

Collaboration, Confidence & Creativity: Using digital technology in the Expressive Arts

DOES THIS CONCERN ME?

As of September 2018, the Digital Competence Framework (DCF) (Welsh Government, 2015) will become one of 3 national cross curricular responsibilities (along with the Literacy and Numeracy framework (LNF).

The New Curriculum (Welsh Government, 2015) proposes the development of 6 'Areas of Learning & Experience (AoLE)' as opposed to individual subjects. The development of an Expressive Arts (AOLE) will be one of the 6 areas. This will consist of: music, drama, dance, film and digital media, visual arts and design, literature and creative writing. This poster will focus on using technology to support the teaching of **visual media (films), with an emphasis on drama.**

Underpinning these 6 areas of Learning are 4 key purposes for learning. One of these requires learners to become 'ambitious, capable learners who use digital technologies creatively to communicate, find and analyse information' (Welsh Government, 2015, p.8).

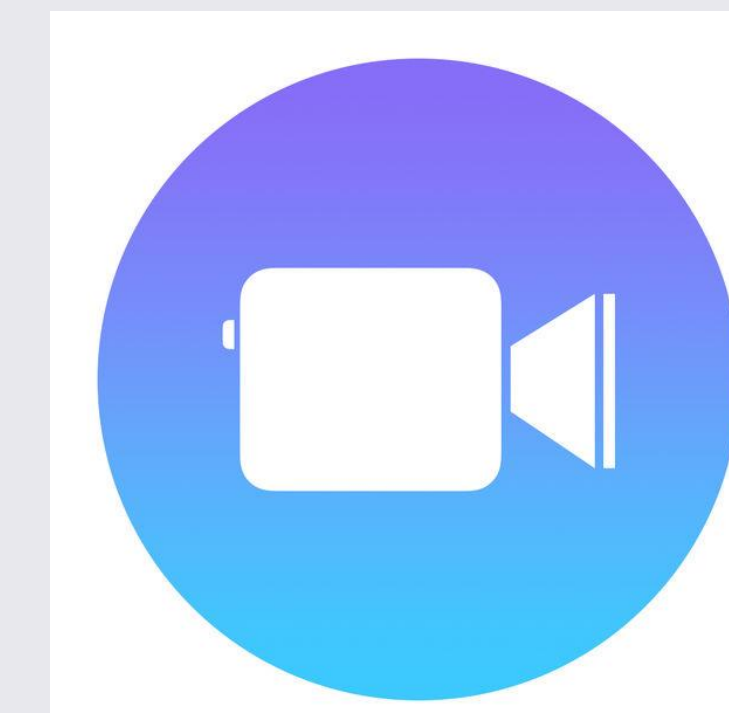
Expressive Arts should provide opportunities to explore thinking, refine and communicate ideas, engage thinking, imagination and sense creatively' (Successful Futures, 2015, p.43). The use of various technologies and applications will enhance the confidence and capabilities of all learners in this area.



WHAT CAN I USE?



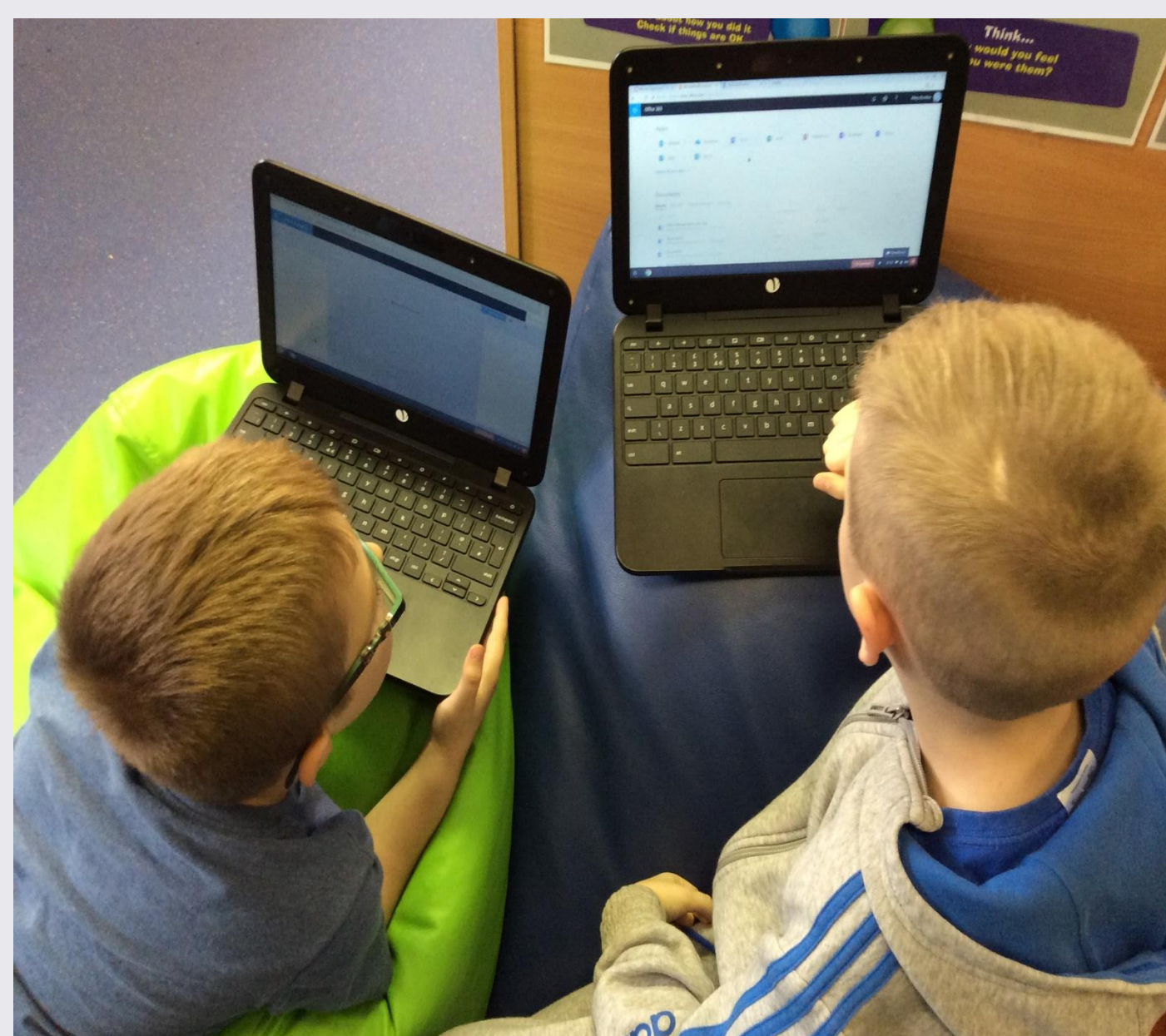
Office 365 (available on digital platform HWB)



Clips (iPad app)



DoInk Green Screen(iPad app)



Using Office 365 to write a
playscript and calculate
prop costs

DCF: Producing – planning, searching and sourcing element
Creating element
Evaluating and improving element

Literacy Links (Foundation Phase):
Oracy – developing and presenting ideas, speaking and listening, collaborating and discussion

Literacy Links (Key Stage 2):
Oracy – developing and presenting ideas, speaking and listening, collaborating and discussion
Writing – structure and organisation, meaning, purposes, readers, language

DCF & LNF Links

Why do I need to use them?

The purpose of the New Curriculum is to create learners who will be confident and capable citizens in an ever-developing 21st Century workforce.

The biggest change in education and in the world of work in the past 20 years has been the use of technology.

Use of iPads in schools allows 'significant opportunities for genuinely supporting, differentiation, autonomous and individualised learning' (Shuler, 209 cited in Clarke & Aboott, 2016 p.5).

Traditionally, elements of the Expressive Arts haven't been viewed as an area where technology supports learning, however, the skills of collaboration and creativity are a strong feature of the New Curriculum, and technology will support the development of these skills.

'Technology allows students who may not possess skills with traditional forms of media to focus more on Message, thinking and designing and less on labour and execution' (Phelps & Madison, 2008 cited in Windy-Wang, 2015, p.154)

What does the technology do?

Clips is a **free** iPad app which allows users to create film & photo projects by merging a series of photos and videos to create a finished product. Each part of the project can be edited by adding text, adding music and editing the images. One of the 'hidden gems' of the app is its ability to identify spoken voice and writing what is being spoken on screen (useful for pupils with literacy and speech & language difficulties).

Do Ink is a paid iPad app (£2.99) which can transport pupils to any location in the world, (or their imagination!) All you need is a green screen (this can be obtained by painting a wall in 'green screen' paint), and a photo of the location. Standing in front of the green screen, pupils will record their clip, and when watched back they will be transported into their chosen background!

Office 365 – using the Office packages, pupils can use the functions of Microsoft Word to word process documents, use PowerPoint & Publisher to create visuals and posters and Excel to create tables, spreadsheets and calculate costs.

Digital Competence in Expressive Arts

What could I do?

An element of expressive arts which lends itself well to a cross curricular literacy, numeracy and DCF focus is **using film as a stimulus.**

The technology could be use in the following ways:

Clips – using drama to create scenes of a film, creating alternative scenes, creating film trailers, 'interviewing' the film stars, creating a review on the film

DoInk – creating own scenes from film using film scenery as background, interviewing characters or actors, creating a news report on the film, creating film trailers.

Office 365: Microsoft Word – writing playscripts, writing reviews of the film, creating posters of the pupils' own work using shapes, uploading pictures and word art.

PowerPoint – creating a presentation based on the film, summarising the film plot through a PowerPoint presentation, creating a poster of the film or pupils' own scenes

Excel – creating spreadsheets to identify props needed, cost of creating scene (working against a given budget)

How will it enhance learning?

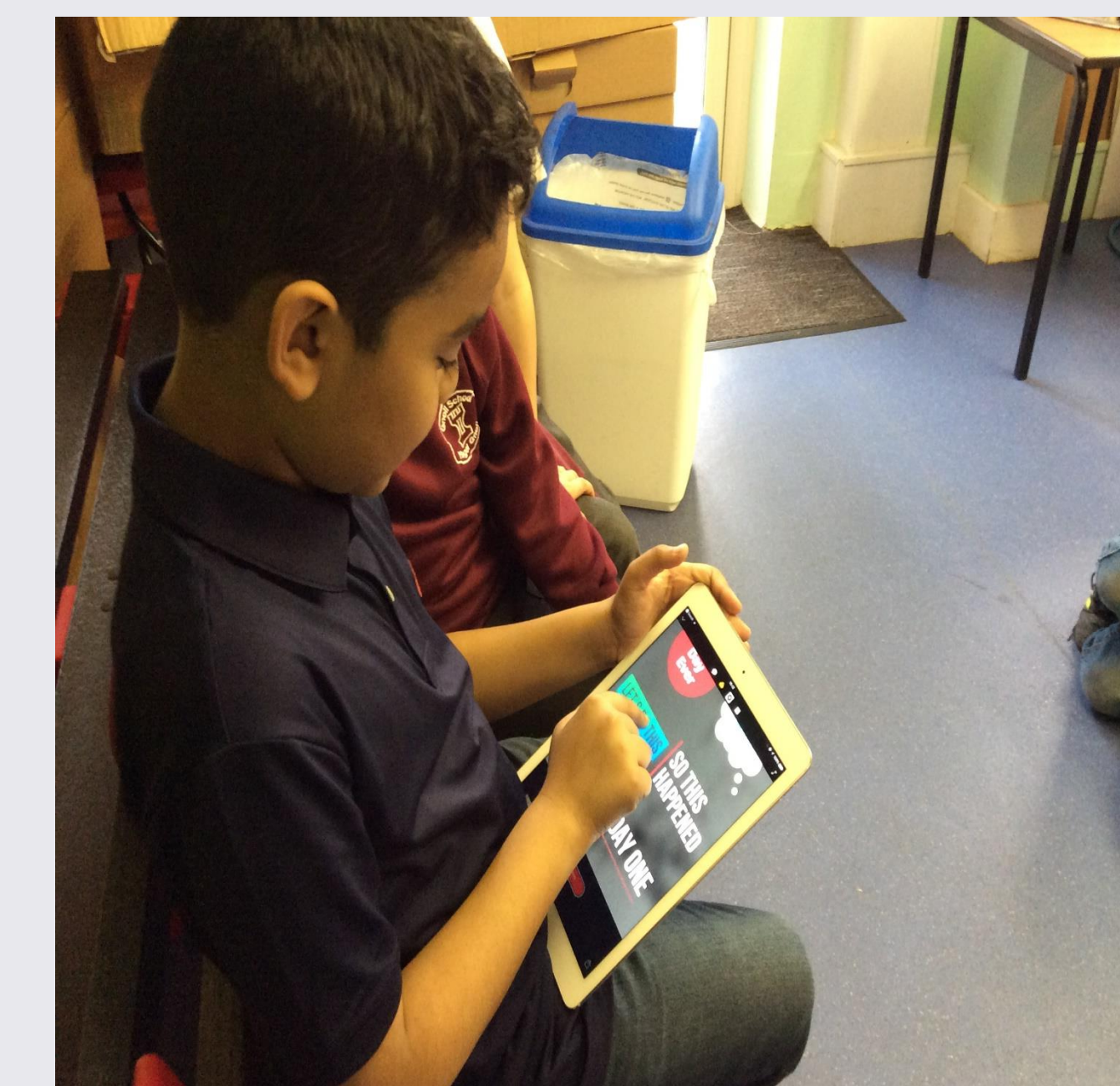
Using technology within an area of learning which has traditionally been viewed as requiring certain skills in order to achieve well will allow more pupils to be able to access and engage with the AoLE.

Often, providing pupils with technology to achieve their objectives supports less confident pupils to express themselves and develop their ideas more creatively. As they gain confidence in using technology, their confidence in other areas grow.

Studies have proven an increased motivation in boys when using iPads and also increased peer collaboration, social skills and communication skills. (Clake & Abbott, 2016, p.1060). These skills are important within areas of the Expressive Arts AOLE.

However, it is very important to note that it is not just pupils' learning that will be enhanced through using different forms of technology, but teaching staff too. It is very important that 'teaching staff are given time to explore technologies' (Burden et al, 2012, cited in Geer et al 2017, p.493).

Using the technologies in Expressive Arts will provide a unique opportunity where learning is enhanced through a collaborative and creative environment for both pupils and teaching staff.



Using Clips to add text to a
Movie Trailer



Becoming film stars using
Do Ink Green Screen

References