

Case study

St Andrews Primary School transforms the classroom



St Andrews Primary School has deployed twelve HP x2 210 2-in-1 tablets to its Year Six class to make learning more engaging

Industry
Education

Objective

St Andrews Primary School was finding that, without an attachable keyboard, the full-size tablets it was using were too unwieldy for small hands and also lacked the ability to support certain common applications. The school wanted to find a more flexible and usable solution

Approach

The school approached long-term technology partner, RM Education, for advice knowing that its RM Recommends range has been specifically tested for the education sector. It recommended trialling the HP x2 210 2-in-1 tablet

IT matters

- Windows 10[®] gives the pupils a computing environment, which many are already familiar with from home, for a consistent user experience
- The devices can print via the school network unlike the previous tablets
- Any issues are resolved quickly under RM Education's Managed Service contract

Business matters

- The devices are helping create an environment that fosters self-learning, independence and problem-solving through collaboration
- The addition of a detachable keyboard provides a flexible choice of input without compromising mobility

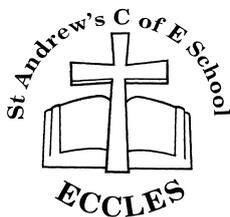


“The kids much prefer using the detachable keyboard to touchscreen input as it is faster and sometimes more intuitive. These devices also really help them engage more effectively and collaborate more closely in the classroom through sharing content.”

– Amy Whatmore, Year Six teacher, St Andrews Primary School

St Andrews brings learning to life with HP 2-in-1 tablets

St Andrews Primary School found that its ten-year-old Year Six pupils were struggling to properly operate full-size tablets with their child-size hands. Furthermore, these devices did not support popular applications such as Microsoft[®] Office. The school turned to partner RM Education, which recommended trialling the HP x2 210 2-in-1 tablet, powered by Intel[®] Atom[®] processors.





Challenge

Enabling interactive learning

Founded in 1870 and born out of the innovation, confidence and boldness of Victorian Britain, St Andrews is a Church of England primary school located in Eccles, Manchester. It has 30 teachers charged with the education and guidance of over 200 pupils.

For the past two years, the school has been using tablets to access online content and interactive teaching resources in its Year Six classes. However, these devices, from a leading vendor, presented several challenges. For example, they could not run certain popular applications and pupils were also finding them unwieldy to operate.

“Usability was the biggest challenge; these are classes for ten and eleven year olds so a full size tablet can be difficult to manipulate properly with little hands unless you can add a keyboard,” explains Amy Whatmore, Year Six teacher, St Andrews Primary School. “They also didn’t support applications such as Microsoft® Word and other software our pupils are already familiar with.”

The school turned to long-term IT partner, RM Education, for advice. As a result, the school received twelve HP x2 210 Detachable PCs to pilot. “We rely on RM for its expertise and it made a clear recommendation to trial HP convertible tablets,” adds Whatmore.

Solution

HP 2-in-1 tablets bring learning to life

The HP x2 210 Detachable PC is a cost-effective 2-in-1 that combines dependable productivity with tablet-class thinness for the maximum mobility needed in the educational environment. In particular, write, share and watch modes are ideal in the classroom for creating content and sharing documents. The device is also powered by an Intel® Atom® x5 – Z8300 processor, providing an excellent battery life as well as a fast and responsive experience for students.

“RM delivered the devices and connected them to the network and we were good to go,” continues Whatmore. “The CC4 driver packs available make them easy to install, manage and customise.”

The HP devices arrived pre-installed with Microsoft Windows® 10 to which the school has added Microsoft Office as well as a number of specialist educational applications such as Numicon.

Customer solution at a glance

Applications

Microsoft Office
Numicon

Hardware

• 12 x HP x2 210 Detachable PC

Software

• Microsoft Windows 10



Benefits

Improved flexibility and portability

St Andrews Primary School has only been using the new HP devices for a short period of time but already numerous benefits have been highlighted by teachers and pupils alike. Accessibility, usability and functionality are among the most notable examples.

“The kids much prefer using the detachable keyboard to touchscreen input as it is faster and sometimes more intuitive,” says Whatmore. “These devices also really help them engage more effectively and collaborate more closely in the classroom through sharing content.”

Furthermore, the new HP detachable PCs deliver the flexibility of converting to a tablet for extra portability and the ability to print via the school network, which the previous tablets couldn't offer. Having the latest Microsoft OS is also proving beneficial.

“Ultimately, the goal is to create a more child-centric learning environment that encourages self-teaching, problem-solving and independence and these HP devices enable that.”

– Amy Whatmore, Year Six teacher, St Andrews

“Because it runs on Microsoft Windows 10, it's more accessible because the pupils generally have a great degree of familiarity with the OS from home use,” comments Whatmore. “Older systems tend to disengage children because applications look different and work differently. This device gives them a consistent user experience.”

As part of its relationship with RM Education, if there are any issues with the devices, Whatmore can log them on the system or simply text to get an instant response. This ensures a quick turnaround when problems arise: “RM Education is incredibly efficient as sorting out problems through its Managed Service offering,” remarks Whatmore.

“Ultimately, the goal is to create a more child-centric learning environment that encourages self-teaching, problem-solving and independence and these HP devices enable that,” concludes Whatmore. “Together with HP and RM Education, we are providing a flexible computing platform with the usability and functionality we need. As our older laptops and tablets reach end-of-life, we'll certainly look at replacing them with the HP x2 210 Detachable PC.”

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