



Australia | Education

# Technology to enable creativity, collaboration and innovation in education



**Camberwell Girls  
Grammar School**  
An Anglican School

'I am so excited we are providing our girls with **an education** that really will **prepare them for their future.**'

Debbie Dunwoody  
Principal  
Camberwell Girls Grammar School



## Challenge

Camberwell Girls Grammar School wanted to provide teachers and students with a more dynamic and productive learning environment to maintain its position as a school of choice through the delivery of leading-edge learning.

To accelerate its ambition of 'educating tomorrow's woman', CGGS knew it needed to teach twenty-first century skills of creativity, collaboration and innovation in the students' approach to learning.



## Solution

Deployment of the Cisco Collaboration platform – including voice, video, compute, WebEx, Show & Share – integrated with Microsoft Active Directory and Exchange, and third party applications that record and deliver learning activity as a service catalogue.



## Result

- Staff and students have access to a wider range of resources, people and experience through interactive, connected learning.
- Productivity gains through recording of classroom learning for re-use and future reference.
- More engaged students and improved capacity to learn as students share their learning through collaboration – interacting and learning in ways that resonate with them rather than through more traditional teaching methods.

 Challenge

## A 21<sup>st</sup> century education

Camberwell Girls Grammar School (CGGS) is an independent girls' school located in the eastern suburbs in Melbourne. With approximately 800 students and over 100 staff located on two campuses, it is one of Victoria's leading independent girls' schools, noted for achieving exceptional academic results.

The school wanted to provide teachers and students with a more dynamic and productive learning environment by implementing technology common in higher education and business. This investment was seen by the school as a critical step to maintaining its position as a school of choice, through the delivery of leading edge learning programs to staff and students.

"We're all about educating tomorrow's woman here at Camberwell Girls. We know that we are going through a time of quite rapid change in the world, where if we want our students to thrive, we've got to teach them the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills of creativity, collaboration and how they can be innovative in their approach to learning," said Debbie Dunwoody, Principal, CGGS.

 Solution

## Kicking off the year with collaboration

Camberwell Girls Grammar School, in partnership with Dimension Data, embarked on a full-scale deployment of the Cisco Collaboration platform. The solution utilised Cisco technologies for voice, video and compute, integrated with Microsoft Active Directory and Exchange, as well as third party applications that record and deliver learning activity as a service catalogue.

"Deployed here in the school is a full range of Cisco technologies – from the infrastructure layers of networking, wi-fi, switching and routing to the full collaboration stack, which includes videoconferencing, WebEx and Show and Share technologies," said Michael Slip, General Manager – Communications, Dimension Data

With a requirement to have the solution up and running by late January, before commencement of the school year, the team had to work towards a very tight deadline. In addition, the IT team at CGGS was small, which required effective planning so that Dimension Data could deploy the solution and then hand this to CGGS for the wider rollout, end user support and business-as-usual operation.

Dimension Data delivered the project on time and on budget to the satisfaction of CGGS.

"Dimension Data has been a wonderful partner in this whole program," said Debbie Dunwoody.

 Result

## Collaboration crosses learning boundaries

According to Michael Slip, the school has fully embraced collaboration:

"[CGGS is] a shining light. They're an example of an organisation that has really adopted the technology and are extracting the value."

The collaboration solution is also generating positive feedback from the staff at CGGS. Kim Perkins, Head of Digital Learning at CGGS said:

"This is probably the most exciting period of my teaching career. The possibilities that this collaboration communications technology has opened up, the excitement that it generates among the students and the uptake by the staff has been one of the most impressive changes of implementations of technology."

The collaboration solution is having an impact on the way that teachers and students are working at CGGS, with interactive classroom learning allowing the students to have access to people and experiences beyond the boundaries of the classroom and in locations across Australia and internationally.

"In Year 6 we did a science activity with an organisation called 'Fizzics' and they did chemical experiments that we couldn't do here at school and the girls loved that. They saw amazing reactions and things that are a bit dangerous to do in the classroom virtually. Given the ability to bring experts into the classroom, there are really no boundaries to where an incursion could take us," said Meagan Wilson, Year 5 and 6 Team Leader, CGGS.

"[We were able to connect to an archaeologist] who works for part of the year in Turkey [and] is involved in a dig in the ancient city of Collosae. We got the whole Year 7 group involved – he was able to see them, speak to them [and] address them personally by name [from the dig site]. It was quite an amazing experience for them," continued Duncan Reid, Head of Religious Education, CGGS.

Principal, Debbie Dunwoody, said "We've had students there with divers swimming on the Great Barrier Reef, hearing about their experiences. Our students have been looking at the dairy industry with experts in California. We've had students talking directly with an author about the work that they have been doing with one of their books."

The school is also making productivity gains by recording classroom learning for re-use and future reference, and the collaboration solution is empowering students and teachers in ways that were not possible with more traditional teaching methods.

Ben Jenkinson, Director of Teaching and Learning Innovation, says the school is "flying" with the Show and Share technology.

The students are also finding that Show and Share is improving their capacity to learn:

“If you learn from someone your age, it’s a lot easier to understand and I can also compare my results. You can see whether you got something similar or that we probably didn’t do [something] properly, or that we got an error in our experiments,” said Year 9 students, Emma and Yasmine.

“Now I am not controlling it, the students are controlling it and they are sharing it with each other,” continued Ben Jenkinson.

## Productivity via collaboration

The benefits of collaboration are not limited to learning and are being felt in other areas of the school as well, including the Human Resources department, who are using it to assist with their recruitment processes.

“From a recruitment perspective we’re using WebEx. We are able to safely connect with the [interviewee] anywhere, anytime and with such ease of use. The other side of WebEx is that we can actually record the interview,” said Erin Colwell, Director of Human Resources, CGGS.

IT Operations Manager, Nathan Campbell, used WebEx during the interview phase of his recruitment:

“I applied from WA so we did a WebEx initially. It was a one-click, one-touch process with Cisco WebEx [and] the whole personal, in-the-room feeling was there.”

## An education for the future

According to Michael Slip:

“The kids themselves are now becoming digital natives and [are] getting ready for the corporate environments they are probably going to be employed in.”

Principal, Debbie Dunwoody, acknowledges the benefits and value of the collaboration solution:

“It’s been an incredibly exciting time. We’ve been all throughout Australia and to many places around the world already, in such a short space of time.”

“I am so excited we are providing our girls with an education that really will prepare them for their future.”

## Services overview

- Requirements analysis and environment assessment
- Professional services for the design, build, deployment and transition into production of the collaboration solution
- Supply of Cisco technology products
- Project management delivered via Primer® methodology

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