



Connected Schools

A digital transformation journey
towards better education outcomes



Connected Schools Solution



Introduction

As organisations around the world continue to manage the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, it's more important than ever to have a strong plan to maximize value creation. You need to move beyond traditional financial and operational levers to bring opportunity into focus and activate long-term value creation

PwC Australia and Microsoft jointly envisioned a new way to connect schools and learning platforms. Together, we developed the Connected Schools Solution to empower schools to securely connect and collaborate so they can better serve the needs of students, families, staff, and the community.

One solutions to manage student administration, admissions and enrolment, provide a 360 view to ensure student success, and improve the communications experience with and families and the wider community. Connected Schools Solution empowers your schools to create connected experiences that are personalised and relevant.

Co-created with Microsoft, Connected Schools equips school leaders and administrators with insights and data that enable informed decisions about their school. Supports students to reach their full potential and enables every teacher with insights into student learning and wellbeing.

Let's take a closer look at how we solve today's problems with the power of technology.





Using technology to amplify success

While technology is at the center of many digital transformations, our goal is not to map learning to technology, rather, it is to analyse everything that we know about teaching and learning, and then use technology, where appropriate, to make it even better.

To set the benchmark, we have engaged with school leaders, teachers, students and parents, talked education experts from all over the world and referred extensively to evidence-based, best practice methodologies from across the globe.

Built entirely on Microsoft platform, the Connected Schools Solution transforms classroom time, educators can focus on delivering personalised learning experiences that help enable better learning outcomes and school leaders can run a more economic school with reporting dashboards, in real time and all in one place.



Easier, smarter, and more effective

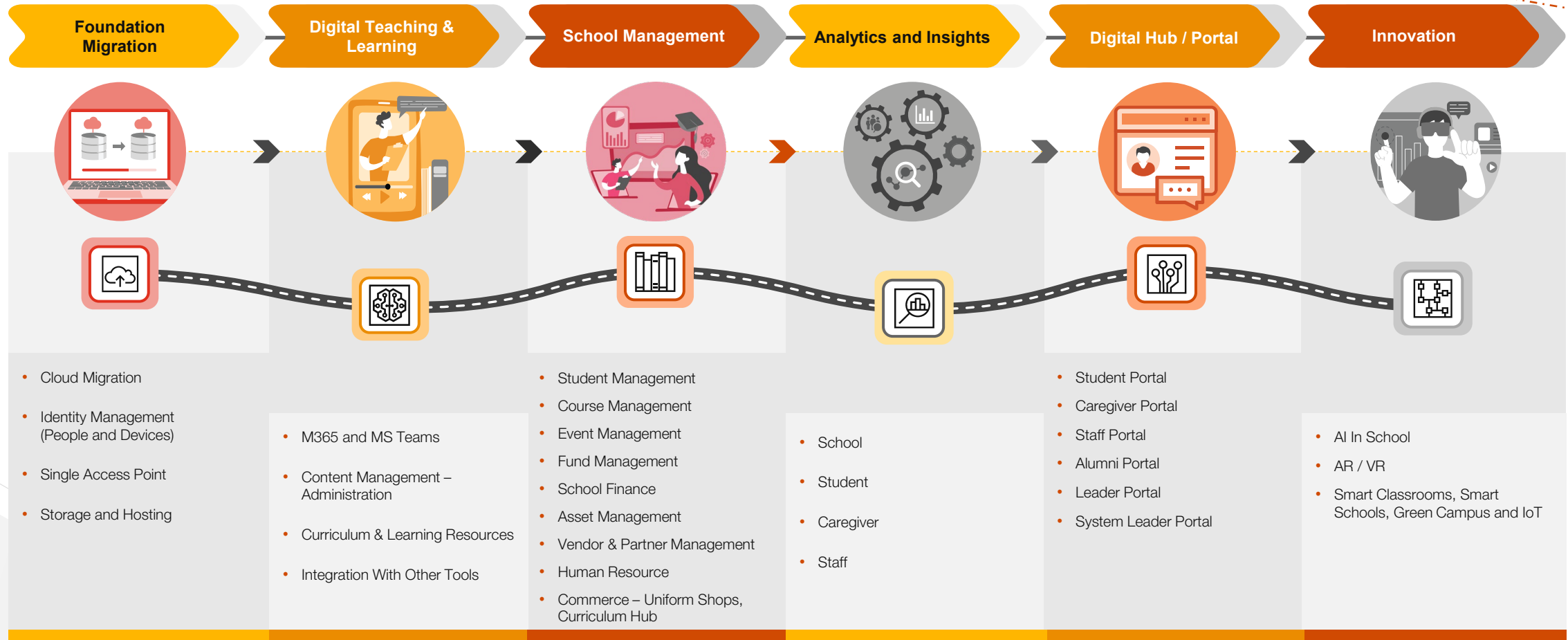
Move away from the inefficiencies of owning, designing, managing, and updating a disparate range of software and systems. Connected Schools can integrate with your existing systems and introduce modern cloud-based modules to fit your needs to allow real-time information you need to accelerate continuous improvement in student and teacher health and wellbeing across a class, a school or the entire system.

- Simplify, streamline, and modernise your school processes to increase your efficiency and lower your operational costs.
- Even more, your new digital platform will make teachers' and students' digital experiences easier to use and augment the ways in which your students and staff share, communicate, and collaborate across your system.

That's why the success of our work will not be measured by how much technology is deployed. It will be measured by how much it helps your students, teachers, and staff to learn more easily and to do things better, faster, and more cost-effectively so they can be more productive, fulfilled, and engaged.

Capability Roadmap

Enabling transformation for Education Systems through Digital Classrooms and Digital Schools



How Connected Schools Solution Supports your entire school community



Simplified enrolment and student management, accessible from anywhere

01



Enjoy secure, single sign-on for every student, teacher, and staff member to the tools and resources they need.

02



As a School Leader you can benchmark student, class and school performance across the system.

03



As a parent, you can monitor your child's progress in real time and pay for excursions, school lunches and other fees online.

04



Real-time analytics provide students, schools, teachers, and the school leaders office with actionable insights

05

06

Allow real-time collaboration in documents, chat, voice, video conferencing, file and screen sharing in a single collaboration environment



07

Improve people management with a single centralised HR system.



08

Communicating and school marketing made easy with shared resources and templates.



09

Connected schools also support a hybrid learning environment and is future ready.



A foundation for Future-ready learning

Moving to a unified cloud digital platform for your schools brings important benefits for all.

Equipped for learning innovation

Schools, students, and teachers are equipped with a digital platform for innovation that enables them to re-imagine and reinvent learning without being held back by outdated technology. Continual updates ensure they always have the latest feature sets while ensuring a secure environment.

Learning equity, teaching consistency

PwC Connected Schools Solution brings the same world-class technology, tools and resources to every student, teacher, and staff member across schools, ensuring consistent learning opportunities and best practice methodologies for all.

Data portability, learning continuity

PwC Connected Schools Solution makes it simple for students to take their record with them if they transfer between schools. This improves their learning continuity and helps ensure that schools have the most up-to-date information on special support services and development programs they need.

Collaboration hubs for collective learning

PwC Connected Schools Solution enables students and teachers across schools to set up dynamic collaboration hubs where they can share and learn in real-time or asynchronously via voice or video conferencing.

Insights for knowledgeable planning

PwC Connected Schools Solution is integrated with intelligent analytics, enabling students to understand their progress, teachers to benchmark their subjects and classes, and schools to undertake future planning using advanced analytics.

Technology manageability and extensibility

PwC Connected Schools Solution eliminates the risk of investing in custom-made, and often incompatible, systems and removes the burden of security, updates, and ongoing management from constrained technical resources in schools. Your new platform will also be highly extensible allowing your schools to connect to third-party applications that extend functionality. It also makes ICT budgets and licensing more manageable and predictable with simple scaling to accommodate changes in student numbers.



Features and benefits Important to you

Benefit from the continuous innovation of the Microsoft platform. With Connected Schools, your school will always be on the latest technology *from security and privacy to AI and immersive learning innovation.*

Department of Education

- Get real time insights in the education system
- Simplify and standardised tools across schools
- Reduce procurement costs and improve security and manageability with centralised updates
- Access to software and tools through self-service options



School Leaders

- Benchmark student, class and school performance
- Access data from any device, anywhere
- Get insights to help you to optimise your school's learning outcomes
- Monitor health and wellbeing and oversee school administration



Administrators

- Streamlined school processes
- Simplified 2-way communication
- Control your finance and reporting support decision making.
- Optional HR system



Teachers

- Free up time to focus on teaching by reducing admin burden
- Get valuable, current insights on your students at your fingertips
- Enable students to better understand and track- their own engagement and progress supporting rich conversations about student learning



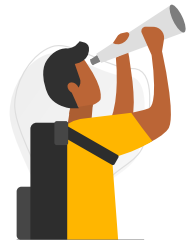
Parents

- One platform to stay connected with teachers
- See your child's progress now and over time
- Check assignments, report absences, contact the uniform shop, make bookings for event and excursions all in one platform, with the Parent Portal.



Students

- Enjoy single sign-on to rich learning resources, tools and communications
- Benefit from protected, safe, school community social media
- Learn across distance and device, from experts, wherever they reside
- Track your own performance and maintain a portfolio of work
- Collaborate and share learning across the world.



A unified

Digital Learning Ecosystem

Your school community will have access to an integrated suite of best-in-class tools, educational software, storage, communications, collaboration, student management systems and a professional learning and development environment. This includes secure storage for students, teachers and administration staff with enterprise-grade backup and recovery.

Moving to a single cloud ecosystem has important benefits:



Data driven insights

It's driven by intelligent analytics, enabling future planning from an informed perspective



Budgets

IT budgets and licensing are more manageable and predictable through a single 'per staff member per year cost negotiated with current education partners.



Skills and knowledge transfer

Enables students, parents, teachers, administrators and principals to share knowledge, skills and experiences without learning new systems if they transfer schools.



Simple scaling

It's quick and easy to add or remove users from the system as numbers fluctuate.



Innovation

Equip your schools, students and teachers with an ecosystem for innovation that enables them to reimagine and reinvent learning without being held back by current technology.



Learning equality

It brings the same world-class technology, tools and resources to every student, school and early years centre.



Manageable Technology

Eliminate investing in bespoke and often incompatible systems and remove the burden of security, updates and ongoing management from constrained technical resources in our schools.



Accessibility

Mobile ready and secure - Access the information you need on the go with industry-standard data encryption technology you can feel sure your vital details are kept safe.



Evergreen technology

It enables students and teachers to have the latest technology and quickly benefit from innovative capabilities as they are introduced.

How to get started?

Journey Map

Step 1

Evaluate your existing systems, data and tools



Step 2

Consult and collaborate with your stakeholder groups



Step 3

Design your transformation roadmap and intent



Step 4

Explore the impact of digital transformation on your school



How we Support your journey

To help your school with a smooth and seamless transition, we will be working closely with a suite of technology and change management experts. We appreciate that change can be challenging and we will support our school community throughout the journey with a range of tools, resources and training.

Organisational Change Leadership

Our experts help you to reduce the risk that a new system or other change will be rejected by your people or the wider community. By itself OCM does not reduce costs or increase sales. Instead, it increases the teamwork required for the school to accept the change and operate more efficiently.

Application Managed Services

We offer full lifecycle technology services from strategy through build, operate, and innovate with deep industry specific capabilities in managing, maintaining, and continuously innovating our clients' application platforms to achieve business results. PwC Application Managed Services (AMS) services go beyond the traditional AMS model by focusing on business optimisation and innovation, not just point in time metrics, support, and Service Level Agreements (SLAs).

Technology manageability and extensibility

Digital transformation is about changing attitudes and the enabling educators, parents and school leaders to fully realise the benefits of digital technologies. PwC will support your school on your successful transformation journey to foster innovation while ensuring that technology use is always relevant to the learning context.



How Connected Schools can

Transform your daily task and bring the community together



Connected Schools Solution



The life of Students

Today's students will enter a very different world. By equipping them with high digital literacy, high-level knowledge skills and an agile mindset that embraces innovation, creativity, and market disruption, they will be ready for almost anything.

The Internet and the proliferation of mobile devices have created almost unlimited access to information. The result is that our economy and society are no longer built around rewarding people for 'what they know', but instead 'on what they do with what they know'. This means that today our schools focus on helping students to develop skills like critical thinking, collaboration, creative problem solving, self-management and responsible decision-making to thrive in the society and workplace of tomorrow.

To help students develop these important skills, **Connected Schools Solution** recognises that learning is a social practice and can't happen alone. Therefore, we're equipping them with modern technologies and collaborative hubs that support information exchange, conversation, reflection, dialogue, and collaborative content generation.

This moves away from the rigid Learning Management Systems (LMS) of the past and respects the spontaneous and fluid, interactive nature of modern learning.

We also recognise that learners are different, and so we are providing technology that enables students to learn at their own pace and choose digital tools and input methods to suit their subject and preference – from a digital pen to a keyboard, voice or video – as well as inbuilt assistive technologies for those who need additional help.

Most importantly, we can work with you to deliver a single student record that travels with students if they transfer between schools ensuring continuity of support, while providing a continuous record of achievement.



The life of Educators

The rapid pace of innovation and change means that teachers have new tools that provide better security, efficiency, and modern-classroom features.

If we want our students to do well, we must support, develop, and empower our teachers. That's why **Connected Schools Solution** provides teachers with the technology tools required for transformation, so they can develop and deliver instructional content that is more engaging, equitable and personalized than ever before. And it's why we've focused on collaborative technologies that enable them to provide real-time feedback and adaptive assessment to support the development of critical thinking and collaborative learning.

We can also work together to build a community of confident and competent teachers who can share best practice, collaborate easily with each other across a school/s, a learning area, or a shared passion, and build their skills through convenient, up-to-date professional development.

In step with best practice, we can evolve from the rigidity of an LMS to more fluid, collaborative digital spaces where teaching and learning can occur both in real-time or asynchronously through video, voice, chat, and file sharing in a single, cohesive environment.

As well as making it easy to use technology, we've also focused on making it easy to obtain technology through a single, self-serve ICT portal with dedicated technology support.



The life of School Leaders

With modern collaboration tools and real-time analytics, Principals have the insights they need to manage a successful school, augment the experiences for students and staff, and connect and engage their learning community.

With **Connected Schools** we're providing Principals with an technology environment that can support their goals and their staff, while giving them the freedom to set the digital direction that suits their school. To help them plan and implement new capabilities and measure their success we're providing a wide array of digital tools, managed security, Internet filtering, and integrated analytics.

Using sophisticated data analysis, Principals will be able to inform school management, and with predictive analytics they can monitor student wellbeing, identify issues, and have proactive intervention with positive actions before they become critical challenges.

By automating routine tasks and integrating and digitizing the functions of running a school - from business administration to classroom administration processes - Connected Schools will enable principals to create powerful learning environments to support every student.



The life of **Administrators**

Equipped with powerful digital tools, school administration staff will be able to streamline and automate their workflows and use practical, convenient ways to support, engage, and inform the school community.

Connected Schools Solution provides administration staff with single sign-on to the tools, resources, and data they need to work effectively and efficiently. They will be able to automate routine tasks and processes, such as enrollment, fee payment and reminders, subject selection, excursions, and graduation. They can also maintain confidential student records to ensure that when students transfer, the new school is provided with a complete picture to optimise support.

The system can also help a school efficiently manage the archiving of personal data after a student has graduated. Integrated platforms can support a wide variety of tasks across the school. These can include everything from enrolment and fee payments to attendance records, course selection and academic achievements.

It will also be possible to establish internet-based portals through which parents can securely access information about their children, such as attendance and performance records and communicate with teachers and other staff.

This can be extended to include excursion permissions and payments, simplifying the way parents interact with the school and building a supportive community



The life of Technology Leaders

With a cloud-based, standardized technology platform supporting integrated systems and automated tools, Technology Leaders will be able to manage more efficiently, while strengthening privacy and security.

Connected Schools Solution enables IT Managers and contractors to manage a secure, reliable digital platform with the flexibility for each school to select options that complement their curriculum and school setting. With standardised cloud services that are automatically updated and secure, your IT managements can be streamlined, automated, and simplified, thereby creating new efficiencies.

IT managers will now be able to count on reliable, high-speed networking, as well as access to hybrid cloud services providing choices in the technology they deploy – from digital tools to servers and storage.

Student protection will be strengthened and simplified through centralised Internet filtering, with customization options at school level.

Unified identity management will enable IT managers to provide single sign-on to pre-provisioned IT services, as well as options like self-serve IT portals for teachers and administrators.

About

PwC Australia

PwC Australia brings together people, business, technology and ideas to build trust in society and solve important problems. At PwC, our purpose is to build trust in society and solve important problems. In our increasingly complex world, we work with businesses, government and the community to deliver solutions and sustained outcomes. To help Australia continue to thrive and grow.

We are a team of more than 8,000 people that delivers quality in audit, assurance, consulting and tax services to more than 5,000 clients.

We're part of a network of firms in 158 countries with over 250,000 people. PwC is one of the top 50 brands worldwide and PwC Australia is among LinkedIn's top companies for where Australians want to work.

We're bold about our commitment to diversity, inclusion, wellbeing and social impact. And we empower our people in upskilling, flexible working and pursuing their passions.

Our purpose is what drives our community of solvers. Passionate and diverse people who come together in unexpected ways, with human-led, tech-powered ideas to untangle the world's most important problems.

We don't see change as chaos – but as the chance to do some- thing great.

It all adds up to The New Equation.

Let us be a part of your success story.
Reach out to start a conversation.



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Thank you



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