



# Microsoft Surface for Higher Education

Why IT decision makers  
should consider Microsoft  
Surface devices to provide  
more engaging, more  
secure digital learning  
experiences for faculty  
and students



## The benefits of Surface for Education...

**62%**  
reduction  
in deployment  
costs<sup>1</sup>

**18%**  
reduction  
in help desk  
tickets<sup>1</sup>

**10%**  
reduction  
in likelihood of  
security breach<sup>1</sup>

**\$6.6**  
million  
savings in  
total cost of  
ownership<sup>1</sup>

**\$12.1**  
million  
net present  
value<sup>1</sup>

**72**  
hours  
of time back  
per instructor  
per year<sup>1</sup>

# A device makes a difference

As institutions adjust to the new reality of hybrid learning, IT decision makers are tasked with ensuring continuity for education and work—whether students and faculty are at home, on campus, or on the go. To do this, institutions need to consider long-term investments in technology that help establish a stable foundation for continuing growth and transformation.

Microsoft is dedicated to providing transformative educational experiences that encourage a lifetime love of learning. Surface devices make this possible by encouraging instructors to create engaging, interactive courses that students can enjoy in a digital classroom, built and made more secure with Windows.

<sup>1</sup> A commissioned Forrester Consulting Total Economic Impact™ Study: Microsoft Surface for Education, 2020



- From 2-in-1 personal devices with removable keyboards (in case of spills) to large-screen interactive devices for whole-class interaction, Surface is a good investment for both in-person instruction and the digital classroom.
- The Microsoft Advanced Exchange<sup>2</sup> program helps ensure that no student is ever left without a device. No need to wait on device repairs and replacement. Microsoft will quickly ship out a new device and update the device identification for each user.
- With advanced security built in at every layer of the device, from chip to cloud, Surface is a highly secure option for schools looking to provide performance without compromising on protection.

# Versatility and mobility for students and faculty

Surface devices are built to encourage maximum ease of use, while still providing uncompromising performance. The ability to switch from a laptop to a tablet to a display screen and a digital clipboard, along with multiple input options (including keyboard, touch, and voice), make this an adaptable solution for any education scenario.

With remote device management tools such as Intune and Windows Autopilot, IT administrators can monitor and manage devices remotely—with almost zero disruption to the classroom. Students and faculty can take advantage of the mobility and LTE capabilities of Surface devices to connect with each other in the classroom, at home, or on the go.

<sup>2</sup> Advanced Exchange Service is available at no additional charge with commercial Surface Pro 6 for Business, commercial Surface Laptop 2 for Business, commercial Surface Pro 7 for Business, commercial Surface Pro X for Business, and commercial Laptop 3 for Business. Advanced Exchange is only available in supported markets. Restrictions apply. See AES terms and conditions and list of supported markets here: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4496887/advanced-exchange-services-terms-and-conditions>.



# Simpler deployment. Easier management. Improved security.

Security in an education setting is crucial, especially because schools now have an increased need for remote learning capabilities that can be activated at a moment's warning. Surface helps to complete the Microsoft security solution:

- Tools such as Intune and Windows Autopilot provide “zero-touch” device imaging and deployment for a truly out-of-the-box experience. Students simply sign into their new Surface device and start learning from day one. IT administrators can more securely provide devices to students without ever being in the same room.
- Microsoft Surface Enterprise Management Mode (SEMM) helps you remotely update and manage Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI),<sup>3</sup> including cloud firmware settings that can't be bypassed by a password. This helps ensure that students only access the device and its peripherals for their intended use.
- With Surface Device Firmware Configuration Interface (DFCI) and Windows Autopilot, you can manage all of this from the cloud.
- Intune-enrolled Surface devices can also be located, locked, and remotely wiped in the event that they are lost or stolen.
- Windows Hello keeps information more secure with easy, enterprise-grade biometric sign-in. Students and teachers can unlock select devices with facial recognition.
- Surface devices also come preinstalled with Windows Defender, which helps protect from outside threats, anywhere, anytime.

<sup>3</sup> Surface Go and Surface Go 2 use a third-party UEFI and do not support DFCI. DFCI is currently available for Surface Laptop Go, Surface Book 3, Surface Laptop 3, Surface Pro 7, and Surface Pro X. [Find out more](#) about managing Surface UEFI settings.



# A more accessible digital classroom

Usability is a key part of accessibility, and Surface is designed and built to be used by everyone. Surface is optimized for use with Microsoft 365 accessibility and assistive technologies, which represent a value of \$4.2 million over three years.<sup>4</sup>

## **Offer an adaptable, mobile device.**

Help students use their device in the way that works best for them. In tablet mode, Surface devices can be held, perched on a desk or counter, attached to a wheelchair or mobile workstation, or laid flat on a lap or table. Certain models offer LTE to give students equal access to remote learning, even without a solid Wi-Fi connection.

## **Leverage built-in accessibility in Windows 10 and Microsoft 365.**

Learning Tools like Immersive Reader help students retain information by engaging them visually and reducing distractions. Microsoft 365 also addresses needs related to vision and hearing through tools like screen reading, speech-to-text, Seeing AI, Magnifier, live captions, and meeting transcriptions with translation.

## **Provide clear audio and video.**

Omnisonic speakers provide crisp, immersive sound with no need for a separate speaker grill or headphones, and dual HD cameras allow for engaging remote class sessions with sharp visual detail. This premium audio-visual experience is ideal for telehealth appointments and meetings with professors or therapists.

## **Adapt to different motor skills.**

Using Windows Hello, students with limited motor skills can sign in more securely just by looking at the camera. Windows 10 also connects to eye control devices to let users control the entire operating system with their eyes, from clicking to scrolling to typing. Students can also type by voice or with a pointing device.

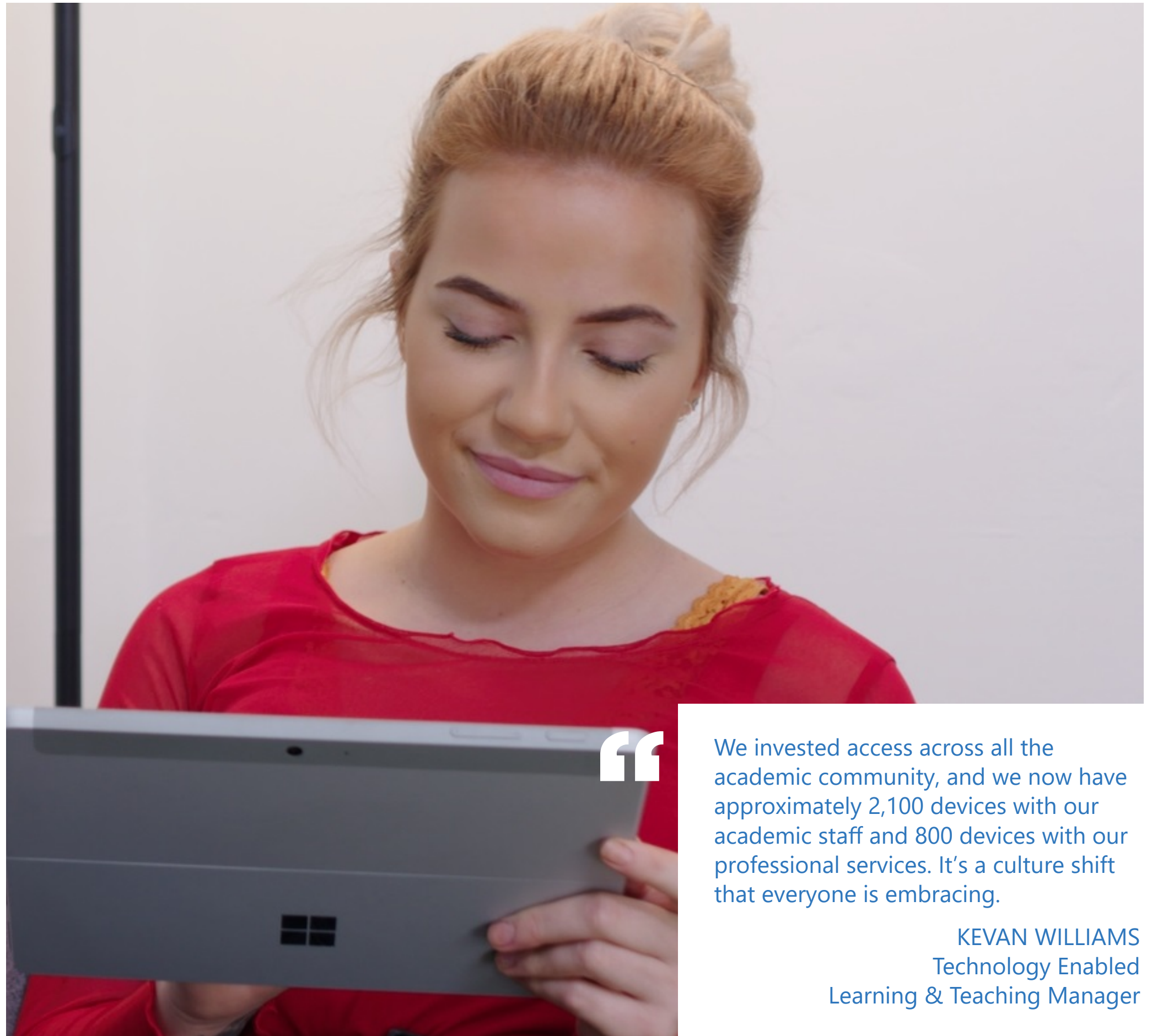
<sup>4</sup> A commissioned Forrester Consulting Total Economic Impact™ Study: Microsoft Accessibility and Assistive Technologies for Education, 2019



# University of Central Lancashire embraces digital learning

When the University of Central Lancashire identified its desktop computers as a major impediment in its quest to deliver modern education, the search for a more flexible teaching solution was on. Adopting a wide range of Surface devices, the university not only empowered its instructors to deliver more engaging classes, but it also granted similar flexibility to students.

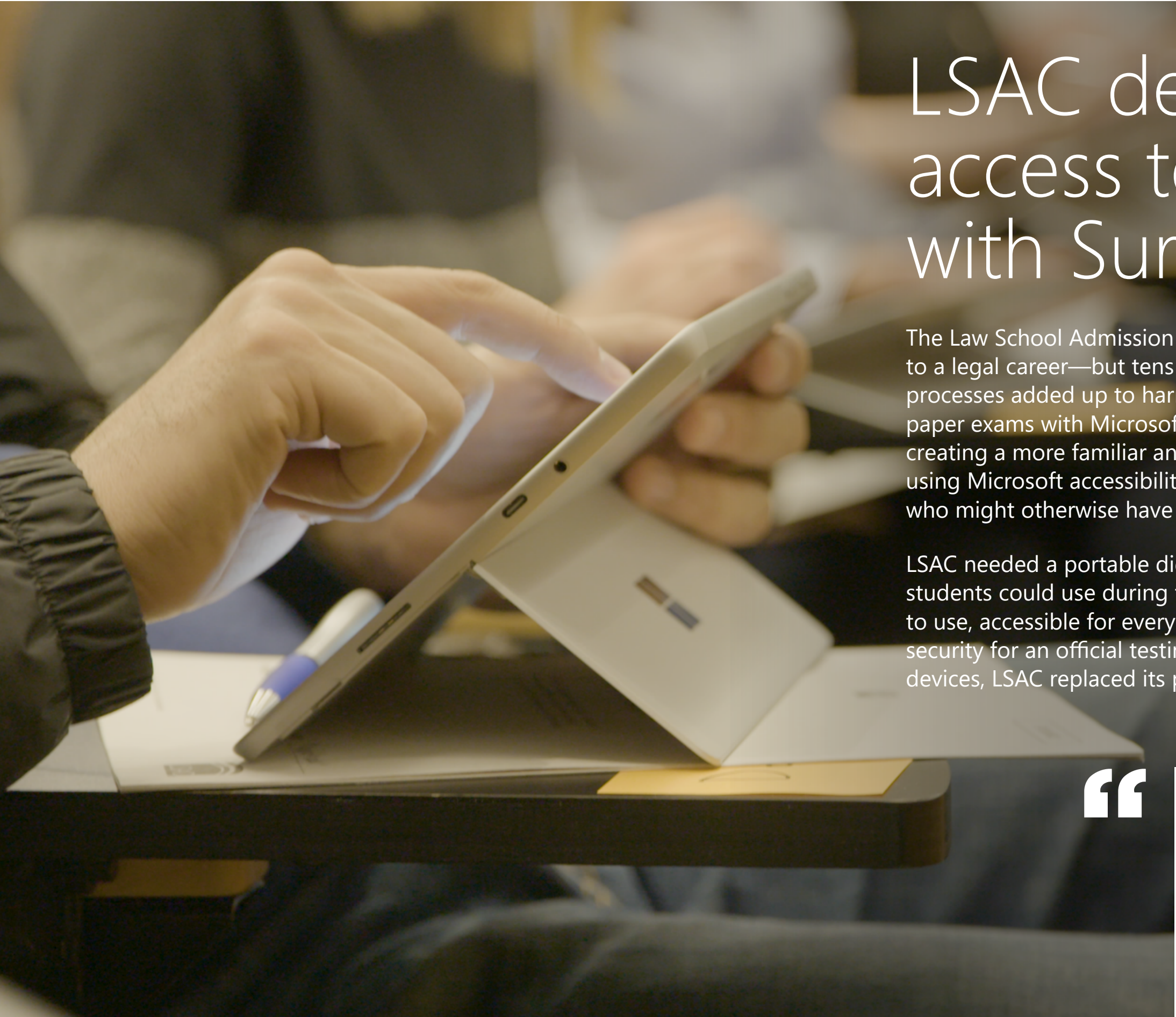
And when the COVID-19 crisis forced a sudden shift to remote teaching, the familiarity and flexibility of Surface and Microsoft 365 helped the university deliver connected, high-quality learning scenarios.



We invested access across all the academic community, and we now have approximately 2,100 devices with our academic staff and 800 devices with our professional services. It's a culture shift that everyone is embracing.

KEVAN WILLIAMS  
Technology Enabled  
Learning & Teaching Manager





# LSAC democratizes access to law school with Surface Go

The Law School Admission Council's (LSAC) LSAT exam is the on-ramp to a legal career—but tens of thousands of tests and outdated paper processes added up to harrowing logistics. In 2019, LSAC replaced its paper exams with Microsoft Surface Go devices, simplifying logistics, creating a more familiar and comfortable experience for students, and using Microsoft accessibility tools to level the playing field for those who might otherwise have struggled.

LSAC needed a portable digital replacement for paper forms that all students could use during the exam. The device had to be simple to use, accessible for everyone, and provide the appropriate level of security for an official testing environment. After evaluating several devices, LSAC replaced its paper tests with 35,000 Surface Go devices.

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Microsoft Surface Go helps us to deliver each student's learning journey in a way that works best for them, and that gives them a chance to make the biggest difference they can in our world.

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President & CEO