



Technology News for Schools

Information Technology Directorate

Bulletin 3 - August 2013

Welcome to the third edition of *Technology News for Schools*. This edition is full of useful information and the latest news from the Information Technology Directorate.

The [Department's intranet](#) will be updated as more information becomes available.

ADOBE ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT



The NSW Department of Education and Communities has renewed its [Enterprise Agreement](#) with Adobe.

As part of the new contract, staff will continue to get access to Adobe software on school computers. Staff can also use the software on their home computer under 'Work At Home' rights from the [SI Group Website](#).

From early 2014, **school students** will be able to install **selected software** for free on one BYO device per student, using a solution which is currently being developed.

We will keep you updated as this progresses.

The new enterprise agreement includes all current and future versions of:

- Creative Suite ([Design and Web Premium, Master Collection](#))
- [Presenter](#)
- [Captivate](#)
- [Photoshop Elements](#)
- [Premier Elements](#)
- [Connect](#)
- [Muse](#) (simple website creator)
- [Edge Animate](#)

TAFE staff will have access to Work At Home software through the [SI Group Website](#). TAFE students will still need to purchase Adobe.

T4L COMPUTER ROLLOUT

Andrew Gowans has been appointed Project Manager of the T4L Computer Equipment Rollout program to schools.

Andrew will have responsibility for the 2013-14 rollout.

As has been the practice, schools needing information should contact their area T4L

representatives as the first point of contact or visit the T4L Computer Equipment Rollout intranet site at https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/it/t4l/rollout/t4l_computers.htm

Any questions or inquiries can also be sent to the following mailbox: T4L@det.nsw.edu.au



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WEB FILTERING

The Department's web filtering aims to provide a safe browsing environment for staff and students.

In fact, approximately 450 calls are made to the web filter team every month for sites to be blocked or unblocked. The majority of these requests are granted.

The Department uses filtering software to manage internet browsing at the corporate level. Schools have different filtering attributes. For example, staff members have access to online storage sites but students don't.

Website filtering is based on the content of a particular website. Newly created ones or those that have not yet been classified are 'uncategorised' and by default, are allowed for staff but blocked for students. More information is available on the [Internet Filtering FAQs](#) intranet site.

Recent changes to filtering

An example of a website schools will now be able to access is **Weebly**.

www.weebly.com - is a web hosting tool for Stage 4 students and above.



The site allows students to use simple drag and drop technology to build a website. Text is easily edited and photos can be uploaded into galleries or slideshows. Password protection can be enabled for the whole site or individual pages.

Note: The Weebly Privacy Policy prohibits students under 13 years from creating or using accounts in [weebly.com](http://www.weebly.com). However, students under 13 years may use special student accounts in education.weebly.com provided a teacher has obtained parental permission.

STUDENTS BYPASSING INTERNET FILTERING

The Department has Internet filtering to prevent students from accessing inappropriate material. Since the start of the year, there has been an increase in school students misusing TAFE, TVET and IVETS accounts to access



content not endorsed for their age group.

These accounts may be borrowed or stolen from someone else.

Teachers need to be alert to this practice as it is a breach of the *Acceptable Usage* agreement. Principals should consider reminding students periodically about their responsibilities under this policy.

In situations where the school student is not the owner of the TAFE, TVET or IVETS account, staff should contact the ICT Service Desk so the appropriate investigation can occur.

You can contact the ICT Service Desk on 1800 338 483.

eT4L UPDATE

eT4L Primary Schools project

More than 95 per cent of primary schools in NSW have migrated to eT4L server and services. By the end of July it's anticipated that approximately 1700 primary schools in the state will be operating with the new services.

A number of schools that were migrated in 2011/2012 are currently in the process of receiving an updated file structure with added features.

In Term 3 a new service will be trialled and eventually made available to allow for a 'single sign-on' experience. This means that staff and students will only need to enter their username and password once when logging on to a device.

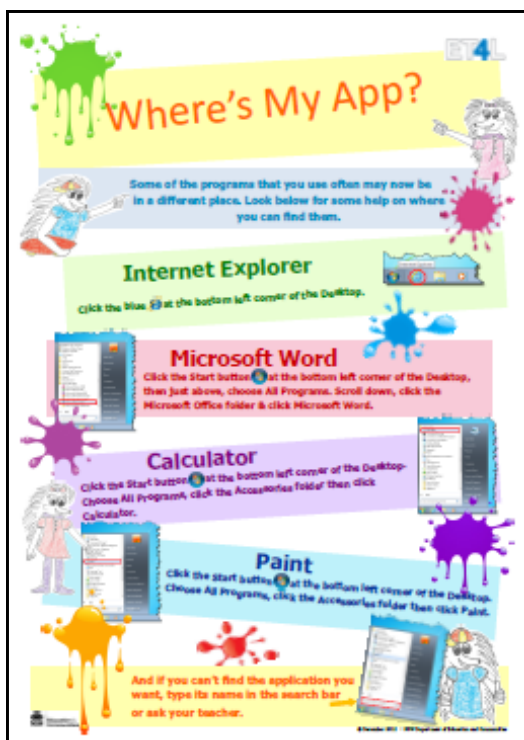
The initial release of the Software Catalogue, designed to provide schools with an improved and manageable way to deploy software, will be available shortly with a school's IT delegate invited to use the new interface. This new feature will then be made available to all staff for browsing and requesting licensed software titles being used in schools throughout the state.

Further information will be sent to schools in Term 3.

In addition, you can now find the two resources below for primary students on the eT4L Intranet site.

1. Many teachers have asked for ideas to support young students with logging onto their computers. Attractive Student Logon cards now available as a handy record of each student's username and password. These cards are now interactive. Student details can be directly typed onto the PDF and printed out. Find the Student Logon cards at https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/it/t4l/t4l_projects/media/studentlogoncards.pdf
2. A printable poster explains how to find some of the most popular applications in a Windows 7

environment. Click on this link for the poster: https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/it/t4l/t4l_projects/media/wheresmyapp.pdf



eT4L Secondary Schools project

The eT4L Secondary Schools project is underway. The new server will replace ageing DIP and CPC servers currently running foundational services in schools. The eT4L standard offering will also offer schools the new eT4L range of services including:

- File Server with individual user and shared drives
- Central backup of essential data
- A virtual server for school use
- The Managed Universal Desktop Environment and software deployment tools; and
- Printer management.

The new server will also take on the roles of the existing DIP and CPC servers which are no longer supported centrally.

New Dell servers have been chosen as the choice of eT4L servers for all schools with an enterprise-grade platform.

Schools will be provided with more detailed information and the ability to sign up for eT4L Secondary during Term 3 2013. Once schools have signed up, the necessary network surveys and upgrades will be undertaken in readiness for the delivery of the eT4L server and services.

eT4L Secondary LAN Health Check

As part of the eT4L server offering, a Local Area Network (LAN) health check will be undertaken in secondary and central schools across the state. The health check will include

a survey of a school's entire network infrastructure in preparation for the introduction of the eT4L server.

Data collected will also be used to plan for the consolidation of a school's existing LAN and DER wireless network.

An online survey tool has been developed to assist with the collection of data. Schools can support this activity by using their school based TSO to undertake the survey work with support from the T4L regional teams.

The data collected will be assessed and any upgrades that the school require to their infrastructure will be highlighted. An agreed scope of work has been approved which means that some upgrades will be centrally paid for as part of the eT4L migration. However, if other areas of improvement are highlighted, schools may wish to include these items within the upgrade work at their own cost.

VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM

All of the Department's schools, institutions and corporate offices have access to a world class video conferencing system.

Recently, the video conference core infrastructure was upgraded, leading to improvements in functionality, video quality and reliability.

As a result of the upgrade, a new prefix of 60 for dialling Virtual Meeting Rooms (VMR) has been introduced. The new prefix has replaced most of the existing VMRs that used the following prefixes of 51, 52, 56 or 57.

Staff members with a video conference endpoint that was commissioned after April 2012 should have received a new VMR number with the prefix of 60.

If you do not have a new number or would like some general information regarding VMR, use the hotline handset in the interactive classroom and select option 2, or call the ITD Service Desk on 1800 338 483.

Once you acquire your new VMR number, please update any records you have.

ONLINE SERVICES UPDATE

Library Management Solution

A team of teacher librarians, IT experts and administrators have reviewed tenders received for the new library management solution.

It's expected that the new system will be rolled out to approximately 300 schools towards the end of the year. All schools will be migrated to the new system by September

2015. This will involve migrating existing data from OASIS library to the new solution.

blogED

We are currently reviewing the *blogED* service and are keen to hear what you think about it. If you have a spare few minutes, click on this link <http://bit.ly/BLOGedReview> to complete our online survey.

eBackpack

Are you already using *eBackpack* or have in the past? If so, click onto our online survey at <http://bit.ly/eBackpackSurvey> and give us some feedback on this creative collaboration tool.

Adobe Premiere Elements 11

We are currently working with Adobe to correct a minor installation issue with *Adobe Premiere Elements 11*. Once the issue has been fixed, it will be placed in the Universal Desktop Management (UDM) for schools who have migrated to eT4L. It will also be available for regional technology advisors to access for all other schools.

Online tools tips

Padlet - www.padlet.com - previously known as Wallwisher, is an online collaboration tool – easy, versatile and multimedia friendly.

Although the site is available for all students, Padlet's terms of service specify that adult/teacher supervision is required.

Lino - <http://en.linoit.com/> - is a free online canvas of sticky notes, which can embed videos, images and file attachments. It provides a collaborative approach to creating a collage of ideas.

Use it as a calendar notification for assessments,



presentations, collaborative work and brain storming. Register for an account and then you can create as many sticky note canvases as you like.



DATA CENTRE REFORM

Construction of the new Data Centre at Silverwater is well underway with the doors to the new facility due to open shortly.

Currently, the Data Centre Reform (DCR) team is working hard to complete the design for the layout of the new centre. Once open, the DCR team will begin building the foundation infrastructure services underpinning everyday systems and applications.

To prepare for this, the team is mapping current systems and applications, bundling applications and foundation services for migration. In addition, remediation work is underway to ensure that services fit in with the Information Technology Directorate's (ITD) improved architectural and security standards.

Key changes to existing infrastructure services continue, including critical network changes in add to the procurement of state-of-the art technologies for both new data centres at Silverwater and Unanderra.

Fore more information, visit <http://www.services.nsw.gov.au/inside-dfs/information-communications-technology/data-centre-reform>.



Contact Details

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