

# Statements of Learning Explanation of Learning Experiences

## **1. communicates effectively using a variety of means in a range of contexts in L1<sup>17</sup>**

I understand the language *used in my school* and can describe what I think to others by speaking and writing in that language. I can take part in discussion of everyday issues and of topics covered in class. In working with others on class activities, I can make helpful contributions to the activity by sharing my ideas and feelings as well as commenting on the ideas and opinions of others. I read a variety of texts for pleasure and for study to inform myself and to build my ideas and language skills.

<sup>17</sup> L1 is the language medium of the school (Irish in Irish-medium schools). L2 is the second language (English in Irish-medium schools).

## **2. listens, speaks, reads and writes in L2 and one other language at a level of proficiency that is appropriate to his/her ability**

I can express what I'm thinking by speaking and writing in languages other than my first language; I understand the views and experiences of other people when they speak those languages. I read different types of texts in the languages to obtain information and knowledge. The ways of living and cultures in places where the languages are used are interesting to me and I like comparing them with life and culture in Ireland. I know that the skills that help me to learn one language are useful in learning another.

## **3. creates, appreciates and critically interprets a wide range of texts**

I enjoy reading and engaging with different kinds of texts. I can understand and form opinions on the content. When I create a text, I take into account its purpose as well as the needs and interests of people who will be accessing it. In written texts, I understand the importance of grammar, select the correct words to create an effect and use accurate spelling and punctuation. Not all texts are written, so I am also able to work with visual and sound material. When I create a text, I am able to share it in whatever form is most appropriate and I know when permissions to do this are needed.

## **4. creates and presents artistic works and appreciates the process and skills involved**

I can create a piece of art, either on my own or with others. This art can be an object, a written piece or a performance, created by myself or as part of a group. The art I create is another way of saying and exploring what I think or feel and hearing what others think or feel. The artistic pieces I look at or listen to can be those of my classmates, present-day artists or can be the work of artists of another place and time.

**5. has an awareness of personal values and an understanding of the process of moral decision making**

I can see where my own values come from and the different influences that have shaped them. I respect the values of others while holding my own as special to me. I have an understanding of how moral decision making works in my own life and in the lives of others based on their particular values. I can discuss different day-to-day ethical and moral decisions and comment on them.

**6. appreciates and respects how diverse values, beliefs and traditions have contributed to the communities and culture in which she/he lives**

I am aware of the importance of religious traditions and the nonreligious interpretations of life. I appreciate how different belief systems have influenced and shaped who we are in Ireland, and also in Europe and the wider world. I can discuss different beliefs and practices in an informed way, and respect those holding beliefs different from my own.

**7. values what it means to be an active citizen, with rights and responsibilities in local and wider contexts**

I understand how government and politics works in Ireland and elsewhere. I understand that as citizens we all have rights and responsibilities. I respect the rights of minority groups in society. I feel inspired when I learn about ways that active citizens can contribute to building a better world within their local communities and in the wider world. I am willing and able to think carefully about and take action for change on issues that concern me or my community

**8. values local, national and international heritage, understands the importance of the relationship between past and current events and the forces that drive change**

Using different types of evidence and materials, I look at the lives of both famous people and ordinary people in the past. I can see how local, national and international communities change over time, how people act to bring about change, and how these changes may be connected with each other and with current events and developments. I am aware that I inherit the values, beliefs and traditions that go to make up my culture and of the importance of respecting the cultures of others.

**9. understands the origins and impacts of social, economic, and environmental aspects of the world around her/him**

I can describe natural processes which lead to change in the natural landscape. I appreciate that people *living* and *making a living* often change the landscape and that this happens in my locality as well as around the world. I understand the relationship between changing landscapes and human life. I am also aware that these changes, as well as political and cultural activities, link people, places and regions and that these links provide great opportunities but also present challenges.

**10. has the awareness, knowledge, skills, values and motivation to live sustainably**

I understand that the natural world is beautiful and of great significance and importance to the lives of everybody on the planet. I take responsibility for the choices I make about how I live and these choices have consequences for the environment and quality of life in my locality and beyond in the wider world. I try to 'think globally and act locally'. I can help my community play its part in improving our environment but can see that other communities have different concerns and I try to take those into account.

**11. takes action to safeguard and promote her/his wellbeing and that of others**

I know how to make decisions that are good for my physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health and my relationships with others. I can assess and manage risk and understand the impact of risk-taking behaviour. I feel confident and I can cope with different challenges and setbacks. I can ask for help when I need it. I accept that people are different and that it is everyone's responsibility to challenge discrimination and bullying, and the school can support me to do this.

**12. is a confident and competent participant in physical activity and is motivated to be physically active**

I participate in energetic physical activities and sport on a regular basis and I know that this allows me to develop and apply a range of social and motor skills, to learn in a different way, develop my fitness and manage my body. It helps me to relax and feel better, especially in the activities and contributes to my health and well-being. Being able to take part in various physical activities also helps me to meet and be with others. I look forward to having more opportunities to be involved inside school and in my community.

**13. understands the importance of food and diet in making healthy lifestyle choices**

I choose to eat a variety and balance of foods and drinks. I can make healthy food choices and try to eat well on my own and with others. I appreciate the important role of food for different social and cultural groups. I understand that the dietary needs of individuals and groups vary through life stages. I am aware of the many factors that influence food choices and attitudes to food and eating.

**14. makes informed financial decisions and develops good consumer skills**

I am able to plan my finances on the basis of the resources available to me and those available in my home. I assess information or advertisements that try to influence my behaviour and act only after making well thought out decisions. My knowledge and awareness of consumer information, rights and responsibilities, and sustainable development also inform these decisions.

**15. recognises the potential uses of mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding in all areas of learning**

I understand that my mathematical knowledge and skills form a language made up of numbers, symbols and various other signs. I can use these inside school and outside school in a variety of activities and contexts. Using and doing maths improves my logical thinking and problem solving and allows me to communicate and discuss my ideas clearly and accurately in a way that others can understand.

**16. describes, illustrates, interprets, predicts and explains patterns and relationships**

I enjoy looking for and finding patterns and describing the relationships I see in both words and symbols. In many cases, when I uncover the relationship I use it to complete missing terms in the pattern or to predict what other elements of the same pattern will look like. By using this knowledge, I can investigate how patterns influence and are influenced by everyday life.

**17. devises and evaluates strategies for investigating and solving problems using mathematical knowledge, reasoning and skills**

I can use a variety of mathematical approaches to come up with a reasonable solution to a problem that is new to me or complete a task that I have not been shown how to do. I can judge which strategy is likely to be most effective for the situation. I can break a problem down into smaller, logical steps so that I can contribute to building an overall solution.

**18. observes and evaluates empirical events and processes and draws valid deductions and conclusions**

I can observe, measure and record data accurately, drawing on a variety of sources, and I make use of logical thinking and reasoning to form opinions and make judgments based on evidence and experiment. I can identify and summarise different points of view, and analyse different arguments, when I encounter public statements or claims.

**19. values the role and contribution of science and technology to society, and their personal, social and global importance**

I appreciate the role of science and technology in the everyday world, investigating how elements of everyday life have changed over time to gain an awareness of the link with and between scientific and technological developments. I use my knowledge of science and technology to help me to make informed decisions and choices.

**20. uses appropriate technologies in meeting a design challenge**

By examining and discussing the features of design, I am gaining an awareness of the factors that influence the design process. I use problem solving strategies and show creativity (on my own or with others) in a design challenge to plan, develop, make and evaluate an item that meets a real need or reflects an idea. I can select the possible approaches and suggest what technologies might be useful in all stages of that process.

**21. applies practical skills as she/he develop models and products using a variety of materials and technologies**

I can work with others to generate, discuss and develop imaginative ideas to create artefacts. I select from a range of materials, tools and software and while working with these, I become confident in my practical skills. My practical experience helps me to design or improve my ideas or products and to understand how materials react when they are 'shaped' by various technologies. I am conscious of the issue of sustainability in my choice and use of materials and in the design of products. I can use all equipment and software safely.

**22. takes initiative, is innovative and develops entrepreneurial skills**

I like to turn my ideas and those of others into action by thinking up new solutions, planning the approaches and making sure that things happen at the right time and in the best way. This happens with others in a group or with a partner and sometimes I like to work on my own. At times, when things don't go according to plan, I look at what went wrong and decide on a new course of action. I am able to see when something needs to be done and I am willing to take a chance on my ideas and get on with it.

**23. brings an idea from conception to realisation**

I am able to take an idea for something and make it happen. This sometimes involves working with others but even in a group, I can contribute to the vision or the view of what the final outcome should look like, and to moving the process along. I realise that reflecting on and evaluating how the work has progressed is a vital part of activity like this.

**24. uses technology and digital media tools to learn, work and think collaboratively and creatively in a responsible and ethical manner**

I am able to source information and share content online and I recognise and respect my rights and the rights of others in using technology and digital media. I can evaluate online information and content. I can use technology and digital media to read, help me think, to express myself and to work with others. In working with others, I use technology creatively to interact and develop ideas. I understand that the increasing use of technology and digital media has an impact on people and their communities.

