



ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

CASE STUDY

With software updates happening regularly and the school deciding to take on the challenge of moving to a 1:1 program. Managing, connecting and learning how to use the devices, there is a lot to consider.

CHALLENGE #1 - DEVICE MANAGEMENT

With support of Apple Configurator coming to an end and DeployStudio no longer meeting requirements, St Andrew's School needed a new solution for managing their Apple devices.

After several strategic sessions with the team at Blackbird IT, St Andrew's School was ready to decide. Going forward a combination of technologies were utilised to manage all macOS and iOS/iPadOS devices within the school.

- jamf PRO (MDM)
- Local content caching service
- Device enrolment program (DEP)
- Apple School Manager (ASM)

Leveraging the above services, Blackbird IT were able to ensure a consistent experience across all devices and year levels.

The **Device Enrolment Program** allows for a seamless out of the box experience, this system provided by Apple allows users to be automatically enrolled into the schools MDM system right out of the box. Allowing devices to get into the hands of teachers and students sooner.

Apple School Manager allows teachers to take control of the classroom by helping guide, especially the younger students, to the apps they need and keep them on task.

All of this tied together with the power of **jamf PRO** to manage each of the systems (iOS/iPadOS/macOS) and software distribution.

Bolstered by the **local content caching service** engineered by leveraging 2 Mac Mini's with 10Gbit network cards, the school is always able to deliver software updates whilst not compromising the online experience for students.

CHALLENGE #2 - MAJOR SOFTWARE RELEASES

Major software updates released annually is a major hurdle for any administrator to manage. There are many different applications utilised by the students and they don't all work when the new software drops.

How do you get ahead of this? Consistency and contribution. Gone are the days where you can do a major SOE update annually.

Blackbird IT staff working with Martin Stacey are on the front foot, participating in the AppleSeed program allows us to deliver feedback directly to the developers early to assist in a smooth release of the latest macOS and iOS platforms.

This places St Andrews very much on the front foot. No more surprises with software not working after an update. Updates can be held back until software titles are updated to work with the new version or alternative titles can be found to replace.

CHALLENGE #3 - NETWORK BANDWIDTH

There had been a steady increase in demand for bandwidth on the St Andrew's School network. Increased amounts of MacBook Air and iPad devices demanded an increase in bandwidth.

More than just putting more Wireless Access Points on the wall, a wireless audit was undertaken by Blackbird IT engineers to ensure the right APs were selected and placed in the optimal location to deliver the best performance and range.

Whilst additional APs were necessary, the bulk of the work undertaken was on the backend. Behind every great wireless network is a sturdy network infrastructure. Blackbird IT expanded the capacity of the St Andrew Schools network through the implementation of an updated Aruba wired network, increasing capacity to 10G between buildings!

AT THE END OF THE DAY...

The students of today will be the leaders of tomorrow. Blackbird IT partnering with Apple has enabled St Andrew's school's staff and students to focus on education and learning without the typical disruptions experienced each term.

Apple provides award-winning technology and tools to enable teachers and students to undertake an exceptional learning experience from day one.

#InternetServices #MDM #AssetMangement #Infrastructure #WiFi
#MacBook #Strategy #BlackbirdEngineering #iPad #Network

