

# Just getting started

## One school's commitment to ongoing improvement with Google for Education

### School at a glance

From the day its doors opened in 2011, Suchitra Academy has been committed to inspiring and educating teachers and students through the use of technology. Today every grade uses Google for Education tools, devices and apps to extend learning outcomes and, according to the school, they're only just getting started.



### Challenge

Perhaps the biggest challenge for a tech-savvy school is keeping up with the latest innovations that could further enhance learning, administration, community relationships and more. This is the case for Suchitra Academy. Vice Principal Trisha Chakraborty says while the school has created incredible opportunities and outcomes for faculty and students, she knows there is more they could be doing. "After more than a decade of working with Google for Education, we know there are always more, and even better, ways of doing everything."



"Our teachers and admin staff use Gmail, Meet, Docs, Slides, Sheets – everything. Google is everywhere in our school."

**Trisha Chakraborty**

Vice Principal, Suchitra Academy

### Solution

After implementing technology within classrooms and administration with no external help, Suchitra reached out to a technology partner – Schoolnet India. They wanted Schoolnet's expert analysis of their processes and functions to identify further opportunities to support learning through technology, in addition to streamlining administrative processes.

"We have always been a school that wants to integrate technology, and that will continue. We needed more support in making sure we are using all the tools in the right way – and to discover new ones!"

It's now just over a year since Schoolnet helped Suchitra Academy deploy and configure the 90 new Chromebooks purchased for school-wide use. The Chrome Education Upgrade made deployment and ongoing management effective and efficient, enabling teachers to spend more time focused on learning outcomes. Ms Chakraborty hopes that, over time, the trolleys that take the devices from class to class will be gone, and every child will have a Chromebook of their own.

## From little things, big things grow

### Solution deep dive

Google for Education technologies have underpinned Suchitra's forward-thinking education practices for over a decade — and it all started with Gmail. Ever since the inception of the school in 2011, every teacher was encouraged to bring their own device to school and use Gmail to communicate with faculty. There were two computer labs for students to access but there was potential to make the student learning process more efficient.

The second area that needed fine tuning was the process of collating examination results and reports, which was otherwise a tedious process. It was time-intensive for teachers who had to input all the data into documents, and there was no way to easily share information or analyse results. Alongside teachers and the IT team we decided to automate the whole system with Google Sheets and Google Data Studio, resulting in drastic time savings which the teachers could invest in the education experience.

Under the guidance of Schoolnet, they invested in 90 Chromebooks for use across all grades. The usability and flexibility of the devices fostered greater student engagement and collaborative learning opportunities, without needing to relocate to the computer labs. Deployment and ongoing management is through the Chrome Education Upgrade, allowing seamless IT administration. The school has continued investing in professional development in partnership with Schoolnet, in pursuit of continuous teaching and learning improvement.

## Google for every grade

### What they wanted

- Create an engaging learning environment for every student, across every grade
- Lead the way in implementing technology into every aspect of education, nurturing an independent approach to learning
- Inspire and educate faculty members in how to drive student engagement through the use of dynamic apps
- Foster school and community relationships by strengthening communication between students, teachers, and families
- Continue striving for better outcomes via edtech

### What they did

- Adopted Google for Education as their technology of choice
- Joined forces with IT Partner Schoolnet India to investigate and analyse tech use across the school and discover next steps
- Purchased 90 Chromebooks to use across all grades and increase student-led edtech in classrooms
- Leveraged Chrome Education Upgrade for simplified device deployment and school-wide management
- Provided teacher training in technology as part of induction and ongoing personal development
- Created a project-based learning environment for students, enabled by Google Workspace for Education

### What they achieved

- Google Classroom was established as a permanent fixture across all grades
- Drove student engagement with tools such as Kahoot, Desmos, Quizziz and Edpuzzle, integrated within Google Classroom
- Chromebooks meant students no longer had to relocate to ICT labs for lessons, with the classrooms themselves becoming digital environments
- Introduced Google Workspace for Education, including the use of Docs, Sheets, Slides and other Google apps to save time on administration tasks and allow teachers to focus on learning outcomes
- Created a YouTube channel for the school where students could make short films and other visual arts for assessments



## Key Benefits

Suchitra Academy has achieved a lot in its 10+ years of using Google for Education technology and in working with their ongoing IT partner, Schoolnet India. But it's time to push for more, says Ms Chakraborty. "I'm excited to see what else Schoolnet can teach us."

1

### The ability to nurture independent learners

Ms Chakraborty says the biggest benefit from pursuing an education model based on Google for Education technology is the ongoing positive impact on the students. "We gave them the scaffold, but students are actively engaged in how they learn. They are becoming independent of their teachers, able to work in a flexible way, and collaborate with each other." Chromebooks and Google Workspace for Education have been key to enabling these student-led outcomes.

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### Greater community engagement among parents

Since introducing a Google Dashboard for parents and families, the school's relationship with the community has broadened. "Many of the families are very open-minded about what can be achieved at school. I think there is an even greater appreciation now of what we do every day and how the children are learning via different types of technology."

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### Increased digital fluency and confidence among faculty

Joining the Suchitra Academy has always stipulated a basic understanding of technology, but not all teachers start with a lot of skills. Schoolnet and Google for Education quickly changed that. Google for Education tools are intuitive and useable for all skill levels. "Google is easy for everyone to handle. The teachers learn a lot in professional development, and they learn even more from the students!"

4

### Google across every grade

From using Sheets to create statistical analytic reports in Grade 11, to using Chromebooks to teach coding in Grade I, to encouraging Grade II to use Jamboard to make Math more fun. Google Workspace for Education tools are used across every grade in the school. And it doesn't stop there. "Our teachers and admin staff use Gmail, Meet, Docs, Slides, Sheets – everything. Google is everywhere in our school."

#### Get in touch



Contact Schoolnet India Limited on (+91) 120 2459200 to find out how Google for Education can help you achieve your teaching and learning goals.

