Overcoming barriers to digital transformation of an Indian public school

School at a glance

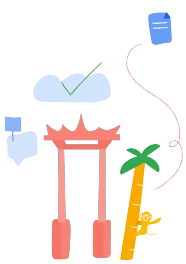
Kendriya Vidyalaya is a co-educational, secular school situated in Anna Nagar, Chennai is run by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The school has been a leader in ensuring holistic personal and academic development since 1995.

Challenge

Kendriya Vidyalaya Chennai is a relatively well-funded school. For decades, the school has had a record for building a holistic education curriculum for students, not only in terms of academic but also personality development. But in this fast-changing digital era, how could the school incorporate technologies that can prepare their students for the world of digital natives?

> “My students were very happy about doing weekly assessments using Chromebooks.”

Athira Nair
Teacher, KVS Chennai School



Solution

To respond to this challenge, Google for Education worked with the school to transform two Grade 8 classrooms into fully Google enabled learning environments by using Google Workspace for Education and Lenovo Chromebooks. The pilot project was supported by a strong consortium with Google for Education, a team of trainers from Mahattatva (a leading local professional development firm), and academics from Tata Institute of Social Sciences led by Prof Amina.

Over the course of six months this team took on the challenge of supporting all teachers to use Google Workspace for Education and Chromebooks in every aspect of teaching and learning across all subjects on the curriculum.

The pilot focused on trying to bring both teachers and students on this transformation journey. This was particularly significant as teachers were more reserved than students in introducing information technologies into classrooms. Another challenge for technological adoption was the school’s existing infrastructure, which was not fully ready for a Google environment.

Google for Education Lenovo intel

Key benefits

Based on teacher interviews after the transformation, there was an overwhelmingly positive response to the experience. There were **62% of teachers who confirmed that students learn more effectively and perform better at their studies in general.**

Rise in enthusiasm and acquisition

Teachers observed that students became more enlivened when Google Workspace for Education and Chromebooks were in place, as they can now search for information and solutions on their own. The simple user interface allows even shy students to engage in class. Correspondingly, **57% of teachers agreed that students collaborate more and develop better understanding of subjects.**

Increased customized teaching style

Despite initial concerns about the lack of familiarity with digital technologies, teachers responded positively after introducing such tools in the classroom. **54%** of teachers agreed that **the use of Google for Education tools help them cover basic teaching materials more effectively,** thus allowing time for **better individualized student feedback** and **communication with parents.**

Time saving for teachers and students

67% of teachers declared that Google technology saved their time with **50% of them finding 1-5 hours of time saved per week**. Concurrently, **57% of teachers observed student assignments to be completed quicker** with the use of Google tools.

Top education device

Chromebooks were reported as the best educational device and associated with less recreational use. On average, Chromebooks were rated **better than tablets on 100% of educational activities** for teachers, including lesson planning, classroom instruction, and feedback for students.

Learn More

edu.google.com/new-school

(*) Source: Post-pilot teacher survey, project Albus in Chennai, India

© 2021 Google LLC 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043.