Parnell District School embraces cutting-edge technology to enhance learning and collaboration.



HP, Stream Pro and Microsoft create more meaningful student-teacher engagement and empower students with new ways of learning.

INDUSTRY

Education

OBJECTIVE

To embed the use of technology into learning in a way that complements and enhances student engagement, learning and collaboration.

APPROACH

To deliver user-friendly devices and software that empowers students and teachers to create, access and share content.

IT MATTERS

- Enables teachers to communicate and provide personalised feedback to students either in the classroom or remotely.
- HP devices have given teachers the functionality to be mobile within the classroom and project content wirelessly to a central whiteboard.
- Student work is consolidated within Microsoft OneNote, creating streamlined access for teachers and students and reducing the chance of work being lost.

BUSINESS MATTERS

- Improved teacher productivity with the ability to share resources and collaborate on lesson planning and design.
- User-friendly and reliable devices that connect seamlessly to the network.
- Advanced technology enables teachers to embed the latest e-learning methods into the curriculum and better meet student needs.
- Securely retains student and teacher records, such as achievement data and examples.







"The freedom to work remotely, outside of the traditional whiteboard and desk scenario, means our teachers can spend more one-on-one time with students and are able to customise lessons based on individual learning styles, speeds and abilities."

– Morgan McKeen, E-Learning Leader, Parnell District School

Mobile devices and integrated software transform teaching dynamics at Parnell District School

Parnell District School has transitioned from a traditional teaching environment using desktop PCs, to one where mobile devices connected via a wireless network enable teachers and students to interact in more meaningful and engaging ways. The technology gives teachers the flexibility to customise work for individual students depending on their learning style, ability and pace; and encourages collaboration on lesson planning and design.

Teachers equipped to drive e-learning philosophy

Established in 1893, Parnell District School is a decile 9 school with a roll of just under 500 students across years one to eight. It's e-learning philosophy is embedded into its vision to provide students with accessible, relevant and high-quality learning opportunities that improve student engagement and achievement.

Parnell District School recently undertook an infrastructure refresh, which included a phased upgrade of desktop PCs and laptops and the introduction of a high-speed wireless network. After reviewing several devices, the school chose to equip teachers with HP Elite x2 1012 and Stream Pro devices loaded with the latest Windows 10 Pro software and collaborative note-taking tool Microsoft OneNote. At the same time, the school introduced a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy, which started with students in the Intermediate Department and filtered down to years five and six.

User-friendly and reliable devices key to implementation

Parnell District School Deputy Principal, Wendy Franklin-Smith worked with HP NZ Education Specialist David Farquhar to look at the learning objectives the school wanted to achieve through the programme and then to identify the technology that would help them achieve these objectives.

Wendy says, "It was our aim to get teachers to recognise how technology could be used to complement and enhance learning by creating a digital experience that builds upon traditional learning using physical resources, practical exercises and discussion."

"Our new HP devices came pre-loaded with the software and features we needed and have been easy to use and reliable. Our staff are using the devices both inside and outside the classroom, and are really enjoying the flexibility and freedom their new laptops are giving them to remotely and securely access the network as they need it."

Transforming classroom dynamics

Designed to support active learning, student interaction, and the development of critical thinking and creativity, Parnell District School recognised the benefits that the new range of devices and software would bring to both teachers and students alike.

E-Learning Leader Morgan McKeen says the technology has changed the classroom dynamics, giving teachers the flexibility to move around and interact with students more easily, while sharing content across devices or projecting it back onto a central whiteboard.

"With their new HP laptops, our teachers now have the flexibility to move through the classroom, while still projecting and managing the content students are seeing at the front of the room – or on their individual devices. This freedom gives our teachers the opportunity to spend more one-on-one time with students, as well as the ability to customise lessons based on individual learning styles, speeds and abilities."

Using Microsoft OneNote teachers can use tags to show students which aspects of a task are must-do and which can be completed as an extension. The range of learning tools in OneNote also enables students to have text read to them, or for students who struggle to write their ideas down, there is a 'Dictate' feature allowing them to speak into their device which then translates the verbal recording into text on the page.

"Microsoft OneNote provides incredible support for students, enabling them to work more independently. It has also given teachers greater visibility of students work and the ability to help those who are falling behind or to challenge and extend those who are breezing through work too easily," Morgan says.

"Our students are also enthusiastic to work in OneNote as they find it easy to find and complete work, without the risk of losing it as OneNote automatically saves. Students also love the collaborative aspect, as they can work together in the 'Collaboration Space' from different devices with their peers in real time. We've also found that our students are engaging with content after 3pm and are involving their parents more as they have the ability to share and demonstrate what they have been learning in class that day."



Enriched student-teacher collaboration

OneNote has also provided teachers with the capability to organise their lesson plans and course content in searchable digital notebooks. Each teacher has a personal workspace for every student, a content library for handouts and a collaboration space for lessons and creative activities.

And rather than only being able to be accessed from within the classroom, Parnell District School teacher's new laptops, mean that they now have the flexibility to connect to the shared school network from anywhere. OneNote content can also be viewed online or offline providing teachers with more flexibility to plan and develop their lessons and content whether they are in or out of the classroom. This enhanced connectivity has also increased engagement between students, teachers and parents.

"With OneNote it's easy to look at a student's work in their personal workspace and give individual feedback in a fun and engaging way. Students can go through lesson plans

at their own pace and can either raise their hand in the traditional way if they have a question, or direct it privately to their teacher online. Having this capability means that some of our shyer students no longer feel isolated in class, as the online conversation tools allow interaction without fear of being judged by their peers. And the great thing is that over time, we are seeing these student's grow in confidence and their level of participation in the classroom also increase," Morgan says.

Using an HP device with a touchscreen means it's possible to mark and annotate a student's work with a stylus pen and even to add accompanying audio feedback that students can listen to.

"Through OneNote, feedback becomes so much more personalised. We can record audio to provide more detailed individual feedback, which was simply not possible with traditional marking. Teachers can also add colourful stickers to student work, recognising their achievements in a fun and measurable way."

HP recommends Windows 10 Pro.

Time to spend on what's important

Morgan added "Technology is now integrated into every aspect of our lives—whether that be at work, school or in the home. Being able to equip our students with the skills necessary to not just consume, but to leverage technology to create better outcomes is a really exciting journey for our school.

"The benefits the new technology has brought to our school are vast. We can now remotely collaborate on lesson planning and design, creating opportunities to share creative ideas and suggestions that ultimately improve student outcomes. Our productivity has also improved significantly thanks to the organisational tools we have access to through OneNote and Office 365.

"However, the biggest benefit we have seen since integrating our new technology solution, has come from the increased personalisation we've been able to bring to our lessons with each student. Our students are more engaged and the collaboration and critical thinking skills they are developing will stand them in good stead when they move into secondary and tertiary education and ultimately the workforce."

"Using our HP devices, we've got the flexibility to work from anywhere at any time. We're set-up to have full access to our resources and OneNote consolidates everything into one place, which means we no longer have to carry heavy papers around or worry about misplacing important documents."

Morgan McKeen, E-Learning Leader,
 Parnell District School

Customer at a glance

Hardware

- HP Elite x2 1012
- HP Stream Pro
- HP Active Pen

Software

- Windows 10 Pro
- Microsoft OneNote
- Office 365



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