



Principal of St. Paul's Catholic Primary School Paul Sheedy

Toshiba Customer Profile- Improved education through efficiency and innovation

According to the Principal of St Paul's Catholic Primary School improvement doesn't mean "adding more" rather it can actually mean "taking away that which is unnecessary".

Established 161 years ago in Coburg, Victoria St Paul's may be one of the state's oldest schools but when it comes to education and learning innovation it is at the cutting edge. Principal Paul Sheedy has been at the forefront of introducing innovative technological developments to assist his teachers, administration staff and students in achieving optimal outcomes. "The four key elements that we look at are assessment, planning, implementation and reporting. If you can improve in each of those elements then you can improve in every area of the curriculum," said Mr Sheedy.

In 2007 the leadership team looked to introduce documentation scanning technology that would enable teachers to more efficiently manage and therefore better understand student performance through digitally capturing students' paper based work and assessments. "Unfortunately the click and drag technology that was then available at the time actually created extra work for teachers and proved to be an unpopular implementation," he said. This issue led him and his ICT Coordinator Mr Frank Cananzi to source more widely for a technology company that could provide a more efficient document management solution for his teachers and students' needs. In 2008 Toshiba's EID Account Relationship Manager Mr Rob Colonnello introduced Mr Sheedy and Mr Cananzi to Toshiba's e-STUDIO high speed Meta Scanning technology.

"Back in 2008-09 we had put forward our needs as we saw them through a number of meetings and discussions we had with Rob and the team at Toshiba. Over time we developed a truly constructive partnership with both sides looking for a win win outcome. This close working relationship led us to the fantastic solution we have today," said Mr Sheedy.

"Frank and I are very happy because the Toshiba eSTUDIO 5520C colour digital multi function device with its Meta Scan functionality is serving a purpose that we thought we would never get to." Mr Sheedy stated that one problem most teachers face are that they are time poor. "Because the Toshiba Meta Scan technology is so simple to use we have been able to train up our teachers aides to take on some of the responsibility of scanning the student material. This frees up time for the teachers to spend more time with the students," he said.

"The Toshiba Meta Scan technology allows the teacher or teacher's aide to scan any paper based material directly to the student's file as a PDF, Word or a range of other electronic document files." He said this scan direct to student folder action is carried out very simply from the Toshiba e-STUDIO MFD's easy to use control panel. "The scanned files are even date and time stamped for easy recall. Student folders can even be created on the fly so the versatility of the Toshiba e-STUDIO Meta Scan technology is top rate. "The teachers' professional role is to make sure that they assess their students' work to the Victorian state standards of achievement.

By utilising the power of the Toshiba Meta Scan technology we are effectively creating a digital portfolio of evidence based assessment for each piece of written work or assessment for every student from Prep right through to Year Six. "We can demonstrate to parents their child's academic performance from when their child started in Prep to when they finish in Year Six. The idea of digitising information evolved to where we now record student talks via a USB microphone as well as student video material and save it to the student's folder. "



At the completion of Year Six we give the parents a DVD of their child's academic progress including all scanned paperwork, voice, video and assessments. The parents are amazed that they have at their fingertips their child's journey from Prep to Year Six.

"Because we are able to so easily and readily provide parents with this kind of evidence based information where they can see how their child is performing based against state standards it has proved a highly popular tool among parents and teachers alike. As well it has proved an effective promotional tool to show to prospective parents when considering which school to send their child. "This type of evidence based information gathering builds trust in the parent community that their child's teacher actually knows and cares for their child's summative and formative development."

Mr Sheedy said from a personal point of view he is moving to a paperless office scenario. "I can see the Toshiba e-STUDIO's documentation scanning capabilities being taken across into the administration area. Scanning the paperwork I receive to secure and backed up electronic files is so easy and simple with the e-STUDIO and I get more usable office space. "So with the greater efficiency created by the Toshiba e-STUDIO MFD's Meta Scan technology we have seen real and measurable improvement in our school's teaching and administrative staff's performance for the benefit of our students," said Mr Sheedy.

