

Dear school principal and teachers,

The Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST) will be commencing Phase 2 of its *Formative Assessment Using Digital Portfolios* initiative for primary schools in November. It is envisaged that 36 schools in total from Dublin, Cork and Galway will be involved in this programme throughout the school year 2021/ 2022. This initiative focuses on the manner in which formative assessment can be effectively supported and enhanced in the classroom through the use of digital portfolios. Reflection upon this process will form a core component.

Engagement in this project will involve the following key aspects:

- Staff completion of a short online digital portfolio course (1.5 hours in duration) prior to November 17th, designed and delivered by PDST's online learning platform TeacherCPD.ie.
- Attendance at an online webinar on Nov 17th from 4pm - 5pm exploring the initiative and its key tenets.
- Three school visits per school from a PDST advisor to support teachers in exploring, creating and using digital portfolios for formative assessment, along with a potential online support session.
- Attendance at a Shared Learning Day in April. The format of this event will be in keeping with any potential public health guidelines at the time. If the event is face-to-face then sub cover will be provided for one teacher per school and the school principal if required.

If you wish to take part in this initiative, please complete the online expression of interest form [here](#). Alternatively, this form is also available at www.pdst.ie/DigPortfolioForm. Closing date for expressions of interest is **October 18th** at 5pm. Schools will be randomly selected to participate and successful applicants will be contacted in late October.

If you have any queries regarding this pilot, please contact michaelmcnamara@pdst.ie or realtinberry@pdst.ie.

Kind regards,

Michael Mc Namara

PDST Team Leader for Digital Technologies

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