categories. | ☐ Yes Level 1 |
| **Level 2:** This level is the same as Level 3 but **blocks** websites belonging to the **Games** category. | ☐ Yes Level 2 |
| **Level 3** This level is currently used by the vast majority of schools. It gives access to millions of websites including games but **blocks 'YouTube'** and websites that are categorized as **Personal** such as blogs and **Social Networking** such as Flickr and Facebook. | ☐ Yes Level 3 |
| **Level 4** This level allows access to the same websites as Level 3, but also allows access to **'YouTube'**. | ☐ Yes Level 4 |
| **Level 5** This level allows access to the same websites as Level 4, but also allows access to websites that are categorized as **Personal** such as blogs. | ☐ Yes Level 5 |
| **Level 6** This level allows access to the same websites as Level 5, but also allows access to websites that are categorized as **Social Networking** such as Facebook. | ☐ Yes Level 6 |

To check your schools content filtering level email: broadbandservicedesk@oide.ie

- School name
- School roll number

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# Oide Technology in Education Supports

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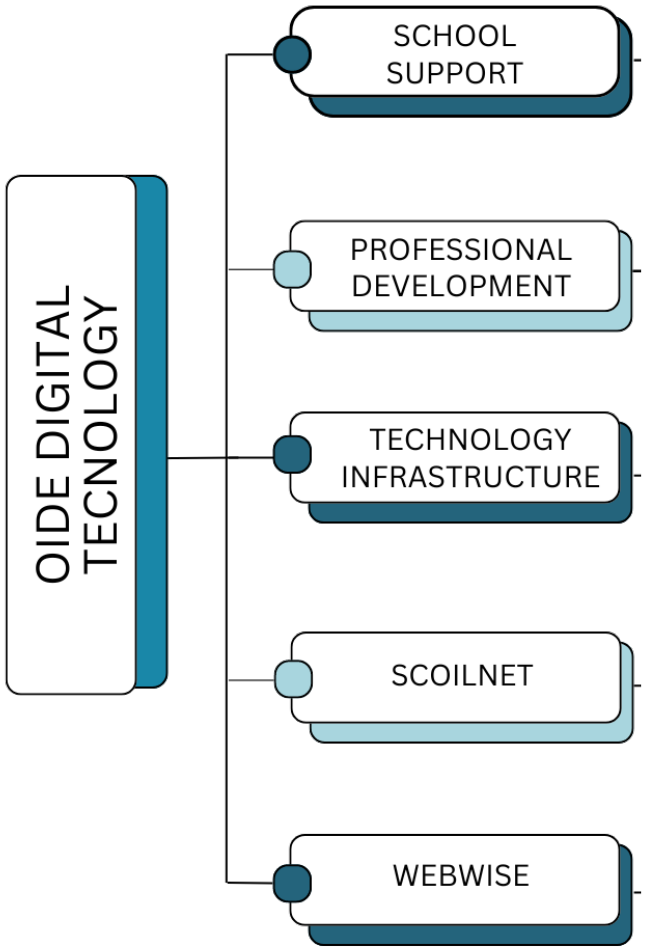
# Digital Technology Supports



# AI – Five Considerations for Teacher Use

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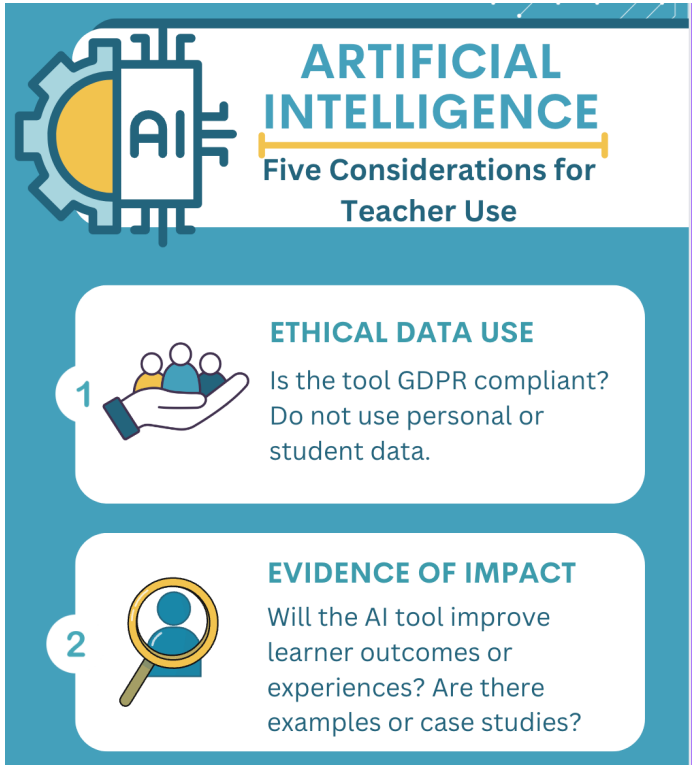
tiny.cc/AIconsiderations



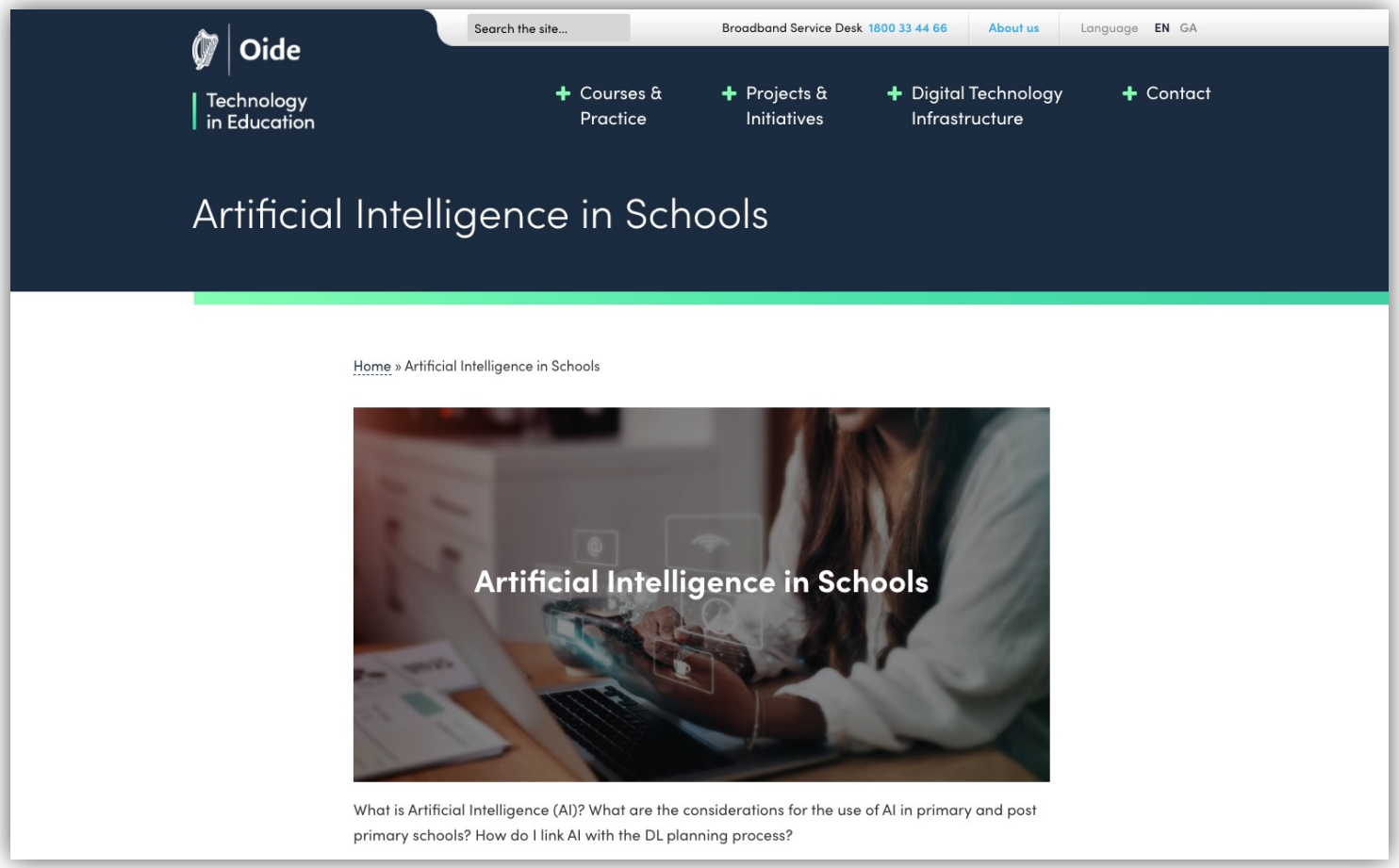
# Online Course: AI for Schools

## AI for Schools – New Oide Technology in Education Online Course

Opening 13th May, 2024, this introductory online course provides teachers and school leaders with an understanding of AI. It explores the considerations for schools in using AI for educational purposes, including its potential benefits, limitations and ethical considerations.

**Enrol in AI for Schools online course**

# Artificial Intelligence in Schools

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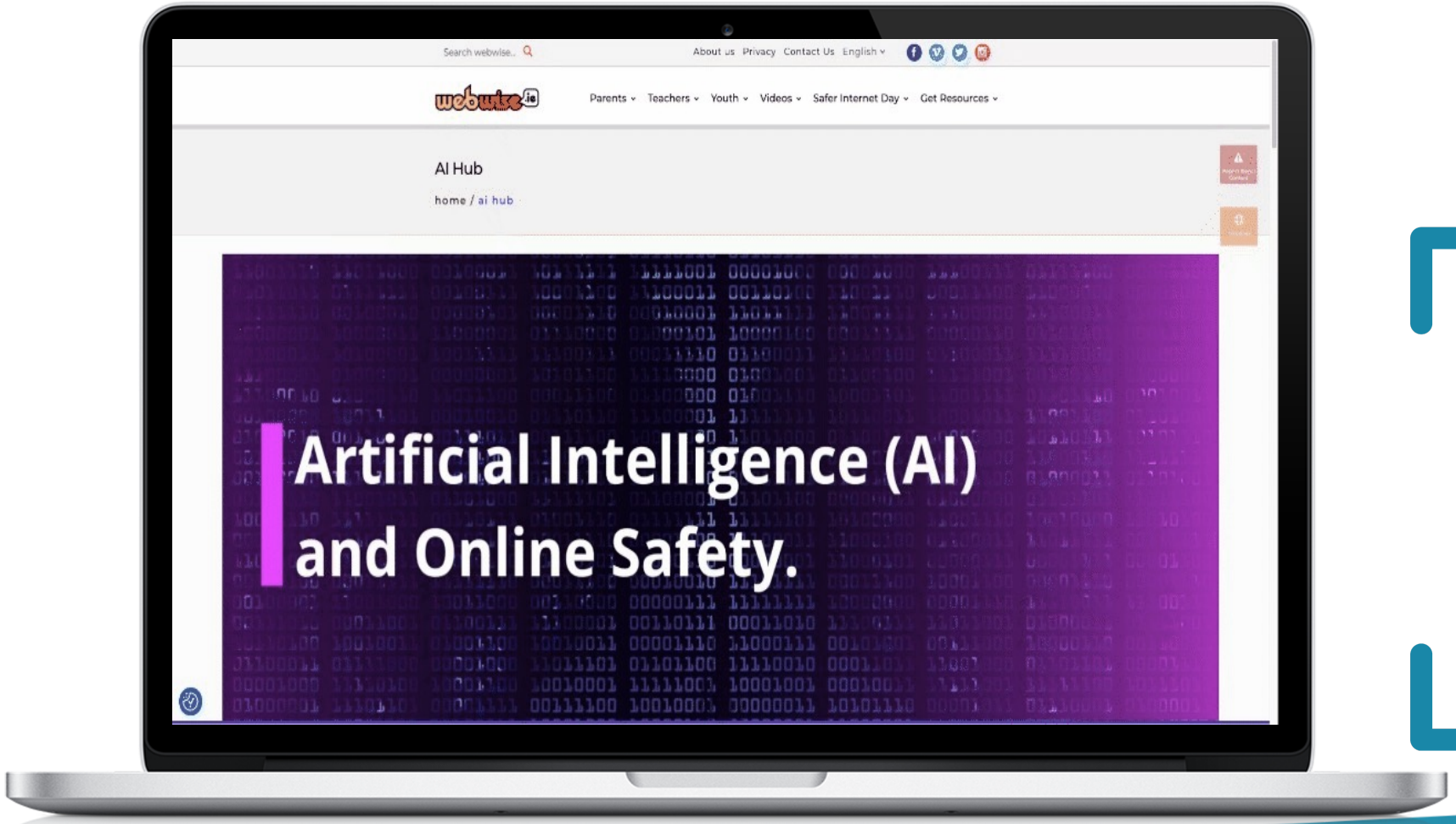
# Webwise: AI Hub

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# Technology in Education Newsletter

- Latest News
- Upcoming Initiatives
- New resources on Scoilnet
- Updates from Webwise

# Webinar Learning Intentions

- Strategies to make best use of the ICT Infrastructure Grant (Circular 0039/2024) and how it relates to your school context
- How to connect Digital Learning Planning with the Digital Strategy for Schools to 2027
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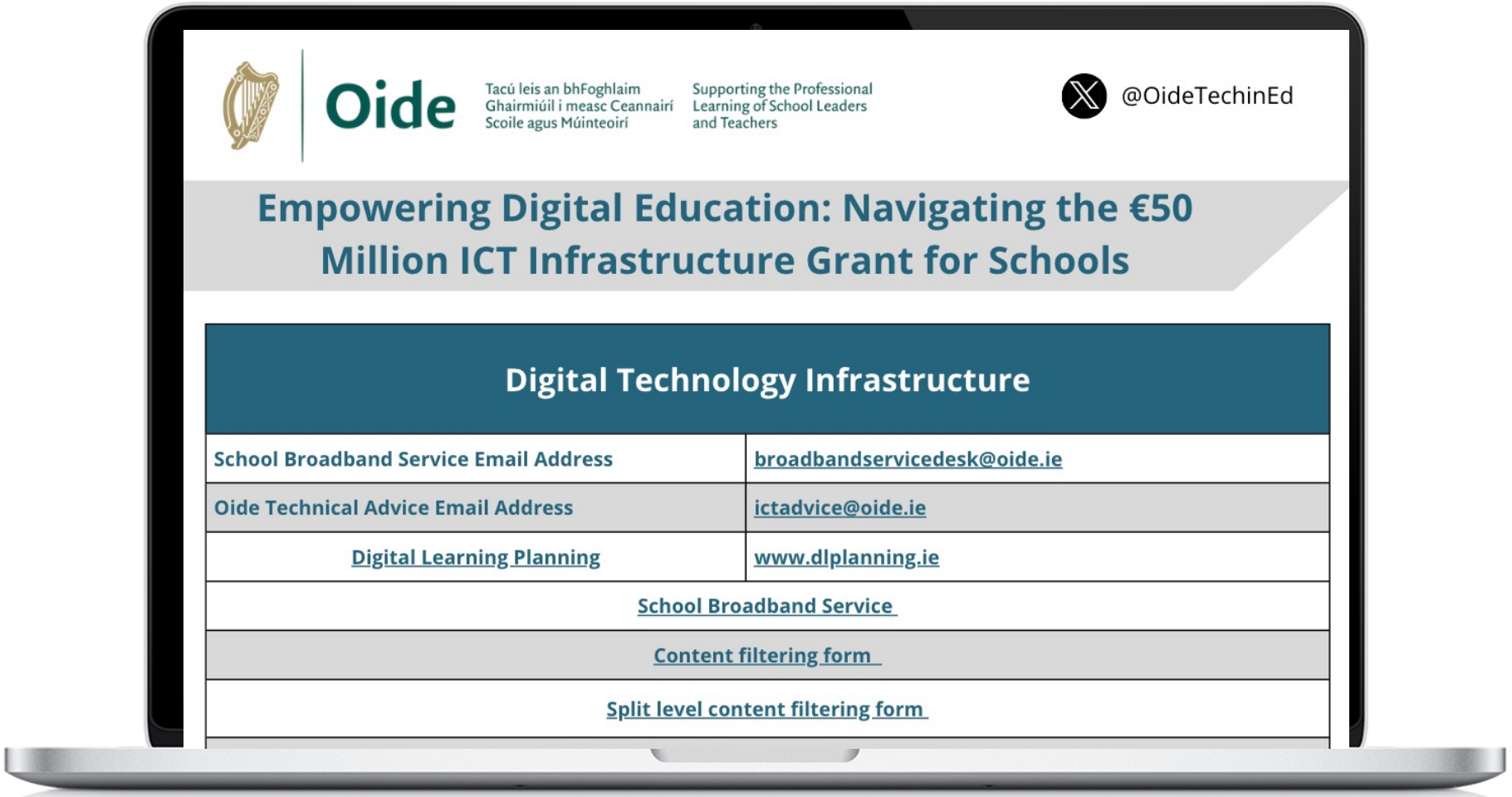

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# Thank You!

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