

Schools' Cloud Transformation Project

Project Objectives and Proof of Concept Findings

Schools' Cloud Transformation Project Team

Project Objectives



- Enable schools to become consumers of cloud services, which allow:
 - The sector to shift to 21st century pedagogy and digital collaboration
 - Provide access to ‘anywhere, anytime’ learning
 - Better stewardship of IT infrastructural funding
- Support Communities of Learning | Kāhui Ako and their shift to 21st century pedagogy and digital collaboration
- Provide advice to enable schools to meet national privacy and security guidelines
- Facilitate easier implementation of system wide identity and access management allowing schools’ users to logon from anywhere

Timeline



2016

- Determine Project Approach (PoC->Pilot->Implementation)
- Proof of Concept
- Change Management

2017

- Lessons Learned from the PoC
- Work with Schools and System Integrators
- Pilot to 50-100 schools
 - Get further information on the use of cloud services in a wider variety of schools and system integrators

2018

- Rollout commences with lessons learned from the pilot



Proof of Concept

Summary of the Proof of Concept



- Seven schools were part of the Proof of Concept
- Six were fully migrated from on-site servers to public cloud services
- The seventh school migrated their on-site hosted SMS to Azure IaaS



Purpose of the Proof of Concept



- Prove the feasibility and get early learnings of the benefits of delivering:
 - School software and infrastructure via a cloud service
 - Integration software to support Communities of Learning
 - A standard approach to system integrators assessing, moving and supporting a school's transition to the cloud



Scope of the Proof of Concept

- Upgraded all devices to the latest OS
- Set up Office 365 and G Suite for Education
- All individual files to One Drive, Shared files to SharePoint
- Intune for device management
- Support for printing
- Azure AD for identity management
- On premise library systems moved to SaaS versions
- Training of all staff on the new technologies



Lessons Learned



Key Learnings



- Pre-Migration
- Benefits
- Training and Support
- Costs
- Legacy Systems

Key Learnings – Pre Migration



- Time required to plan the migration
- A school's network must be fit for purpose before the school migrates to the cloud
- Schools need to be prepared (time & cost) for remedial work before a migration
- Some legacy systems do not run efficiently on IaaS



Key Learnings - Benefits



- Anywhere and Anytime access to their school resources for both staff and students
- Better security and privacy that comes directly from cloud services
 - Better identity and access management
 - Security maintained by hosting provider
- Better organisation of school data
 - Schools took the time to re-organise their data

Key Learnings - Support



- School staff need training and support before, during and after the migration
- Post migration support is key to helping schools as they navigate their way around the new environment and discover things that have ‘been left behind’
- Schools need to have ongoing support for the new environment (working with the local IT provider must be a step on the migration plan)
- Changing technology does not simply lead to a change in behaviour. It needs leadership, support, professional development and change management

Key Learnings - Costs



- Schools should realise a medium term, if not immediate cost saving by moving to the cloud instead of replacing on-site servers
- Schools budgeting becomes easier as the costs of cloud services is stable year on year.
- High level recommendation is for schools to consider moving to the cloud if they have to replace their servers within 2 years.

Key Learnings – Legacy Systems



- Migrating on premise software to Infrastructure as a Service did not operate as expected
 - There were some performance issues
 - Had to work with the software vendors on preferred approach
 - Costs were prohibitive in some circumstances
- Recommend that schools move to a Software as a Service solution where available



Next Steps

Pilot – Next Steps



- We are now kicking off the pilot stage
- Learn further lessons by working with a wider variety of schools and system integrators
- Looking to get up to 50 schools interested in moving to the cloud



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