



Overview

Country or Region: Jordan
Industry: Education

School Profile

King's Academy is a boarding school located south-west of Amman, the capital of Jordan.

Number of Students: 485

Gender: Mixed

Age Range: 14–17

School Leader: Dr. John Austin

School Website:

www.kingsacademy.edu.jo

King's Academy

King's Academy has been selected to participate in the Microsoft Innovative Schools World Tour because it is a showcase example of the following Innovation Topics:

- 1:1 learning environments.** Students work on their own devices and can use technology at any time to access educational tools.
- Personalized learning environments.** Use of systematic continuous assessment to change the course of student learning and for remediation.
- Virtual learning environments.** Use of technology to extend learning outside of the classroom.





"We're a boarding school, so our students' learning doesn't end when they leave the classroom. We believe that (when properly used) technology can enhance our students' learning by allowing for deeper engagement with the world and providing access to online resources. For the past several years, we have been able to keep our students engaged beyond the classroom by providing opportunities to learn with technology anytime, anywhere."

Ali Shameem, Director of Educational Technology, King's Academy

1:1 learning environments

King's Academy 1:1 Tablet PC Program and the state-of-the-art campus infrastructure with campus-wide wireless network provides every student and faculty member with access to learning anytime, anywhere. These devices provide students with the means to engage in active learning by using the tools that they need in their current and future lives. With the tablet, many students take notes using Microsoft OneNote, and their notebooks are shared with their teachers for grading.

King's Academy also uses cloud services and learning management systems to share course resources (reading and videos), and to collect assignments digitally. As a result, many teachers grade students' work on their tablets, preserving the environment by reducing printing. In some classrooms, teachers also make use of the Moodle open source community-based learning management system and classroom management software, such as DyKnow, to monitor and guide students' work by effectively using their tablets.

Key Technology

- 1:1 tablet PCs
- DyKnow
- Moodle
- Microsoft OneNote
- Campus-wide wireless network

Personalized learning environments

At King's Academy, each student is assigned an advisor to meet with, both formally and informally, several times a week to discuss academics and other issues. Most teachers have a small group of five advisees from whom they receive regular updates through email. They use a number of different systems to keep records of the students' academic performance, class attendance, co-curricular participation, and evening study hall for boarding students. Reports are generated from these different systems and sent regularly through Microsoft Exchange to faculty, students, and parents. Faculty members get daily updates of attendance reports for all students in all classes, and students get an attendance letter if they are absent or tardy more than three times.

The assessment data on student progress is updated every six weeks and sent to the parents, advisor, and to the student. Many teachers provide more frequent updates on assessment data through online grade books either in the course management system or other grade book software.

Teachers also submit data on a student of concern through web forms to the Office of Academic Affairs. Once the struggling students are identified, faculty members

King's Academy promotes pockets of innovation where departments and teachers are encouraged to use technology to improve teaching and learning.





The Learning Center complements the work of faculty and advisors by serving as an open and informal resource for King's Academy students.



meet in small groups or as a whole to discuss possible remedial actions. Following this, many students will work with the learning coaches at the Learning Center and with the school counselor.

The Learning Center complements the work of faculty and advisors by serving as an open and informal resource for all King's Academy students, whether they are struggling with English terminology in their science courses, experiencing difficulties with a research paper, or simply grappling with a heavy workload. The Learning Center offers 1:1 tutoring and has three core objectives: to assist students with study habits and organization, to hone students' writing and English skills, and to provide support for students through academic strategies across all disciplines.

Key Technology

Student information systems (SIS) and grade book software to track student attendance and outcomes.

Virtual learning environments

The faculty members at King's Academy are shifting to online instructional delivery and digital content creation to boost learning and prepare students for college and citizenship. King's Academy provides ubiquitous access to technology through the 1:1 Tablet PC Program, campus-wide wireless access, and a relaxed cell phone policy, which allows students to carry cell phones and use them in classes when permitted by the teacher.

King's Academy also use the blended learning model in most classes where students learn in part through online delivery of content and instruction, with some elements of student control over time, place, path, and/or pace. Several faculty members use the flipped classroom model where students learn through teacher-created video lessons and other available online resources provided through the learning management system.

Students also take full online courses offered through the Global Online Academy (GOA), which was founded in 2011 by a consortium of leading independent schools across the United States and King's Academy.

Key Technology

- 1:1 tablet PCs
- Moodle
- Web 2.0 tools
- Atomiclearning.com
- Campus-wide wireless network

Improving student outcomes

According to the High School Survey of Student Engagement (HSSSE), King's Academy students are highly engaged and motivated to come to school compared to





Microsoft Innovative Schools World Tour

For More Information

For more information about Microsoft in Education, visit:

www.microsoft.com/education/ww/solutions/Pages/index.aspx

For more information about King's Academy, visit:

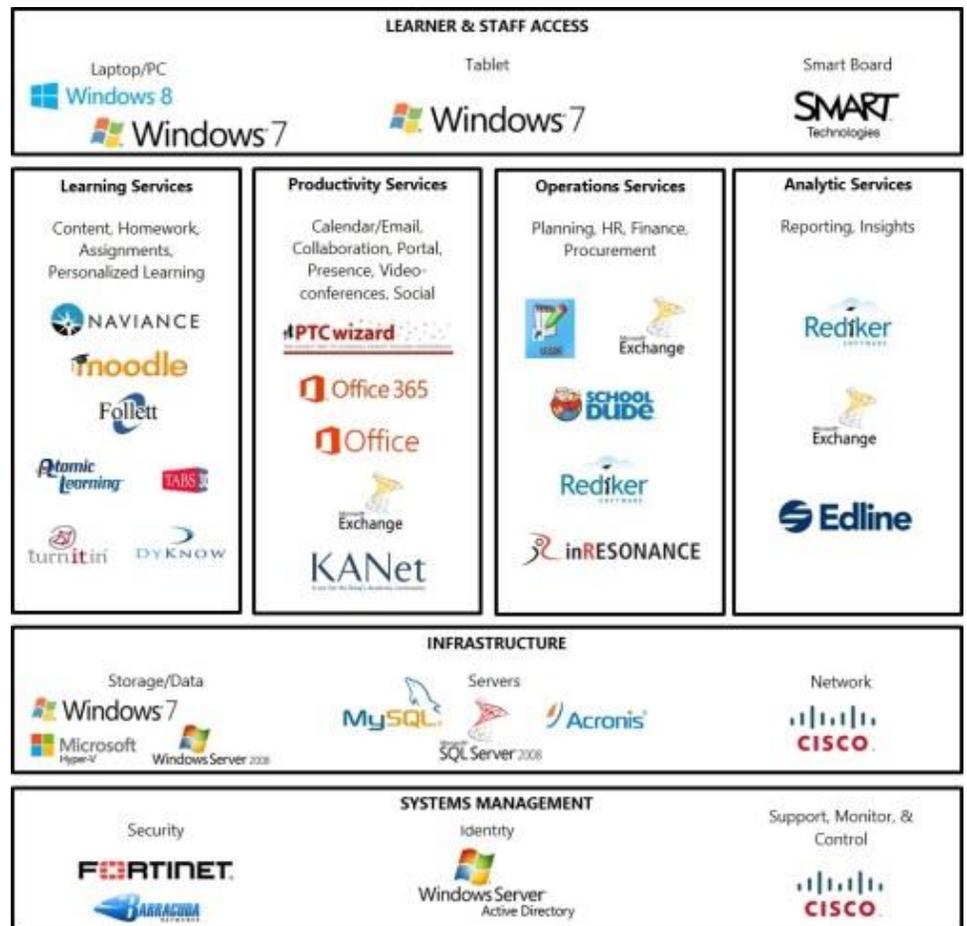
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schools in the United States, where the survey was administered in the fall of 2012. Students have very few discipline issues and the class attendance has improved due to monitoring and reporting. Learning in these multiple modalities and using the tablets has created an integrated and customizable learning experience through which students are able to take ownership of their learning and excel.

Driving leadership and a culture of innovation

King's Academy promotes pockets of innovation where departments and teachers are encouraged to use technology to improve teaching and learning. Faculty members undergo summer professional development training, take online courses, share best practices, and learn from visiting world-renown educators and authors during professional development workshops on campus. There are also several pilot programs for interested faculty members to try new technology tools.

Technology Infrastructure





Microsoft Innovative Schools World Tour

For More Information

For more information about Microsoft in Education, visit:

www.microsoft.com/education/ww/solutions/Pages/index.aspx

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