Microsoft Surface for K–12 education

Why IT decision makers should consider Microsoft Surface to provide more engaging, more secure digital learning experiences for educators and learners

Remote learning is the new normal. Schools are looking to empower their teachers, to ensure the best outcomes for their students, and to remain relevant in a changing world of education. To do this, they need to be considering long-term investments in technology that can give them a stable foundation for continuing growth and transformation.

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

A device can make a difference

In a recent study, when collaborative technology tools were given only to students who needed them, there was a 20% improvement in reading and writing. However, when they were provided to the entire class, there was a 30% to 40% improvement.[1]

Moreover, when Microsoft 365, Windows 10, and Surface devices were used in conjunction, IT administrators reported that Surface helped to contribute to a:

78% reduction in device deployment time, by an average of 25 minutes per device[2]

50% reduction reduction in annual security breach volume[2]

80% reduction in security breach costs[2]

15% reduction in device and application performance tickets[2]

[1] A commissioned Forrester Consulting Total Economic Impact™ Study: *Microsoft Accessibility and Assistive Technologies for Education*, 2019

[2] A commissioned Forrester Consulting Total Economic Impact™ Study: *Maximizing your ROI from Microsoft 365 Enterprise with Microsoft Surface*, 2018

Microsoft Surface

Surface provides a comprehensive digital learning experience. Designed for practicality, Surface features a range of devices for every application.

• From 2-in-1 personal devices with removable keyboards (in case of spills) to large-screen interactive devices for whole-class interaction, it's a good investment for students of any age.

• The Microsoft Advanced Exchange[3] 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, it's a highly secure option for schools looking to provide performance without compromising on protection.

Making the modern classroom accessible to all

Among educators, 63% say they lean on technology in the classroom to assist their curriculum.[4] However, according to a further survey of 2,000 teachers, only 10% of K–12 teachers "feel confident incorporating higher-level technology into student learning,"[5] which means that students are not yet experiencing the full potential of the digitally transformed classroom.

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 the multiple input options (including keyboard, touch, and voice), make this the most adaptable solution in any education scenario.

With remote device management through tools such as Intune and Windows Autopilot, IT administrators can monitor and manage devices remotely—with almost zero disruption to the classroom.

Microsoft Surface

Simpler deployment.
Easier management.
Improved security for every user.

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 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)[6], including cloud firmware settings that can't be bypassed by a password. This helps ensure that students can 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 their devices with facial recognition.

- Surface devices also come preinstalled with Windows Defender, which helps protect from outside threats, anywhere, anytime.

With all of these tools, IT administrators can remotely provide up-to-date, more secure, high-performing technology and meet students in the classroom or at home, all without ever having to be in the same room. Now class doesn't have to stop—even when school is closed.

5   *Technology in US schools: Are we preparing our kids for the jobs of tomorrow?* PWC, 2018
6   Surface Go and Surface Go 2 use a third-party UEFI.

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Aichi Japanese Prefecture empowers its educators with Surface

As part of national education reform in Japan, the Aichi Prefectural Board of Education is deploying Office 365 and 11,500 Surface Go devices. It chose Surface Go for its lightweight 2-in-1 design, which makes it easy to compute anywhere in the school—and because Surface Pen writes faster on Surface Go than a ballpoint pen on paper. Critical to its decision was the device's ability to integrate with Windows 10 and its associated security measures.

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In order for students to get a great education, teachers need a good work/life balance," says Toshiharu Kawabata, Director of the Aichi Prefectural Board of Education Planning Department. "Once data security is improved and changes are made to work structures, municipalities will be able to offer educators the sort of flexible work choices that the private sector has. The board does not just want to buy powerful computers; they want to support the teachers, who are the core of the education program, in using new technology district-wide. Microsoft's support in these efforts has been particularly meaningful."

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Yeo Valley Primary School equips every student and teacher with a Surface device
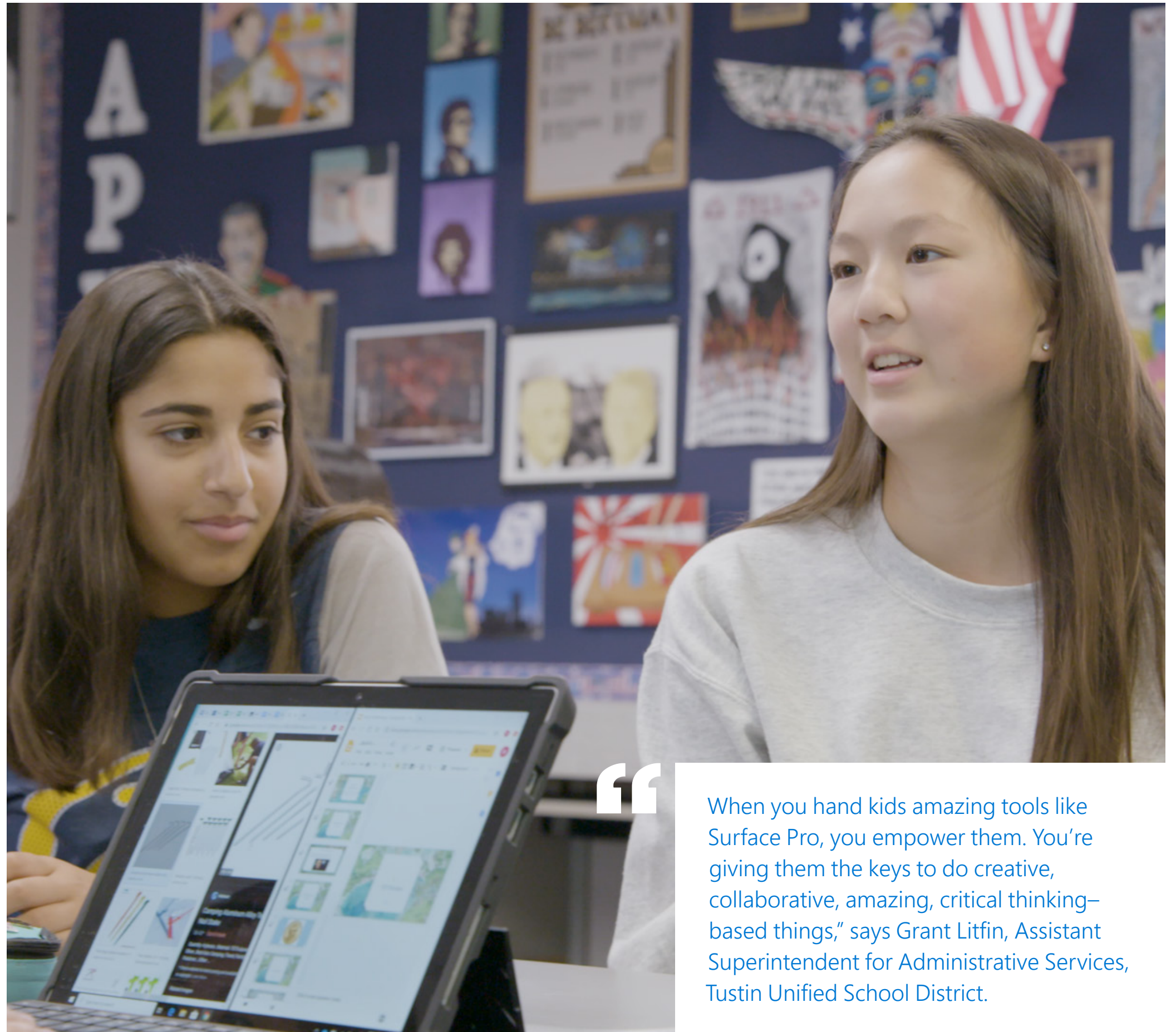
Yeo Valley Primary School in North Devon, England, is helping to empower tomorrow's generation of workers by exposing learners, aged 3 to 11, to a highly digital learning environment. As part of its radical improvement plan, the school has transitioned to a digital environment, where each student has one-on-one access to a Surface Go device, and teachers all have their own Surface Pro devices for more efficient working.

" Thanks to this technology, a meeting between teachers in different schools can take place. They share planning, they can share resources—it's huge. I'm not sure how we would achieve what we've got without the technology," says Head of Yeo Valley Primary School, Chris Hall.

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Tustin school district brings advanced, inclusive learning to high schools with Surface

Located in Southern California's Orange County, the Tustin Unified School District is made up of 30 schools, with 2,250 teaching staff and 24,000 students, each with their own ambitions and learning requirements. After evaluating many devices from several leading manufacturers, Tustin chose Surface Pro for its high school one-to-one computer program. Tustin students and teachers overwhelmingly favored Surface Pro, with its dual-facing camera, removable keyboard, and digital inking capabilities.

" When you hand kids amazing tools like Surface Pro, you empower them. You're giving them the keys to do creative, collaborative, amazing, critical thinking–based things," says Grant Litfin, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, Tustin Unified School District.

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