



Mr John Donnelly  
*Headteacher*

**Crieff High School**  
Strathearn Community Campus  
Pittenzie Road CRIEFF PH7 3JN

**Tel** 01764 657600 **Fax** 01764 652842  
**Email** [crieffhigh@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:crieffhigh@pkc.gov.uk)

Contact	Mr J Donnelly
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Dear parent and carer

## **Crieff High School receives prestigious national Digital Skills Award**

I am delighted to share with you that Crieff High School has been awarded Digital Schools Scotland status. A fantastic recognition of the school's journey in recent years.

Please see below a few extracts from the hugely positive report.

**General Recommendations:** It is clear that digital learning is well embedded in classroom practice. The use of digital tools for learning and teaching is fully integrated in a whole school approach. The school is clearly committed to investing in digital technologies, in order to motivate and inspire its learners. The school is clearly committed to embedding digital technologies and ensuring continuous improvement. I believe that the school has met the criteria for the Digital Schools Award. I recommend that the school should also be invited to become a mentor school as they have the skills and capacity to do so.

**Leadership and Vision** - The use of digital technology is a fundamental part of the school's vision and enables pupils to have choice, flexibility, control and independence in their learning. The school does not use technology for technology sake. The use of technology is used to support pedagogy. Digital learning is embedded throughout the school and at all levels, across all staff and pupils.

**Digital Learning and Teaching** - The use of technology to support pupils with additional needs was strongly evident. The school uses technology to give pupils a voice and choice in a format that suits them. Technology has been used to support pupils in building their confidence. The school demonstrates in a variety of ways how the use of technology enhances the learning experience.

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27<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Parents and carers



**School culture** - All classrooms are mature digital learning and teaching environments, where digital technologies are deployed in ways that help learners improve their resilience, motivation and self-esteem. The culture is very much inclusive, allowing everyone to share ideas about using technology, make choices and trying things out. This is the case for both pupils and staff. The school demonstrates how they have not forced new technology into old pedagogy. There has been a paradigm shift. It is about a new pedagogy, different skills for teachers and engaged and empowered learners supported by digital infrastructure accessible to all pupils.

**Professional development** - Staff are continuously improving their skills and upskilling. Teachers are supported and have the freedom to test things out and have a go. Teachers in the school are self-directed in their learning, are innovating where appropriate and take the lead with other teachers in disseminating and developing resources. The school keeps abreast of developments in technological, professional practice and the curriculum in relation to digital technologies.

**Resources and Infrastructure** - Digital technologies are prominent and the school has given particular consideration to how digital technologies can best enrich learning and teaching in their context. Technology is used to target specific learning needs and is personalised and individual to pupils. Technology is used to support communication between staff and parents, including newsletters and the school website and social media. Digital resources enable pupils to access learning when they are at home or unable to attend school and within the classroom technology is used for collaborative group work, as well as for individual learning.

Crieff High School joins 4 of our Perth & Kinross secondary schools and 123 of the 357 secondary schools in Scotland as a recognised Digital Schools Award Scotland school.

Thank you to our staff for their commitment to developing their digital technology practices to enhance the pupil learning experience.

Many thanks and congratulations to Mr Wright who has been brilliant in leading on the submission of our application. Thank you also to Mr Barlow, Mrs Prince, Mrs Telford and to the young people who have led on and contributed to our digital skills journey so far, in their role as Digital champions.

Congratulations and very well done to all.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John Donnelly'.

**Mr J Donnelly**

Headteacher/Campus Leader