

EduTec Alliance Case Study



YK Pao School



Shanghai, China



- Vision & Business Case
- Project Design
- Project Implementation



May 2020



4 Months



- Project Design and Delivery
- Introduction of Project Management Methodology



- Apple Devices (iPads & MacBooks)
- Apple Classroom
- Shared iPad



- MS Teams
- Merlin Project
- EduTec Alliance Knowledgebase



- Glauca Rosas
- James Wilkinson

The EduTec Alliance Implements Full Apple Ecosystem for China's Top International School

For the second time in three years, YK Pao School in Shanghai was recognised in 2020 as the number one International School in China. Not content to rest on its laurels, in the same year the school's leadership decided to deploy digital devices to all students and teachers in the Primary School to further enhance the quality of teaching and learning.

As an EduTec Alliance Member, the school was aware from the outset that simply purchasing and installing the technology would be a recipe for disaster, and that a structured implementation project would be required to embed the necessary skills and processes into the organisation.

As Head of Primary, Siobhain Allum took the decision to engage The EduTec Alliance's Project Design and Management services to ensure the success of the initiative. Two key objectives were agreed;

- Deliver the project on time and to budget
- Establish The EduTec Alliance's 'Box Model' project methodology within the school

"The EduTec Alliance is a breath of fresh air – their low key, but supportive approach means working with them feels much more like a partnership than a consultancy. We couldn't have done this work in the short time frame available to us, without their help."

Experience has shown that it's vital that the school 'owns' the project. To this end The EduTec Alliance takes on the roles of Coaching, Technical Advisory and Project Administration. Executive project positions are filled by school employees or representatives.

A small 'core' team was assembled to drive the project locally and take strand leadership responsibility. The team comprised;

- Primary Leader: Strategy, People, Process
- IT Director: Technology, Data
- Contractor: Project Management

In addition to weekly 'Core Team' meetings, regular one to one coaching sessions were held with each core team member. Governance of the project was rapidly established

with the Head of Primary becoming Project Sponsor and monthly steering committee meetings being scheduled.

Critical to the smooth running of the project was the use of The EduTec Alliance's project toolkit, consisting of;

- Microsoft Teams: Meetings and Collaboration
- Merlin Project: Project Planning & Tracking
- EduTec Alliance Knowledge Base: Educational technology specifications, deployments and issues

The initial 'Vision and Business Case' phase of the project specified how the Apple ecosystem would operate to best effect in the school environment, the technical architecture, costings and project roadmap. Once approved by the project sponsor, the Project Implementation Document (PID) and detailed project plan were developed.



The EduTec Alliance 'Box Model' Framework

As is most often the case, the 'Process' strand was identified as the driver – generating technical/data requirements as well as defining training needs and testing plans.

The project implemented on-time and to budget, delivering over 1000 iPads and MacBooks to the primary school in a configuration which employs Apple Classroom, Shared iPad and Apple TVs. The whole Apple ecosystem was tightly integrated with the YK Pao's existing technology infrastructure to ensure minimal day to day operational overhead.

The reception of staff, students and parents was overwhelming. Many commented that even though the levels of documentation, training and testing had initially appeared like overkill, they greatly appreciated being delivered a fully functioning capability which they could make immediate use of.

"The EduTec Alliance is a breath of fresh air – their low key, but supportive approach means working with them feels much more like a partnership than a consultancy. They have been instrumental in our school's implementation of a brand new Apple environment and have given us the skills to tackle other major projects along the way. We couldn't have done this work in the short time frame available to us, without their help." says Siobhain Allum, Head of Primary School.

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