

WHAT THIS UNIT IS ABOUT

Recognising the risks that threaten digital initiatives — financial, technical, human, and institutional — and what it takes to make digital change genuinely sustainable.

KEY CONCEPTS TO ENGAGE WITH

Four categories of risk for digital initiatives:

Financial risk: the funding runs out, the recurring cost is higher than expected, or a new priority takes the budget.

Technical risk: the technology breaks, becomes obsolete, or was never the right fit for the school context.

Human risk: the champion leaves, staff resistance grows, or teachers revert to old practices after initial adoption.

Institutional risk: board priorities shift, a new head arrives, or policy changes affect what you are doing.

A risk is not a failure waiting to happen. It is a variable you can plan for.

ASSIGNMENT BRIEF

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

Output: A risk identification checklist for one digital initiative, with at least one mitigation action per risk

Choose one digital initiative — current, planned, or past

List at least 6 risks across the four categories (financial, technical, human, institutional)

Rate each risk: Low / Medium / High likelihood and Low / Medium / High impact

Propose at least one specific mitigation action per risk

GRADING CRITERIA

Grade	What Your Submission Should Demonstrate
Pass	At least 5 risks are listed with brief descriptions
Merit	Risks are explained with their likely impact on the school, and each has a mitigation action
Distinction	Risks are prioritised by likelihood and impact, and mitigation actions are specific, realistic, and school-appropriate

• PEER-LEARNING SESSION PROMPT

Share your risk checklist with your peer group. Ask them to add one risk they think you have missed. Discuss: which risk on your list keeps you most awake — and what is your mitigation plan?

★ CAPSTONE CONNECTION

Your risk checklist feeds Digital School Strategy Section 1 (strategy) and Section 2 (infrastructure governance). Understanding your risks is inseparable from your plan.