



IT's special for Rowhill's ICT

IT's Personal

New ICT solution fits Rowhill School's needs

Rowhill School integrates students with special needs into their community by develop an environment of trust and confidence. The school delivers the National Curriculum in line with each individual's learning needs.

This approach is parallel to Viglen's commitment to deliver personalised ICT solutions into the education sector. Viglen worked with Rowhill School worked to develop an ICT solution that would foster an atmosphere which was supportive, creative and life changing.



The Challenge

Rowhill School was starting to outgrow its original premises and took advantage of a site nearby. This allowed an opportunity to implement new ICT technologies but as a special needs school, the ICT solution needed to support the student's individual needs.

The school already had multiple ICT suppliers, but they were looking for a dedicated ICT advisor with strong experience in the education sector. Plus, they needed an ICT solution that could be planned from architectural design plans as the refurbishments weren't completed at the consultation stage.

Working closely with the school, Viglen identified key areas of change including improving their network, implementing a class room management tool and installing VoIP telephone systems. Along the way, Viglen foresaw a potential obstacle being the design and size of their server room. Therefore, these four issues became the focus for Rowhill School and Viglen.



Great
Minds
Think





ROWHILL SCHOOL CASE STUDY

The Result

Throughout the process, Viglen worked closely with Rowhill School to understand their unique needs and goals while addressing how the new ICT solution would improve the teaching and learning within a special needs school.

During the planning stages, Viglen looked at the schools estate and worked out how to extend their buying power of desktops by nearly 30%. This was achieved when Viglen's identified 17 **desktops suitable for reuse** and migrated these desktops with another sixty new Genie Ultra Pro desktops. This opportunity allowed the school to integrate their legacy ICT hardware, extending the student's access to ICT and maximising the school's buying power.

The first implementation focused around improving the school's network and implementing Viglen's **class room management tool, ClassLink**. This software helped the teachers with the day to day management of their classes as ClassLink allowed them to oversee their student's computer-based activities. Furthermore, ClassLink was delivered across the entire network and helped take the hassle out of running a curriculum network. ClassLink offered ease of management for the IT team as student and teacher data files were held centrally and backed up in line with the server process.

Before the second phase was implemented, Viglen discovered that the design of the server room would result in high power and cooling costs. Without disrupting the physical design of the room, Viglen worked with the school's ICT team to achieve an **efficient and manageable server room**.

The final phase was a **new telephone system** into the new building. As a special needs school, the staff and teachers need swift access to support including access to parents. Their goal was to have a phone in every room, although they didn't realise the expense of this ICT solution. Therefore, Viglen technical team went onsite and proposed a solution that would fit within their budget. The final VoIP solution allowed greater manageability for the ICT team and the reliability needed for the staff and teachers.

To ensure a smooth installation, Viglen engineers installed the hardware, deployed to desk, removed and recycled all packaging, and conducted onsite training for the ICT staff. Utilising these **professional services from Viglen** allowed the ICT staff to optimise their new ICT resources immediately while the teachers could focus on delivering high levels of teaching without significant disruption. The students also benefited as the new network offered faster access to the curriculum and greater access to technology.

The new ICT solution has received positive response from the wider school community as it has influenced the teaching and learning within the School, caters for future deployments and brings life into the classroom.

Quotes

"Viglen worked with us every step of the way. Their advice was unique; not only did they have an in-depth knowledge of the education sector but they went the extra mile to ensure the ICT solution would be suitable for a special needs school."

Steve McGuinness
Head teacher
Rowhill School

"It was reassuring to work with an ICT supplier who was able to understand our end goal; raising attainment within schools. The solution has benefited the wider school community and its reassuring to see that the solution will grow as our needs grow."

Steve McGuinness
Head teacher
Rowhill School

"We are delighted to help Rowhill School implement the latest technologies into their new site. The ICT solution deployed will positively impact both the users and the administrators. Staff will be able to manage their classes more effectively with their new ClassLink software and the students will have greater access to technology, especially since we were able to reuse some existing desktops".

Bordan Tkachuk
Chief Executive
Viglen