

St. Paul's National School Kids get smart with IBM's KidSmart Early Learning

Programme



St. Paul's National School has recently benefited from IBM's continued commitment to education and innovative use of technology in education when they received three "Young Explorer Centre's" through the IBM KidSmart Early Learning Programme.

This is a worldwide initiative that gives children access to computers and builds on information and communications technology (ICT) learning in early years' settings.

The computer centres, which have been specially designed for three to seven year old pupils, aim to provide an effective jump start in early learning and teaching and open up the world of technology to its users. The donation is part of a nationwide scheme that the Multinational Company based in Dublin, Cork and Galway has deployed since the year 2000, over 800 centres have been donated in that time.

Principal of St. Paul's National School Morag McGowan stated "We are delighted with this donation. We are developing our computer infrastructure throughout the school and to get beautiful child friendly computers like these is a huge boost. We are very grateful."

Each IBM KidSmart Early Learning Centre consists of a colourful and durable Little Tikes desk and bench that seats children working in twos and threes, housing a multimedia IBM PC, award-winning educational software and a colour printer. These are supported by a Teacher's Guide, a multilingual web site for teachers and parents on www.kidsmartearlylearning.org, and support and training from IBM and the NCTE – all of which encourage teachers and parents to maximise the use of ICT to teach young children.



