



Case Study

Pakeman Primary School



Location: Islington, London

Year Turn IT On began supporting: 2012

Pupils: 324

Consultant: Greg Rochford

Headteacher's name: Lynne Gavin

Service Contract: Platinum Plus

ICT Coordinator's name: Lucy Braithwaite

Network: Turn IT On Discover

School background

Pakeman Primary School is a larger-than-average sized primary school situated in the Finsbury Park ward of Islington. The school has recently extended their site with a new playground building which houses a breakfast club, a playcentre and a reading room.

The school caters for mixed pupils of ages ranging between three and 11. The whole school is very proud of its ethos 'Excellence for all and excellence from all', and Ofsted rated ICT as one of the strongest elements of the school's varied curriculum.

School's previous ICT situation

Before Turn IT On began supporting Pakeman Primary School in 2012, the school was struggling to frequently use their equipment due to lack of provision and maintenance.

The school had no wireless network, instead there was a sole access point offering a very limited range and capacity. The school had a variety of laptops which were running whiteboards in the classroom, but which did not have unified logons across the school. One of the trolleys of laptops was not attached to the school's domain at all.

Each of the school's computers ran different programs, meaning there was no uniformity across the school or any method to building new PCs. Pakeman's five-year-old server was failing to update, and much of the school's hardware such as projectors and whiteboards were broken and therefore unused.

It immediately became clear that, despite their enthusiasm, the staff did not (and could not) regularly use ICT because of the unreliable equipment and setup. For instance, interactive whiteboards were used infrequently and not interactively. Overall, there was only limited teaching and learning happening with ICT.

The school's previous support company were not helping the school with their strategic future plans; instead they were purely maintaining the school's status quo, with limited success.



Turn IT On's proposal

Turn IT On were approached by Pakeman Primary School after we were recommended to them by a neighbouring school and we arranged to meet with the head.

After auditing the school's network and equipment, Turn IT On proposed that the school would benefit from an initial one day a week of support from a teaching consultant. This one day of support would incorporate the development of an achievable strategic plan. The headteacher, ICT subject leader and the consultant would work together on establishing the school's vision and track this resulting action plan.

We suggested that the school would also benefit from a repair and replacement plan for faulty equipment, an upgrade to their server and the installation of a managed wireless system. After all this is in place, the school would be able to further enhance their ICT provision with the collaboration of their Turn IT On consultant.

On a day-to-day basis, we proposed their consultant would be key in managing the various projects, maintaining the system and devising opportunities to incorporate ICT into the curriculum.

Turn IT On's proposal in action and the resulting benefits

After the school signed up with Turn IT On we immediately began putting our proposal into action. The school began receiving their one day a week of support from a teaching consultant and during their visits the school's vision for ICT was discussed and implemented.

On a day-to-day basis the school's consultant has successfully managed the various projects of improvement and maintained the system meaning teachers are more able to teach their lessons using the technology they choose.

The school received installation of their new Discover Network. This has had a huge effect on the management of the school's machines which are now consistent throughout the school with controlled user environments, can be rebuilt in 15 minutes and all run the same programs. All classrooms received new, faster, wired Windows 7 desktops which run the whiteboards.

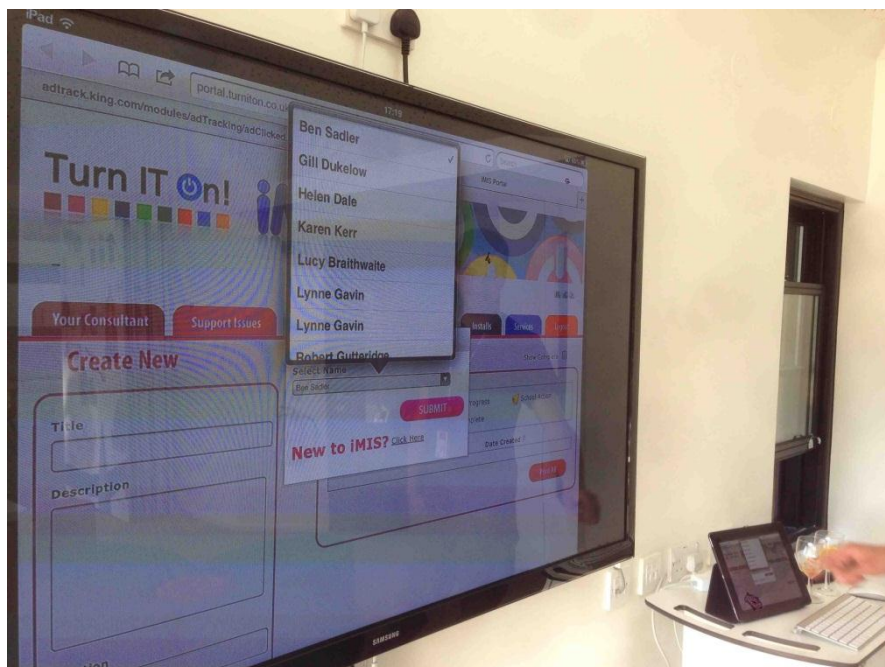
The repair and replacement plans for faulty equipment means that all the projectors and whiteboards in the school now work and are not unused, gathering dust.

Part of the school's overall vision for ICT was to provide an environment where all children had the opportunity to use new technologies to enhance their learning. To this end, three trolleys of laptops and two trolleys of iPads were purchased and connected to the school's new managed wireless system and are all managed with unified user environments. Because this makes them reliable, accessible and easy to use, the school have found the iPads and laptops to be continuously booked out for use all around the site.

Teachers now have personal iPads and can stream content on student iPads to their classroom whiteboards meaning the user experience is fully interactive. Teachers have received whiteboard and iPad training sessions because we know that equipment will remain unused unless it comes with the knowledge to use it. A fantastic example of how the school has recently put this technology to use with great success is when the school unveiled their new building. Opened by the mayor of Islington, the building hosted an impressive interactive presentation streamed from the Headteacher's iPad to the 60" plasma and Apple Mac installation.



Before Turn IT On supported Pakeman Primary School's ICT the school was able to provide very little teaching involving ICT. Now, ICT is embedded across all areas of the curriculum, students have experience of computing on a daily basis and the school is leading the way in technological excellence in education.



Turn IT On's support portal being beamed to the 60" plasma screen from an iPad.

The school's view

"I'm so glad we chose Turn IT On.

Our ICT provision has changed beyond all recognition. Staff now have confidence in the fact that ICT will work for them and they are trying out new things. Our technician is part of our school team and provides us with excellent advice in terms of forward thinking, getting value for money and making the most of the equipment that we have.

I would have no hesitation in recommending Turn IT On - with their help we have transformed our provision. They are responsive to the needs of the school and they tailor their advice and support accordingly.

I don't know what we'd do without them!"

Lynne Gavin - Headteacher
Pakeman Primary School