

# Cablers

## FOCUS: GOOGLE CLASSROOMS

What is Google Classrooms I hear you cry – how does it work? Is it safe and secure?

So here is an overview of what Google Classrooms is and how it can work for you:

- ▶ Connect with each student – each child has their own logon identity, and can be granted access to various skills.
- ▶ Mark work on-line and send straight back to the student
- ▶ Have a 'comment bank' for enhanced marking speed
- ▶ Easily find and identify marks in students work.
- ▶ Improve student language and comprehension skills with grammar suggestions, character count and autocorrect.
- ▶ Link up with student's Google calendar so deadlines and meetings can be set and lesson planning shared
- ▶ Integrate with thousands of popular educator apps. available on the Google Store
- ▶ Parents can opt-in to receive notifications about learning and activities

For more detailed information go onto [services.google.com](https://services.google.com) and I recommend viewing their short video that shows how Google Classrooms can streamline your day.



**H**ello, welcome to our Winter newsletter, I am Murray Thorpe, Managing Director of Cablers, a leading IT solutions provider in the education market. I want to talk to you about change - change in the way we work, change in the way our children are experiencing their learning and change in how we interact with each other.

**A**s a local leading IT support company we have faced many changes over the past 12 months, some more challenging than others, the main one being remote teaching – bringing our customers online in a way they are safe and secure and able to provide a stable, coherent teaching platform. The Government have provided much reading resource for us all to plough through, along with some additional funding to set up online platforms such as Google Classroom. This additional funding now has an expiry date for the end of December, so make sure you have accessed this to increase your offering to your students – call us for more information 01787 221166.

School IT Nightmares

A cartoon illustration titled "School IT Nightmares". It depicts a chaotic scene in a classroom. On the left, a man in a white shirt and striped trousers stands by a desk, looking at a computer screen that shows a video conference with another person. A small orange cat sits on the floor next to him. In the center, a person wearing a large, round, light-colored hat is sitting at a desk with a laptop, looking at the screen. A small dog sits on the floor next to them. On the right, a young boy with curly hair is sitting on the floor, looking at a book. The room is filled with papers, a camera hanging from the ceiling, and a window in the background.

"Mr Dreary droned on for four hours,  
but it didn't matter as Fin only had a two second memory"

**END OF DEC 2020  
DEADLINE CLOSING  
for funding:**

**Dept. for Education  
grant of up to £1500  
per school to create  
and develop an  
interactive social  
learning platform**



**Google for Education  
Partner**



## CONNECT WITH US

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# FOCUS: RANSOMWARE

You may have seen an announcement from the National Cyber Security Centre, regarding an alert on cyber-attacks within the UK education sector. Phishing scams, ransomware and other intrusions into IT systems is becoming more and more prevalent, and there is an increased need to protect your school.

Recently, we dealt with some ransomware that had been inadvertently activated at one of our customers schools: A member of staff, working from home had unintentionally clicked on a link in an email, this in turn had downloaded some ransomware onto their laptop. Not realising anything had happened, the laptop was brought into their school and connected to the network.

Our anti-ransomware software on the server detected this breach, blocked the laptop on the network and recovered infected files to their pre-existing state. Luckily, the anti-ransomware had reacted so quickly that only three files had been encrypted.

Within moments, the laptop was isolated, notifications were sent to us and to the person responsible for IT at the school. We were then able to re-build the laptop, removing all of the malware with minimal disruption to the day to day running of the school.

We are raising awareness within schools about how important IT security is and I have recently written a book about this – Primary Attack; which outlines how to improve your school IT systems to help protect against these types of breaches.

If you would like a copy of my book, or are not sure if your school is secure, call us for a consultation, where we can discuss the options available to you: 01787 22 11 66

### AKELANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Throughout 2019/2020 Cablers have been working closely with Chelmsford Learning Partnership with their latest school – Lakelands; a brand new primary school in Stanway, Colchester. Supplying interactive touch screens from Promethean, Cablers looked after the supply, installation and configuration of the whole IT system. Including a new 'work from anywhere' 3CX VoIP telephone system; Teacher iPads and computers; school wide wifi and a hybrid onsite and cloud Microsoft Azure future proof server system.

Ensuring that the school's IT infrastructure is safe and secure we have installed Cablers 365 Security Pack to protect all Microsoft 365 accounts, which helps prevent fraud through phishing. The school are also using a cloud based file system using Sharepoint and OneDrive. For more information on a customised solution for your school contact us on 01787 22 11 66.

### TOP TIP - USE A PASSWORD MANAGER

Using a secure on-line password manager, you only need to remember one complex password to access your account. Every time you sign up to a new service or website, the manager will auto-generate a strong, unique password, auto filling every time you log in.



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