

Empowering the modern classroom

Unlock the full potential of learning with Windows 11 for Education



Classroom needs are changing

Over the last three years, technology adoption within the education space has gained incredible momentum.¹ New learning tools and applications are flooding the EdTech market.¹ Also, one-to-one programs providing a device to each student are proliferating as students' access to the internet continues to improve.

Despite the digital transformation, there are still challenges throughout the education system, including budget restrictions and privacy concerns. Online learning exposes gaps in equity and accessibility—for students who have limited access to devices, and those with different learning styles and abilities.

Going forward, educators, administrators, and IT professionals will need to leverage technology solutions to meet the challenges. Those solutions must unlock the full potential of every learner, no matter where they are or what their capabilities may be.

Challenges in education

- Making the most of strained budgets
- Addressing gaps in equity and accessibility
- Securing and protecting online environments

87%

of students in high-income countries now have access to the internet at home.²

77%

of teachers believe technology will help them be more effective post-pandemic.³

82%

of admins report using video communication systems in learning.⁴

80%+

of workplace malware attacks were encountered by K-12 education.⁵



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Everyone feels the pinch

From administrators to IT professionals, to educators, it takes multiple partners to deliver quality learning experiences. Today, all face different challenges.

Educators

On the front lines of multiple years of disrupted learning, educators are now dealing with the gaps in learning and looking for ways to catch up. Typically, less than half of their time is spent teaching in the classroom, with the rest dedicated to peripheral work.⁶ Prioritizing new devices for students means educators are now working with aging technology, though almost nine out of ten expect to use more technology to teach in the future.⁷

87%

of teachers worldwide expect to use more technology to teach this year.⁷

Administrators and educational leaders

From facing shortages of funding and staff to shifting expectations from parents and caregivers, administrators understand the need for innovation. However, with limited budget and resources, they need to make choices that positively impact learning now and into the future.

71%

of principals think there's great value in digital tools, both today and in the future.⁹

IT professionals supporting education

As technology adoption in schools increases, IT professionals are providing more guidance to educators in all areas of technology. More than half are involved in decisions to adopt teaching tools, leaving less time for other important tasks such as mitigating growing security risks.⁸ They know that to keep up they'll need the help of the right partners and tools.

52%

of IT leaders are involved in the procurement of digital instructional materials.⁸

What have we learned about modern education?

Several factors come together to cause the challenging technology landscape in education. One-to-one device programs reduce the need for sharing and improve access for students without a computer at home. However, rollouts tend to be fragmented and incomplete with budget issues, or administrative hurdles getting in the way. Inconsistent use of teaching tools within schools and among teachers creates operational challenges for IT and leaves less time to manage persistent cybersecurity threats. Furthermore, maintenance costs of devices assigned to students and staff are high.

If we treat the wide-scale adoption of online learning as the beginning of a global pilot project using classroom technology, the data gives us insight into how technology solutions should evolve to meet the demands of modern education.

A complete education solution encompasses three pillars— **inclusive learning** for all, **secure, and scalable** digital environments, and **more value to education** through the optimization of technological investments. This eBook highlights how Microsoft Education solutions with Windows 11 empowers educators, administrators, and IT professionals and supports the pillars to help unlock the full potential of learning.

Unlocking the full potential of education

Technology solutions for education must take a holistic approach to keep up with the demands of modern education. To satisfy the needs of students, educators, administrators, and IT, complete solutions must offer three core capabilities.

1 Inclusive design

- Create a seamless experience online or in-person so every learner can reach their full potential.
- Accommodate students of all abilities.
- Support well-being and promote student engagement.
- Empower a variety of different learning styles.

2 Secure and scalable IT

- Guard against threats from malware, phishing, and unsafe websites.
- Enable easy sign-on and protection from unauthorized users.
- Reduce the burden on IT teams with simple and easy deployment.
- Manage devices easily with fewer IT resources.

3 More value to advance learning

- Provide exceptional value with education-oriented capabilities and features.
- Reduces costs with devices dedicated for online and offline classroom experiences.
- Prepares students for the future in a tech-enabled workforce.
- Empower seamless learning experiences with familiar apps in Microsoft 365*.





Leverage the power of Windows 11 for Education

Reimagined for a new era of digital learning, Windows 11 for Education helps to unlock a student's potential for learning, collaboration, and creativity in a secure and trusted environment. Windows 11 for Education supports the three pillars, improving accessibility, easing the burden of cybersecurity and device management, and offering more features to enrich educational experiences.

Inclusive design

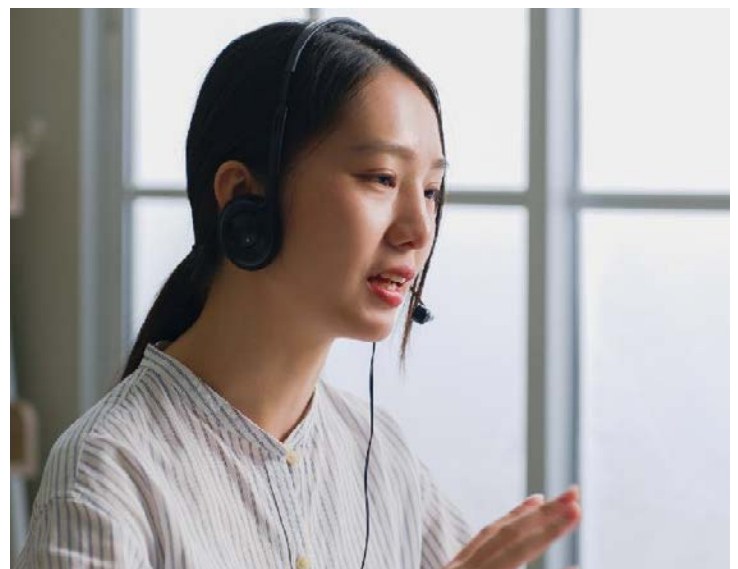
All types of learners should be able to participate in classroom discussions and activities. However, educators and students with disabilities sometimes find them difficult to navigate. An inclusive approach to learning seeks to overcome those difficulties by delivering better experiences for everyone. Features like voice and simple gestures, for example, provide easy access to files and personalize learning for students and educators of all abilities. Windows 11 for Education offers built-in capabilities that eliminate many of the barriers that would otherwise exclude some students, and challenge educators.

Live captions

Live captions help make video, audio, and in-person conversation more accessible to users who are deaf or hard of hearing, who are English language learners, and those who retain more by reading than listening.

Scenario: Making audio more accessible

Tenth grade math teacher Mikaela Lee is profoundly deaf in her left ear. One of her students is also hard of hearing. She has everyone in the class use a microphone patched to her laptop during class discussions. She and her student make use of live captions to help capture the full conversation. Other students are also setting up live captions on their devices to catch more discussion from across the room.



Microsoft Ink

Students and teachers often need the flexibility to write or draw without the limitations of a keyboard. They can easily take notes, mark up lesson materials, and write math and science equations on ink and touch-enabled devices using a digital pen.

Scenario: Real-time problem solving

Ellis Turner teaches ninth grade algebra. Microsoft Ink allows him to interact with his students, in real time, while they work on their devices. Using a digital pen on his projected screen, he breaks down multiple steps to solving an equation. As students try a different equation, he can help individuals write the correct steps on their touch screen device. If the student needs to see it again, he simply clicks “replay”, and then can move on to help another student.



Focus

Help build healthy digital habits and support students with ADHD with more control over their learning environment. Focus sessions in Windows 11 help students reduce distractions and anxiety with research-backed techniques including timers, selectively silencing notifications, and eliminating taskbar alerts for apps.

Scenario: Focusing for success

Remy Morris is a fifth grader who has ADHD. They are struggling to focus long enough to select a topic for a research project. Their anxiety increases as classmates choose topics and begin research. Remy’s teacher suggests Focus sessions and sets up notifications so only alerts from their teacher appear. This lets Remy send questions and receive notifications of the teacher’s responses—with no other interruptions. After the first Focus session Remy has selected “humpback whales” and moves on to begin their research.





Secure and scalable IT

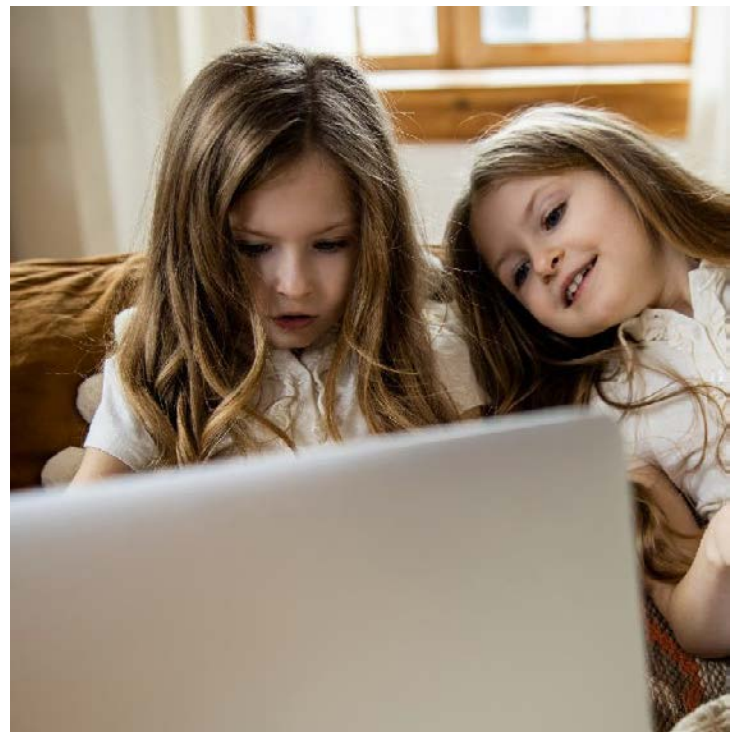
Cybersecurity threats are an increasing risk in today's education landscape. Protecting student privacy, avoiding phishing scams, and other malicious activity at school and online is more important than ever. IT professionals need better ways to manage the risks across the large number of student and educator devices they deploy and maintain. Windows 11 for Education has powerful, built-in, always on security and remote management tools delivering safe, high-quality learning to all students, wherever they are.

Windows Defender SmartScreen

Protection against identity theft and enhanced student privacy controls are built-in to Windows 11 with Windows Defender SmartScreen. Enhanced threat detection tools alert education users to potential phishing scams by notifying them when they are entering their logins into a malicious app or hacked website.

Scenario: Exploring new online places safely

Maya and Micah Jones are twins who love playing games online. They have their favorites but sometimes use Microsoft Edge to search for new games to try. Maya and Micha know to be wary of ad content, however, they may not always recognize the warning signs of a malicious website. Microsoft Defender SmartScreen lets them know when they have clicked on a link that isn't safe. They can avoid the site and go back to the safety of familiar apps and games like Minecraft Education Edition.



Windows Hello

Windows Hello uses advanced facial recognition sensors to detect your presence, unlocking access to your device when you approach, and locking it when you leave. In busy classrooms, Windows Hello means less time waiting for students to log in, and less risk of unauthorized users gaining access to devices.

Scenario: Easy access to devices

Teacher Aje Kalebo knows how important technology is in developing the learning skills of his young students. In his busy classroom, students have a wide range of capabilities in reading and writing, making typing passwords and other inputs into devices sometimes challenging. With Windows Hello configured on every device, facial recognition is used in place of passwords and PINs. Students can log in easily, as the device camera recognizes their faces, and Aje can spend more time on lessons, instead of password management.



Intune for Education

Microsoft Intune for Education* is a cloud-based, mobile device management (MDM) service for schools. IT teams use it to remotely deploy the settings, apps, and tools students need to support their learning. In just a few simple steps, they can quickly deploy apps to users and apply device settings that create a great classroom experience.

Scenario: Updates in less time

Bobbi Singh, the head of IT, appreciates how Intune for Education* saves him time by automatically sending settings to each student's device. "I just select 'add' and as soon as the kids turn their devices on and connect them to the Internet, it's as good as done." With Intune for Education, Bobbi can make sure student devices are always up-to-date and configured for the classroom with the latest Microsoft Education-recommended settings and apps.



More value to advance learning

In today's modern education systems, technology budgets need to stretch further than ever. The right platform for education needs to deliver more for everyone involved including feature-rich applications for teaching and learning, and tools to simplify security and device management. Windows 11 for Education prioritizes inclusive experiences and addresses the challenges of large-scale deployments, offering greater value to education systems.

Microsoft Edge on Windows 11 for Education

The high performance and compatibility of Microsoft Edge helps make learning engaging, and fun for students and educators—right out of the box. Across K-12 skill levels, the intuitive navigation and natural-language search functions help make browsing and interacting with web-based apps simpler. Built-in tools including Immersive Reader, Math Solver, Collections, and more, help students learn independently without the need for add-ons, extensions, or additional apps.

Scenario: Bridging the disability divide

Georgi Walker is a 9th grade student working on a research project, but her dyslexia makes research frustrating and slow. Recently her school's counselors and teachers teamed up to introduce the entire school to Immersive Reader in Edge on Windows. Now Georgi uses tools including Read Aloud, Text preferences, and Syl-la-bles to help her clarify and consume content. Immersive Reader is helping Georgi, and all her classmates, get through online content with less anxiety—making learning fun.



Preparing for the future

Educators and administrators understand their role in preparing students for future success. This includes providing learning experiences that will prepare them to succeed once they leave the school system.

Windows 11 for Education with Microsoft 365* gives students and educators fast access to familiar apps like Word and Excel—productivity tools they will use beyond their scholastic careers.

Scenario: Learning the tools of tomorrow

Becky Nguyen is a special education teacher. She knows that for students with disabilities, a consistent experience with learning technology is important. She appreciates that with Windows devices and Microsoft 365* applications, students will find buttons in the same places and use similar workflows across platforms. Consistency makes learning more accessible for everyone. As students—with disabilities and without—graduate, familiarity with tools they'll use throughout their careers can be a real advantage.



Taking budgets further

Choosing the best technology including robust devices with long battery life** and solutions to meet the needs of students and educators now and in the future means taking a close look at the costs. Microsoft and Windows 11 for Education deliver more value with built-in inclusivity features and options that cut down on time spent managing and deploying devices, as well as security costs so administrators can do more with their technology budgets.

Scenario: Reducing people costs

Tamara Green has been responsible for technology support within her school district for nearly twenty-five years. During that time, the number of devices maintained increased more than tenfold from about 13,000 devices to 135,000. Tamara knows that her budget has not increased at the same rate. She credits saving thousands of dollars doing more with technology, including remote updates and device maintenance—and doing less with people as the key to managing her fleet.



Reimagining education together

Education systems, educators, and students have experienced a lot in the past three years. The lessons learned from that time have highlighted the need for education technology to support three key requirements—to have an inclusive design, be secure and scalable for IT, and deliver more value to advance learning.

Microsoft meets the challenge with Windows 11 for Education as part of a complete ecosystem of technology solutions that can unlock the potential of every learner—no matter where they are or what their learning challenges may be.

Microsoft solutions for education

Microsoft for Education helps to unlock student potential—supported by an ecosystem of software and devices in a secure and trusted environment. The solution promotes diversity inclusion, with a commitment to expand accessibility for all, and to provide security and enhanced value to educators, administrators, and students.



Discover more ways Microsoft and Connection are reimagining modern classrooms. Contact us to book a consultation with an education expert.



Sources

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*May be sold separately

**Battery life varies based on settings, usage, device, and other factors

