**NATIONAL DIGITAL LEARNING COUNCIL**

**FRIDAY 27 APRIL 2018**

**CAERDYDD 1, CATHAYS PARK, CARDIFF**

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| **Council members in attendance** | | |
| Chris Britten (CB) - Chair | Dilwyn Owen (DO) | Ty Golding (TG) |
| Alison Howells (AH) | Paul Watkins (PW) | Gary Beauchamp (GB) |
| Simon Billington (SB) | Gareth Dacey (GD) |  |
| Alyson Nicholson (AN) |  | Hannah Mathias (HM) |
| Ruth Meadows (RM) |  | Kay Morris (KM) |
| **Council member apologies** | | |
| Chris Owen (CO) | Mike Jones (MJo) | Catherine Kucia (CK) |
| Simon Brown (SB) | Joe Walsh (JW) |  |
| **Guest Speakers** | | |
| Ben Wong (BW) | Gerard Pitt (GP) | Sonny Singh (SS) |

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

1.1 CB welcomed Council members to the meeting and introductions were made. Following the resignation of Janet Hayward, the appointed Chair from the Council in November 2017, the Council received advice from the Public Appointments Unit on the appointment process. Following the appointment process CB was appointed as the new NDLC Chair and for GB to take up position as new Vice Chair. The appointments were approved by the Cabinet Secretary for Education.

**2. Chair feedback from meeting with Cabinet Secretary for Education (28 February) - Chris Britten**

2.1 CB reported from the meeting with the Cabinet Secretary for Education that the Council should be more pro-active in delivering on the [Digital Competence Framework](http://learning.gov.wales/resources/browse-all/digital-competence-framework/?lang=en) (DCF) leading up to the new draft school curriculum in 2019.

2.2 CB confirmed that according to the NDLC Terms of Reference for Welsh Government public appointments, serving members would have the opportunity to reapply if they wish to continue as appointed members of the Council.

**Action: NDLC Chair to contact NDLC members to ascertain if they’d like to extend their appointment in accordance with the Welsh Government Public Appointments process.**

**3. Review draft vision and agree next steps - Chris Britten / Ruth Meadows**

3.1 CB outlined the Remit Paper 2017 – 2020 Discussion Paper.

3.2 It was decided by the Council that the NDLC through its outward facing role and advocates for digital learning in Wales should be more visible in communicating developments to stakeholders. As well as utilising Hwb, the Welsh Government’s key strategic digital channel, it was discussed whether digital resources such as the Dysg Post-11 and Pre-11, the Welsh Government's official education and skills newsletters should be utilised and a blog for digital strategy could also be launched.

3.3 It was discussed how the (DCF) would be implemented by the Council and as an enabler for the Areas of Learning and Experience (AOLE) and for schools and that a subgroup from the Council could be created to oversee this.

3.4 CB commented that the DCF currently has the same status as the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework (NLF) in its cross-curricular responsibilities. The DCF will be measured during the embedding of sample testing of online tests in September 2018 when NDLC could have a role in contributing to this evidence base and in promoting the DCF across compulsory and post-compulsory education and training.

3.5 TG commented that there are three distinct elements to implementing the DCF which include professional learning, curriculum development and working within existing networks.

**Action: Amend point 3 and 7 in the Remit Paper 2017 – 2020 Discussion Paper to include Further Education Colleges / Institutions and then forward to the Cabinet Secretary for Education.**

**4. Curriculum Reform/ Digital Competence Framework – update - Ty Golding / Gerard Pitt**

4.1 TG announced that the Curriculum Assessment Group Progression Framework outcomes will be published in December 2018/early January 2019.

4.2 GP outlined that the coherence Group met in January 2018 to map the DCF and to discuss how best to embed the DCF into the Science and Technology AOLE. The Group also discussed developing a website for the effective implementation of the DCF.

**Action: GP to contact Welsh Government officials for dates for developing the Web Group.**

4.3 TG commented that the whole digital strategy had to be embedded into the Professional Learning Framework. The digital pioneers’ role had changed and that the Regional Education Consortia now had digital pioneers working on promoting and supporting digital learning. There is concern about the digital competency of staff for the delivery of the framework and that elements of the Framework will have specific professional learning requirements.

4.4 SS commented that high performing countries refer to digital learning as ‘learning’ and that the DCF should form part of each curriculum subject.

4.5 GP outlined that the guidance for secondary schools on curriculum reform / DCF was being updated and made available. .

**5.** **NDLC members’ feedback on link AOLE - NDLC Members**

5.1 The NDLC role in curriculum and assessment discussion notes was outlined by CB. There are four proposed stages which were agreed by the Council:

*Stage one*

1. *Work with AOLE groups to QA from a digital perspective and feedback directly to leads and the council*
2. *Support work to equalise the status of the DCF with LNF*
3. *Provide guidance on the construction of the next stage of the curriculum*

*Stage two*

*Work as ambassadors as the white paper goes through legislation, advocating for the curriculum from a digital perspective.*

*Stage three*

*Work with Professional Learning (PL) team to shape digital PL package and provide advice to the curriculum and assessment group*

*Stage four*

1. *Ongoing role to support and champion the new curriculum*
2. *Work with National Network for Excellence in Mathematics (NNEM) and National Network for Excellence in Science and Technology (NNEST).*

*Other areas*

1. *Assessment online for The National Literacy and Numeracy Framework (LNF). Do we need the same for DCF?*
2. *Work to develop and advise on achievement outcomes for the new assessment arrangements.*

5.2 DO commented that the role of AOLE Digital Pioneer had changed considerably since the Pioneer Network was established in 2015/16. He also raised concerns that as an AOLE Digital Pioneer it was difficult to attend meetings due to teaching commitments and the short notice of meetings.

5.3 GB commented that a cultural shift through the whole curriculum should mean more freedom for teachers.

5.4 TG added that professional standards that apply to practitioners in Wales will reflect the new curriculum.

**Action: AOLE digital pioneers to be invited to the next NDLC meeting. To be facilitated by WG Curriculum & Assessment Division.**

5.5 The Council is content with the strategy of the Welsh Government National Online Safety Action Plan for children and young people to improve online safety support in Wales.

**Action: The National Online Safety Action Plan for Children and Young People is to be uploaded on Hwb.**

**6. Learning in Digital Wales programme**

6.1 The Hwb platform for digital tools and resources to support education in Wales has now been running for 7 years and currently has 4.6 million system files Work is underway to establish a new in-house team to manage the All Wales Education Identity Provider, the system that underpins the Hwb platform. The project is on track and risks to delivery are being managed.

6.2 In addition, Hwb+, the all-Wales individual school learning platform will be withdrawn from the Hwb tools offer and will be a read only site from 1 May 2018. Data will have to be migrated to other Hwb tools and there is a deadline in May for schools to migrate their data.

6.3 There was a discussion about the Twitter activity over the weekend of 11 March about the withdrawal of the Hwb+ platform. CB raised concerns about inflammatory comments and it was agreed that the Chair of the NDLC would raise this issue with the Head of Curriculum Development.

**Action: CB to raise the issue with TG.**

**7. Learning in Digital Wales programme**

**• Investment in Broadband Update**

**• Digital Standards Update**

BW, Digital Delivery Unit delivered a presentation on the Investment in Broadband Update.

* Delivery to schools remains ahead of schedule with 232 schools benefitting from improved connectivity.
* 12 schools across Wales remain difficult to reach and the Digital Delivery Unit is working closely with BT, Public Sector Broadband Aggregation (PSBA) and Superfast Cymru to determine the best solutions.
* An agreement has been reached with PSBA to remove rate limits at remaining schools and pilot work has been agreed and initiated, with several tranches planned thereafter.
* Limit Removal review with Local Authorities has been completed.
* The Assessment of school networks is underway and the final report will be completed towards the end of June 2018.
* The Education Digital Standards Technical Group held its first meeting on 26 April 2018.
* The Education Digital Guidance will also continue to be reviewed on a quarterly basis.

7.1

**8. Minutes, actions and next steps - Chris Britten**

*Accuracy & Actions of 19 January 2018 minutes:*

The accuracy of the minutes was agreed.

**Action: Future NDLC meeting minutes are to have page numbers and point 8.1 and 8.3 are to be amended from ‘constituent’ to ‘member of the public.’**

**9. NDLE MC Volunteer Required from NDLC member – Involves a very short announcement at the start and close of the morning and afternoon Sessions (Request from Gary Williams)**

9.1 The Annual National Digital Learning Event which celebrates the best examples of digital learning and innovation in Wales will be taking place on 20 June 2018 at the Celtic Manor Resort, Newport under the theme 'Sharing digital practices to support an evolving curriculum'.

9.2 Kirsty Williams AM, Cabinet Secretary for Education, will open the event and announce the winner of the National Digital Learning Council’s Pupil Award.

9.3 Following stakeholder feedback, this year’s event will focus on the ‘Digital Marketplace’ which will showcase innovative examples of how digital practices are being developed in schools across Wales.

**Action: CB to represent the NDLC at the event and welcome Kirsty Williams AM, Cabinet Secretary for Education, who will open the event and announce the winner of the National Digital Learning Council’s Pupil Award.**

**10. Any other business**

**Date of next meeting**

27 June 2018

**Actions**

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| --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **Action** |
| 2.2 | **Action: NDLC Chair to contact NDLC members to ascertain if they’d like to extend their appointment in accordance with the Welsh Government Public Appointments process.** |
| 3.5 | **Action: Amend point 3 and 7 in the Remit Paper 2017 – 2020 Discussion Paper to include Further Education Colleges / Institutions and then forward to the Cabinet Secretary for Education.** |
| 4.2 | **Action: GP to contact Welsh Government officials for dates for developing the Web Group.** |
| 5.4 | **Action: AOLE digital pioneers to be invited to the next NDLC meeting. To**  **be facilitated by TG team.** |
| 5.5 | **Action: The National Online Safety Action Plan for Children and Young**  **People is to be uploaded on Hwb.** |
| 6.3 | **Action: CB to raise the issue with TG.** |
| 8 | **Action: Future NDLC meeting minutes are to have page numbers and point 8.1 and 8.3 are to be amended from ‘constituent’ to ‘member of the public.’** |
| 9.3 | **Action: CB to represent the NDLC at the event and welcome Kirsty Williams AM, Cabinet Secretary for Education, who will open the event and announce the winner of the National Digital Learning Council’s Pupil Award.** |