

Technology Leadership in a National Context

The BESA NAACE Leadership Briefing Paper



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Havering education services

Supporting excellent learning outcomes for children, young people and adults

whytek consulting
inspiring learning

Why?



<http://www.greensigns.co.uk>

National Context

- Since 2010 – No national “Harnessing Technology” type review
- Little or no guidance for school leaders on what is happening nationally
- 18th Year of BESA surveys
- Indicate current trends in technology implementation and use in schools.
- Provide school leaders with a national ICT background context in which to make their decisions at a school level.
- Indicate key leadership questions which might be asked as a result of the key findings of this research

The BESA Survey Data...

British Educational Suppliers Association 

Market Research



Market Research

- A sample size of 719 primary and 485 secondary schools formed the basis of this research.
- The survey is representative of 22000 primary and 4000 secondary schools in the UK
- NERP technology index ensures that it is not biased towards more technologically advanced schools
- There is a representative spread across all school sizes and types such as spread from rural (small) to urban (large)
- There is a wide range of responses from across the nine standard English regions in addition to Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Issues others are Struggling with...



EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP BRIEFING PAPER

Impartial Overview of Education Technology
Implementation and Use in UK Schools
(January 2016)

Abstract

This is a briefing paper for school leaders, which aims to provide support for key leadership decisions relating to the purchase, implementation and use of Education Technology.

Dave Smith and David Whyley

Dave Smith Senior Vice Chair of Naace/Computing and Online Safety Adviser Havering Education Services
David Whyley - CEO and Learning Technologies Consultant Whytek Consulting/Naace Board Member

Key Themes

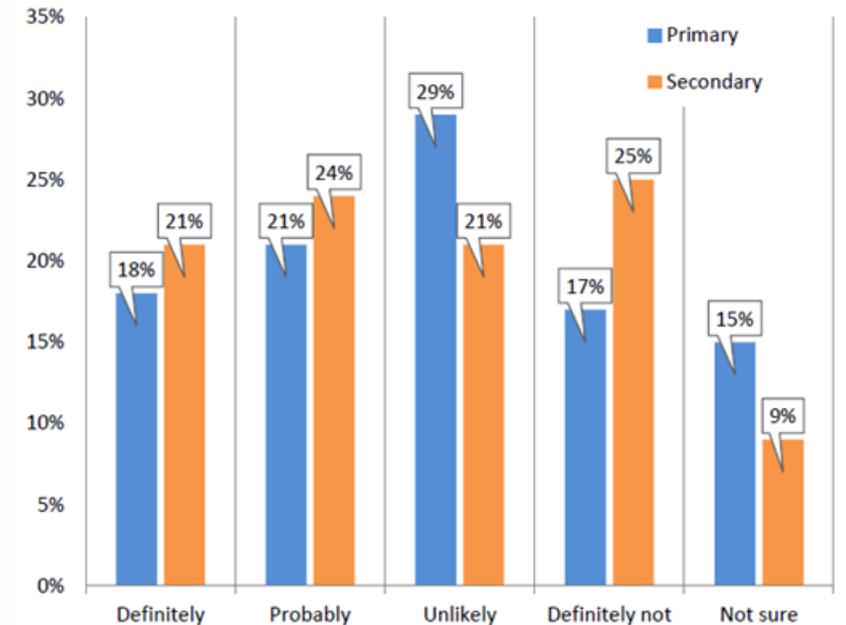
- Theme 1 - Ongoing funding of Education Technology by Schools
- Theme 2 - Trend towards Laptops and Tablets as computing devices
- Theme 3 - Provision of a robust Wi-Fi and Broadband Infrastructure
- Theme 4 - Provision of adequate levels of Education Technology access
- Theme 5 - The need for CPD with the introduction of more laptops and tablets
- Theme 6 - The need for a range of high quality digital content



Theme 1 - Ongoing funding of Education Technology by Schools

- 46% of all schools feel unlikely or unable to maintain ICT investments moving forward to 2016/17.
- In the primary sector investment in system software content and learning platforms may be downgraded.
- only a 17% (in both sectors) positive uplift on spending on pupil devices.
- Spending is on the increase on assessment systems
- Focus on improving networking is comparatively high.

Chart 1.1.3 Do you think that you will be able to maintain your planned ICT investments for 2016/17? – All UK schools



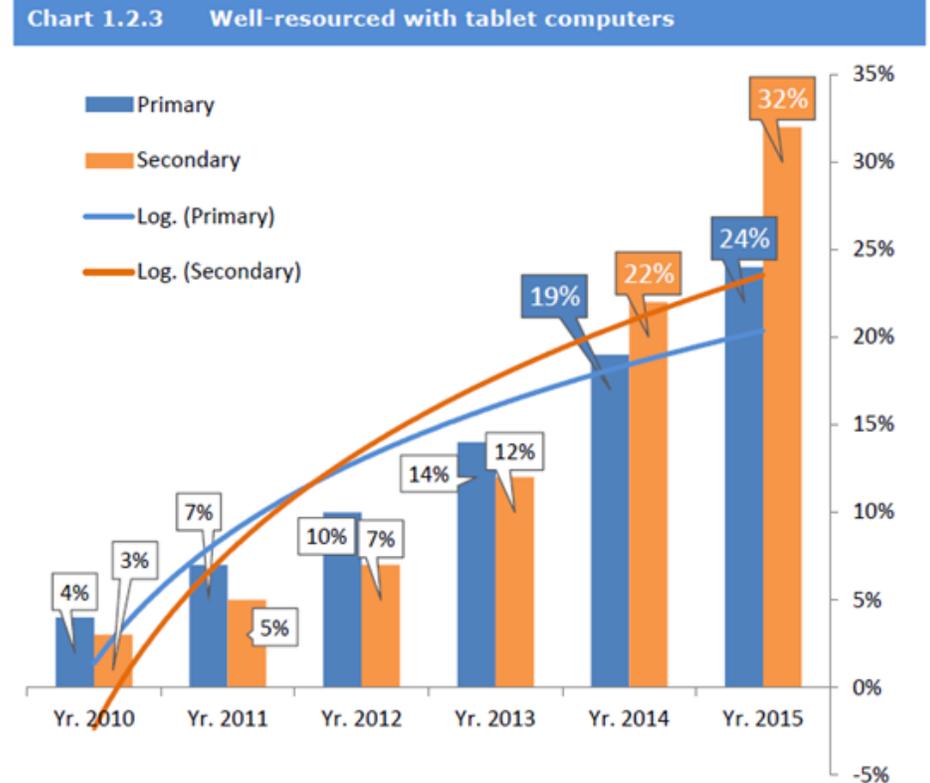
Key Questions Theme 1

- Key Leadership Questions:

- ✓ How does my school's ability to maintain ICT investments compare to the national picture?
- ✓ Do we have a long term (3-5 year) strategic plan for our ICT investments?
- ✓ Has our school budget impacted on our ICT investments (positive or negative)?
- ✓ Are we downgrading investments in system software and learning platforms?
- ✓ Is digital content purchasing a priority for our school? Are we targeting its use effectively?
- ✓ Are we feeling under pressure to increase spending on pupil devices? Why?
- ✓ Is spending on assessment systems a priority? Will this need to be sustained over the medium to long term?
- ✓ How robust is our networking infrastructure? Will it be able to cope with increased demands from additional devices?
- ✓ Are we allocating ongoing budget money for underlying infrastructure maintenance and replacement? (e.g. system software, Wi-Fi, administration, display technologies)

Theme 2 - Trend towards Laptops and Tablets as computing devices

- Demand for tablets is increasing with two thirds of primary schools stating that they are under resourced in this area.
- Some replacement in computer suites has taken place, perhaps reflecting the need for maintaining provision to deliver aspects of the new National Curriculum for Computing
- In both sectors the improvement (In access) comes about at a time when significant purchases of laptop and tablet computers is being made
- Only 55% of secondary and 47% of primary schools perceive that they are well resourced for Wi-Fi.



Key Questions Theme 2

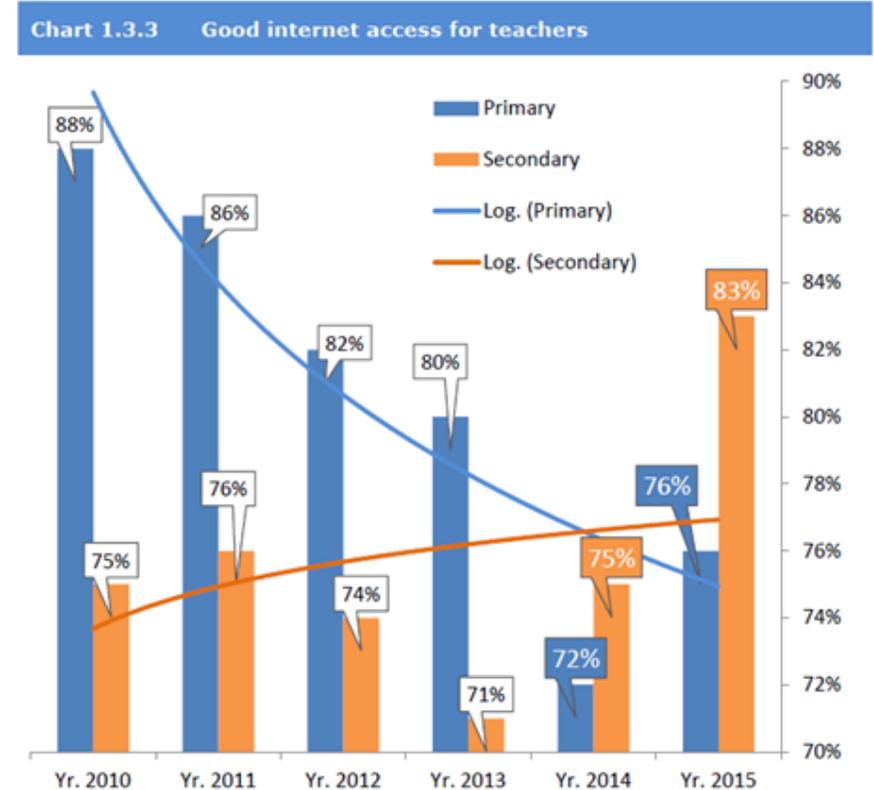
- Key Leadership Questions:

- ✓ How do the current issues relating to ICT provision in my school match with national trends seen here?
- ✓ Does my school have sufficient provision for core broadband and Wi-Fi Infrastructure?
- ✓ Does my school have a long-term budget plan for updating and maintaining core infrastructure such as broadband, Wi-Fi, servers and display technology?
- ✓ Does my school still need to resource a fixed ICT provision using desktop machines?
- ✓ Does my school provide a variety of learner devices to match the needs of the curriculum?
- ✓ Does my school have a sufficient range of digital content? How is this targeted to support impact on pupil outcomes?



Theme 3 - Provision of a robust Wi-Fi and Broadband Infrastructure

- Fewer schools than in the past consider broadband access for teachers to be good.
- Since 2014 the numbers have been improving and are expected to improve further in 2016.
- By 2016 it remains likely that a fifth of primary schools will have poor access to the internet for teachers
- The position in secondary is a little better but not universal.
- Little indication from the data that the access to the internet by primary pupils is improving.
- It is expected that 38% will continue to have poor access by 2016.
- 20% of secondary pupils will continue to have poor access by 2016.
- Issues limiting access include Wi-Fi connectivity as well as internet bandwidth.



Key Questions Theme 3

- Key Leadership Questions:

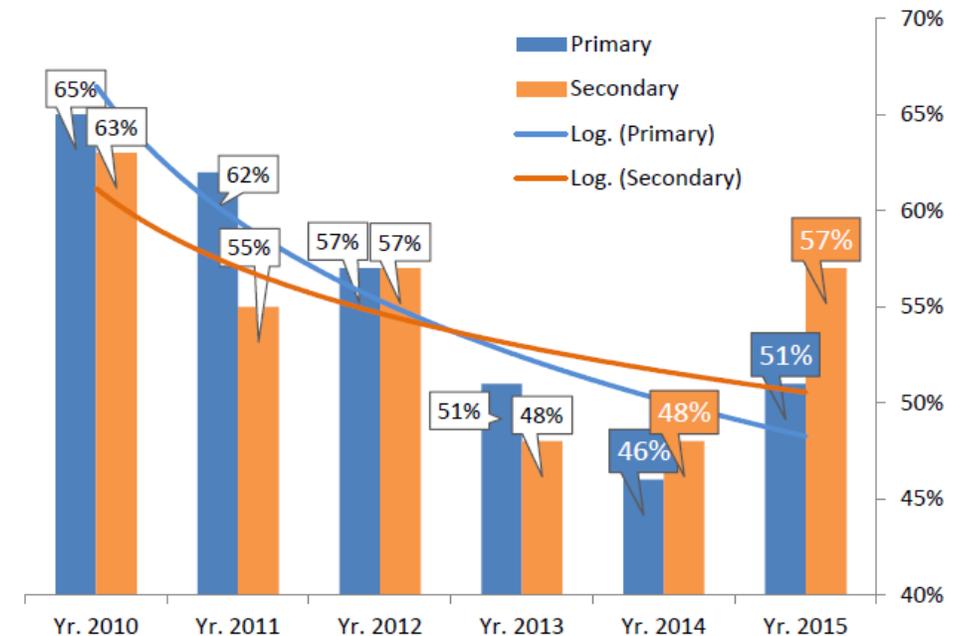
- ✓ Is the level of access to the Internet for my staff fit for purpose?
- ✓ Is there Internet access in all areas of the school and in all departments?
- ✓ Is the speed of the Internet sufficient in all areas?
- ✓ Can all of my pupils access the Internet on demand in all areas of the school?
- ✓ Is fast Internet access enabling or hindering teaching and learning in my school?



Theme 4 - Maintaining levels of Technology Access..

- Since 2007 there has been a decline in positive views held by ICT leaders and followed significant shrinkage in ICT spending.
- In 2014 only 46% of primary schools indicated good access to computers by pupils
- 2015 sees the first year of a positive uplift in sentiment for good pupil access to computers, which is likely to continue into 2016.

Chart 1.3.2 Good computer access for pupils



Key Questions Theme 4

- Key Leadership Questions:

- ✓ When did our school last complete an audit of pupil use of ICT during a typical week?
- ✓ Has our school established expectations for the level of pupil use?
- ✓ Is there an equal spread across all subjects?
- ✓ Have we linked recent technology purchases with increased pupil use and impact on pupil outcomes?
- ✓ Is pupil use equitable?

Theme 5 - The need for CPD with the introduction of more laptops and tablets

- In the primary sector, there is a shift from whole-class use of ICT to independent and group learning using laptop and tablet computers.
- There is a need in primary schools for training (52%) in tablet and laptop use to support this shift. In secondary schools there is a lower requirement for training in this area (34%).
- Demand for training on effective use of digital content is relatively high across both phases.
- 58% of primary teachers indicated that they require training for the implementation and use of new assessment systems (36% secondary)



Key Questions Theme 5

- Key Leadership Questions:

- ✓ Have my teachers been sufficiently trained to integrate tablet and laptop technologies into their teaching and learning?
- ✓ How is pupil use of tablets and laptops timetabled and planned for?
- ✓ Have I recently audited my staff ICT capabilities?
- ✓ Do I have a staff ICT training plan?
- ✓ Am I entitled to training with any recent content and assessment systems purchases?



Theme 6 - The need for a range of high quality digital content

- Two-thirds of primary schools indicate being well resourced with digital content with 71% of ICT leaders indicating that it was always available.
- 43% of secondary schools indicate that content was always available.
- Demand on reliability of school broadband and networking is increasing.
- Demand on content is increasing with the extension of access to pupil devices.



Key Questions Theme 6

- Key Leadership Questions:

- ✓ Are my staff and pupils able to access the content that the school currently has?
- ✓ Has the school recently reviewed its content purchases and subscriptions to ensure that it is being used and is value for money and is targeting improvement in pupil outcomes?
- ✓ Is there sufficient content to meet the future needs of the curriculum and pupils' specific learning needs? If not, what else is needed?

The Quick Audit Tool -

Quick Audit Tool

Summary of key aspects for consideration when developing Education Technology use.

A quick overview of the key aspects derived from the research and priority audit questions. Please refer to the main body of this report for more detail and deeper questions for each aspect.

Quick Audit Tool

Summary of key aspects for consideration when developing Education Technology use.

A quick overview of the key aspects derived from the research and priority audit questions. Please refer to the main body of this report for more detail and deeper questions for each aspect.

Funding and ICT Investment

Strategic budgeting and maintaining and/or expanding Education Technology provision – Including pupil devices- Digital resources and infrastructure.

- ✓ How does my school's ability to maintain ICT investments compare to the national picture?
- ✓ Do we have a long term (3-5 year) strategic plan for our ICT investments?
- ✓ Are we allocating ongoing budget money for underlying infrastructure maintenance and replacement? (e.g. system software, Wi-Fi, administration, display technologies)

ICT Provision

Provision of sound infrastructure such as Wi-Fi, broadband, replacing ageing display technology and meeting demands for more pupil devices.

- ✓ Does my school have sufficient provision for core broadband and Wi-Fi Infrastructure?
- ✓ Does my school still need to resource a fixed ICT provision with desktop machines?
- ✓ Does my school provide a variety of learner devices to match the needs of the curriculum?

Access to ICT

Level of access to technology that schools provide for their pupils and staff

- ✓ Does my school provide an overall appropriate level of access for both teachers and pupils?
- ✓ Is the level of access equitable? Do I have a variety of device types available to all pupils?

Digital Content Access

- ✓ Has the school recently reviewed its content purchases and subscriptions to ensure that it is being used and is value for money and is targeting improvement in pupil outcomes?

Training

Level of training in the use of technology provided for staff

- ✓ Have I recently audited my staff ICT capabilities?
- ✓ Do I have a staff ICT training plan?

Time Exposed to ICT

Time that pupils are exposed to technology for learning

- ✓ When did our school last complete an audit of pupil use of ICT during a typical week?
- ✓ Has our school established expectations for the level of pupil use?
- ✓ Is pupil use equitable?



How you can use this?

- ✓ Benchmark existing education technology provision against a national data source
- ✓ Develop a 3-5 year strategic plan - considering priorities using the Key Leadership Questions
- ✓ Share the report's findings with senior leadership/governors to help support education technology planning decisions
- ✓ Challenge existing education technology providers to provide added-value – e.g. CPD and strategic planning advice to support integration of products and services, more 'future proofing' in terms of aspects such as Wi-Fi and technical support that helps to extend the life of equipment



Where next for 2017?

Proposed inclusion of the following:-

- ✓ Cloud-based services
- ✓ Display Technologies
- ✓ Learning Platforms
- ✓ Broadband provision – providers and service levels
- ✓ The impact of funding changes on technology spending
- ✓ Business systems
- ✓ An electronic Quick Audit Tool to analyse strengths and areas for development

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