

One big school, one easy solution

How Shivaami helped streamline processes with Google for Education tools

Offering quality education to underprivileged children, Navodaya English High School and Junior College has spent the last 52 years ensuring its students, ranging from 4-17 years, have access to the best teachers, programs, and opportunities. Technically savvy, the school was still experiencing challenges that needed to be solved.



Challenge

With almost 4000 students and over 100 educators and support staff, the sheer size of Navodaya English High School and Junior College offers challenges to principal, Dr Ushavati Shetty, every day.

Priding themselves on being a technically savvy school, educators were drowning under the weight of organising assessments, staying on top of attendance and the logistics of bringing the larger school community together.

The key challenge, in year two of the global pandemic, was keeping the school community connected and thriving, something they couldn't do without better technology.



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Dr Ushavati Shetty,

Principal, Navodaya English High School and Junior College

Solution

“We believe in giving quality education to students, but we don't only focus on textbook knowledge,” says Dr Shetty. “We believe in the overall development of students, their holistic development.”

Dr Shetty admits that 2020 was especially tough because she was unable to bring her whole school community together using the platforms they had used for years.

Revolutionising the ways of educators

“With Zoom I had a 45-minute time limit, which was a huge issue. If I wanted to include students, their parents, their extended family, and my educators in an online event, celebration, or competition, I was looking at 10,000 or more people. The platforms we were using couldn't accommodate that.”

The solution came from IT support company Shivaami Cloud Services, who suggested the school switch over to Google Workspace for Education Teaching and Learning Upgrade.

Within a matter of days, Shivaami was able to switch all users onto the new platform and revolutionise the way educators could track, assess, and interact with students from all grades.



School-wide transformation with one platform

Solution deep dive

With three computer labs, and students, teachers and support staff using a range of devices to access learning and education, getting technology into the school wasn't an issue.

The primary aim was to streamline the processes that, with almost 4000 students, were complicated and time-consuming. "We are so used to the normal chalk-and-talk school environment, but with such a huge number of students, all with regular assessments and tests, my main question was, 'how do I streamline this?'" says Dr Shetty.

Upgrading = Unbelievable Benefits

Google Workspace for Education Teaching and Learning Upgrade offered Dr Shetty and her school a myriad of products, each helping to improve current processes, and troubleshoot issues.

Google Meet allows Dr Shetty to host events for all students and their "extended family". Google Classroom has enabled students to communicate with teachers about doubts or queries they have with assessments or day-to-day work.

Most importantly, especially considering the scale of the school, all the data is saved.

"Previously we used WhatsApp, but there were limitations to how much we could store. I would have to delete data that I can now keep and look back on," says Dr Shetty.



What they wanted

From greater accessibility to bring large groups of the school community together, to better tracking of assessments, the Navodaya English High School and Junior College wanted to make a big difference to the whole school community, quickly and easily. Having outgrown the technology they had been relying on for years, Dr Shetty and the team at Shivaami Cloud Services knew it was time for an upgrade that everyone would benefit from.

What they did

- The school's technical team approached Shivaami Cloud Services for some advice on what they needed to change
- Shivaami suggested the Google Workspace for Education Teaching and Learning Upgrade, which would solve the current issues around scale of enrolment, providing and tracking assessments and ensuring the best quality of development for staff and students
- Within one week, Shivaami switched all of the school's technology onto the Google for Education platform and provided Google IDs for all users
- Shivaami provided a training session for teachers and support staff to showcase the benefits
- As students returned to the school, Shivaami maintained a high level of support and training for staff, which will continue over the coming year

What they achieved

- Greater ease of enrolment
- The ability to run online competitions live with students without a "time limit"
- Increased professional development and skills for teachers and support staff
- A further commitment to a holistic education approach, where academia can be placed alongside languages, dance, debate and more, in a real-time, virtual classrooms that every child can take part in or witness
- A new, streamlined way of collecting and storing data, both for assessments and planning

Key Benefits

Still new to Google Workspace for Education Teaching and Learning Upgrade, Dr Shetty is already seeing real-time benefits, and expects these to grow over time. “Switching from something you are used to, to something new...there are going to be teething problems. But the support we are getting from Shivaami, who constantly tries to solve our queries, is fantastic.”

1

Ease of data collection

Google Docs has enabled Dr Shetty to collect data from her 120-strong staff quickly and easily, without the time-consuming processes of previous platforms. “A simple thing, getting information from everyone, has become so much easier for me. All I have to do is create one format and post the editable file. Everyone can then add their own edits.”

2

Increased engagement with students and extended community

With students still studying remotely, this second year of the pandemic will be very different thanks to the features of Google Meet and Google Classroom. “We have a lot of festivals, a lot of days of celebration. Last year I couldn’t bring everyone together. With Google Meet, I can. It also allows me to connect our students to global educators and international opportunities.”

3

Time saving = Greater development

With Google for Education saving teachers and support staff valuable time, they can invest in student development, and focus on long-term learning outcomes, as opposed to short-term issues. “Teachers are focusing on skill development, communication skills, language and other activities, such as dance and debate. Many avenues have been opened up to our students thanks to Google Workspace for Education and the Teaching and Learning Upgrade.”

4

Flexibility of providing education and support

Being able to use the Teaching & Learning Upgrade, with no limitations, the school’s students, teachers, and support team can choose how and when they access the programs. From Slides, Docs, Meet, Calendar, Forms and more, planning how to educate, and implementing that learning-style, has provided the kind of flexible environment that both students and staff can thrive within. “Parent engagement, student engagement ...it’s all improved,” says Dr Shetty. “Everyone is excited.”

Get in touch



Contact Shivaami Cloud Services on 775 784 1333 to find out how Google for Education can help you achieve your teaching and learning goals.