

Digital Schools Network



The vision for the Cisco Digital Schools Network is for students to be able to *Learn without Limits*

Technology is creating significant opportunities in K-12 school systems. It has the potential to transform the way young people learn, and how schools teach and engage with communities. More fundamentally, technology offers the potential to drive increased student engagement and improved outcomes.

Digital collaboration technology, in particular, has significant value for schools. One of the most powerful benefits of digital collaboration technology is for schools to create and sustain networks and communities of interest. As an example, collaboration technology is allowing schools to immerse themselves in virtual excursions from symphony orchestras, sports teams or global experts that were previously inaccessible.

Cisco, as a global technology leader in education, also knows something about the power of networks.

Cisco is uniquely placed to create a powerful network of schools focused on digital innovation and the effective use of digital collaboration tools. Cisco's vision is for its Digital Schools Network to create a mechanism for schools to connect, collaborate and share. Ultimately our aspiration is for this collaboration to help schools integrate digital technologies more effectively and efficiently, and improve learning outcomes. Cisco also hopes its work will contribute to more sustainable and effective K-12 systems in government, Catholic and independent sectors across Asia Pacific and Japan.

How it works

The Digital Schools Network will be offered to leading digital schools in Australia, New Zealand, and key markets across the region. In creating a geographic boundary we can ensure that all schools in the network will be in similar time zones; an important determinant of real time collaboration.

Digital schools get priority access to a range of services (from professional development to thought leadership, innovative use cases and early adoption along with special rates on Cisco technology). Schools will have the opportunity to connect with and learn from other schools in the network.

What it means for your school to be part of the Network:

- ▶ Collaborate via the Digital Schools Network digital Spark platform
- ▶ Gain access to a bank of virtual excursion providers through 3rd party partners and universities
- ▶ Participate in digital learning training with global education experts
- ▶ Access content on the Learn Without Limits digital portal, including use cases, best practice and trouble-shooting advice
- ▶ Connect to Cisco networking academies and expose students to jobs of the future in areas such as cyber security, Internet of Things and data analytics digitisation
- ▶ Access the Cisco Mentoring program (a joint initiative with CSIRO)
- ▶ Qualify for early adoption and competitive pricing on Cisco technology
- ▶ Create a future state campus and roadmap as part of the schools overall strategic plan with Cisco thought leaders and channel partners



The Digital Schools Network has been designed for schools looking to innovate and transform teaching and learning within their classrooms, campus' & systems. The guiding principles of the program are to create better teacher, student, parent and community experiences through the use of innovative solutions.

The program is expected to create four major benefits for schools:

1. Access to compelling learning content

By joining the program, schools will be able to run joint classes/sessions with local and international schools, access a bank of live virtual excursions and joint PD opportunities. For example, there are 45 providers of live virtual excursions in Australia, many of which are aligned to local curriculum. Internationally, there are around 80 further content providers that have the capacity to work in the Asia time zones.¹

An immersive video network for education is being assessed to offer schools with a new way of connecting with global content providers and offer usage and adoption training for teachers to help them navigate collaborative video in the classroom. A content provider program is also being established to enlist new participants, including those from industry.

The use of technology will create the basis for more effective project based learning across jurisdictional boundaries and disciplines. The opportunity for students to work on real world, global problems offers significant educational benefits.

2. Access to implementation experience that helps schools realise benefits more quickly

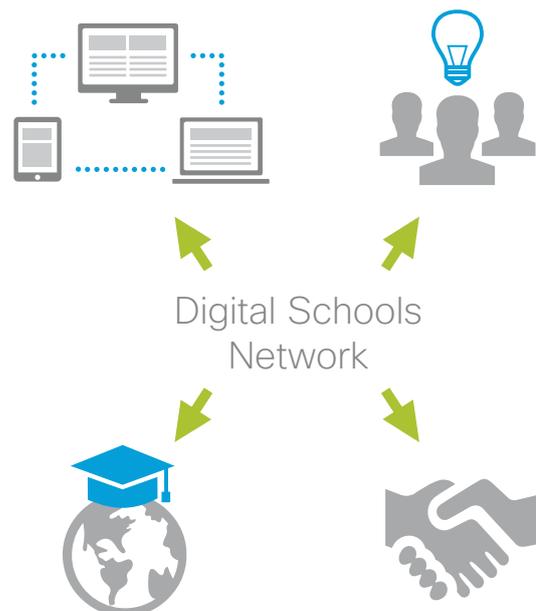
Implementing digital technologies into a school setting can be confronting, particularly for smaller schools. The network of schools will have access to thought leadership and practical information that will help inform critical decisions and de-risk the implementation process. Professional learning sessions conducted by Cisco’s education thought leaders will also provide schools with a sense of what’s possible when digital tools are effectively applied to teaching. The network will provide content and solutions in four domains that are recognised as critical to digital education implementation.

3. Global perspectives on teaching and learning

The program will include schools from some of the world’s highest-performing K-12 jurisdictions, including Australia, New Zealand and some from Asia Pacific region. These connections will help to ensure that relevant perspectives can be easily shared and learned from, either through joint classes or participation in online communities of interest on a range of discussion topics. The mix of countries represented in the network also creates powerful opportunities for cultural and educational exchange, including in areas such as STEM and languages which are becoming a higher priority and a critical economic and societal driver.

4. Access to market-leading technology

Exemplar schools have invested in world-leading digital collaboration and platform technology, and will also have access to Cisco’s ecosystem of industry partners such as Apple and BrightBytes®. Cisco is a recognised market leader and innovator, ensuring schools that participate have access to today’s best technology and tomorrow’s. Exemplar school commercial rates for Cisco technology will give schools improved value for money and also enable schools and systems to achieve their strategic goals, through the use of these solutions.



¹ These can be accessed through <http://www.cilc.org/>

Figure 1 identifies the broad range of use cases that the network can help to support.

► FIGURE 1:

How the program can leverage technology for Teaching and Learning

	Supported by Digital Schools Network	Role of the Network
School-Centred Use Cases	1. Provide Safe and Secure Access to Faculty, Students, Teachers and community	Physical Safety and data safety
	2. Connect Students, Teachers and faculty seamlessly, any device, anytime, anywhere	Provide and support anytime anywhere learning and teaching
	3. Smart Mobility solutions for BYOx and 1-to-1	Proliferation of Mobile devices and Cisco/Apple Partnership
	4. Administration and Operational Efficiency	Helping systems interact together in a converged ecosystem
	5. New Models & Converged digital Platforms	Building a structure that can adapt to new models and technologies now and in the future. These include: sharing courses, voice and data convergence, and simplified management of devices.
	6. Predictive Learning and Analytics	Access to 3rd party specialist partners
	7. Financials	Technology investment must carry clear value over time. Future-proof technology can be supported by new sources of funding, lower costs, and be leveraged in both the classroom and operations.
	8. Delivering Education for now and into the future	Access to Cisco Thought leaders in education land globally

► FIGURE 2:

How the program can encourage teacher and student collaborations

	Supported by Digital Schools Network	Role of the Network
Student-Centred Use Cases	1. Deliver virtual excursions	Connect schools with virtual excursion providers
	2. Connect students with subject matter experts	Identify and facilitate access to global experts / tips to construct lessons
	3. Facilitate global student collaboration	Access to a network of exemplar and leading schools in the region
	4. Provide greater subject flexibility/ remote access	Connect schools with virtual excursion providers
	5. Specialist support for students	Tips on how to access / implement
	6. Extension learning and pathways into higher / vocational education	Access to universities and TAFEs
Teacher-Centred Use Cases	7. Deliver professional development	Access to online PD
	8. Facilitate peer-to-peer meetings and communities of interest	Advice on meeting techniques
	9. Support school recruitment	How to guides and example use cases
	10. Enable consultation between schools / central office	Advice for those being consulted / doing the consultation
	11. Facilitating peer observation	Network of potential peers willing to observe, how to guides and tips

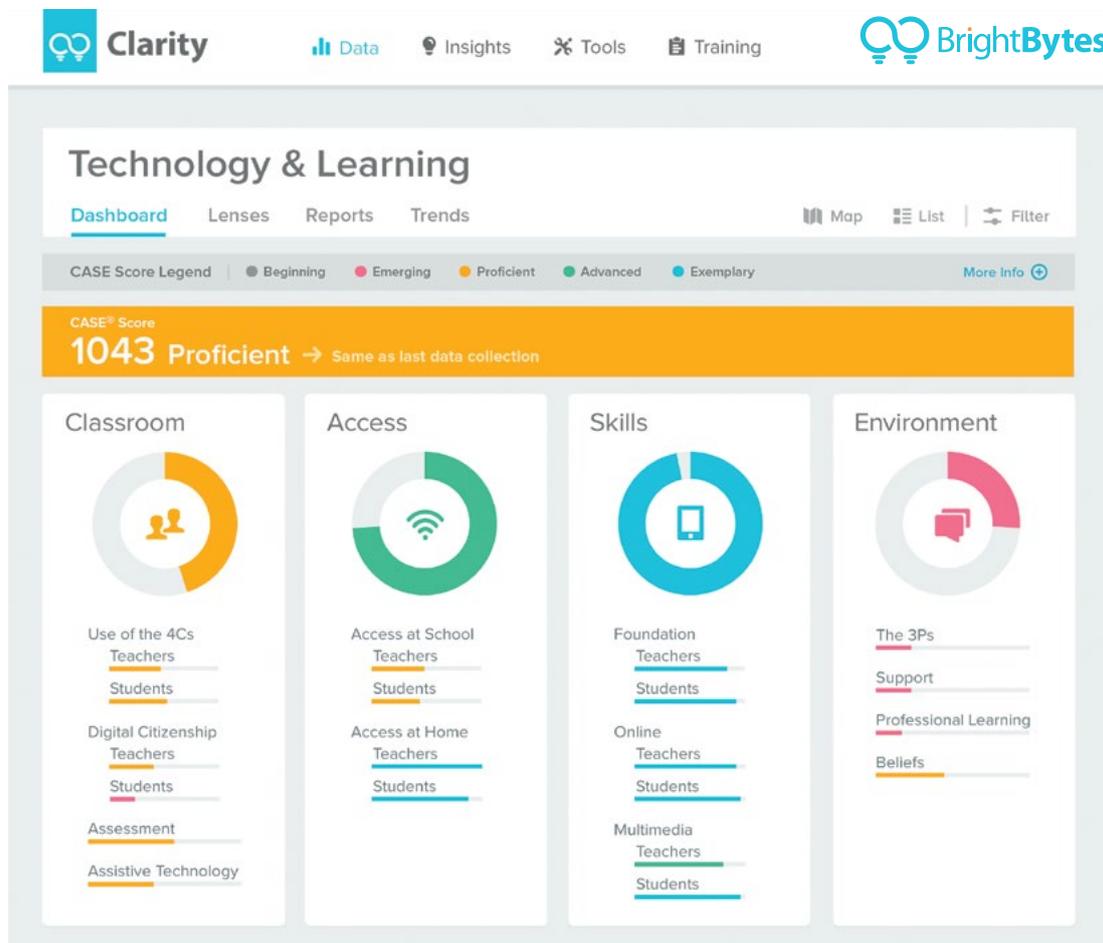
Cisco partners with BrightBytes® as part of the Digital Schools Network

BrightBytes' cutting edge analytics platform, Clarity®, gathers research from the best experts in the world and creates evidence-based frameworks that help educational leaders make better decisions for students. One in five U.S. schools use the Clarity platform to make data-driven decisions that improve student outcomes. BrightBytes is a dedicated K-12 education organisation committed to providing educators the tools and information they need to improve the way the world learns. BrightBytes and our local partner Reflex Technology Group (RTG) joined the network based on a number of factors:

- ▶ Our desire to work with schools that are committed to using technology to improve outcomes
- ▶ Recognition that the Australian education sector is highly advanced
- ▶ A belief that our perspectives on what works – and doesn't – may be useful to Australian schools

Schools know that technology is crucial for a 21st century education, but it can be difficult to assess the degree to which these tools are used to enhance digital learning experiences, influence pedagogical practice, and increase student achievement. BrightBytes flagship module, [Technology & Learning](#), enables schools to drive the impact of technology on learning outcomes. The module uses complex data analytics to measure the use of technology and the actual impact of that technology on student outcomes. Built upon the powerful, research-based CASE™ framework, the Technology & Learning module provides schools with a clear picture of the availability of existing technology resources and infrastructure within schools and their impact on meaningful learning. The web-based dashboard visualizes data, highlighting digital strengths and weaknesses, and provides access to personalized research-driven recommendations for how to best respond to the data and ultimately position your students for success in the 21st century.

▶ **FIGURE 3:** BrightBytes CASE™ framework



Digital Schools Network membership benefits

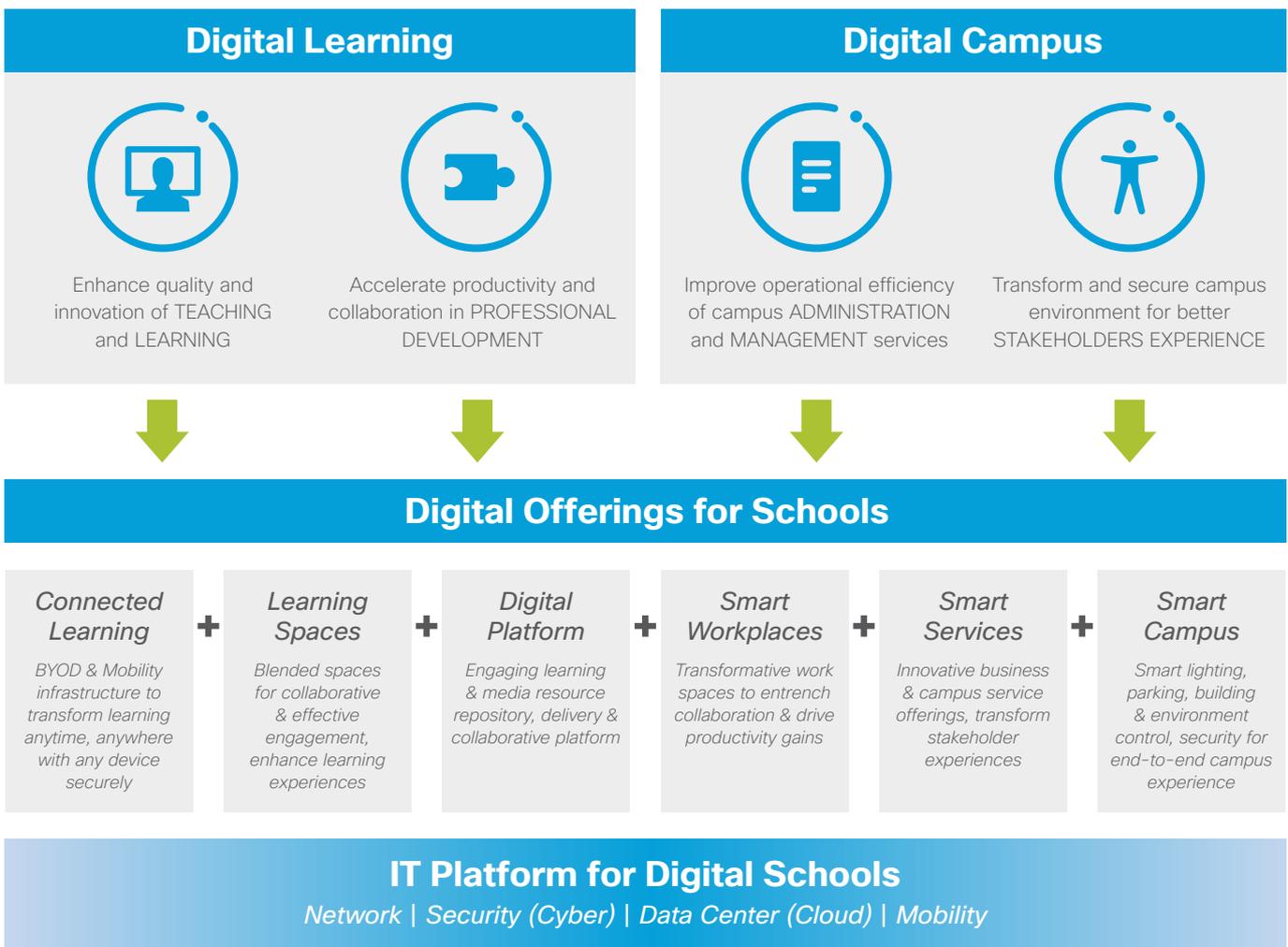
As a member of the Digital Schools Network, Cisco and BrightBytes will provide you with:

- 1. Access to four hours consultation in relation to your own school’s analytics environment and questions you might have about data more generally (Exemplars only)
- 2. Access to specialised webinars featuring thought leaders and schools who are leading examples of innovative technology use
- 3. Preferred pricing on our services / tools (more details can be provided in a subsequent discussion)

Together, we aim to use technology to impact learning.

Digital Offerings for Schools:

In an effort to use technology as a differentiator in education to enable better student outcomes and engagement, Cisco offers 6 Digital Offerings to help in supporting this vision.



Criteria to Participate

Digital Schools Network Program Level

As we want to build a community of schools that will benefit from sharing best practices and build better connections with each other, we have developed a two tier program level to support this:

Digital Schools Program Level	Leading (Entry Level)	Exemplar
Digital Offerings	Minimum of 1*	Minimum of 5
Program Pricing Incentive	Cisco shall work with authorised partners to provide registered schools with competitive pricing	
Program Benefits Access	Limited Access	Full Access
Partner Program Access	Not Applicable	Full Access

*Participate in the Digital Schools Network Spark Platform (available as a free download) to qualify for a minimum of one Digital Offering.





The process for gaining acceptance as a leading school is not onerous, but schools are required to meet four criteria:

 Agree to use Cisco's Spark collaboration tool



 Register interest in the Digital Schools Network

 Agree to actively participate in and contribute to the Digital Schools Network

 Agree to the Digital Schools Network charter and code of conduct



Registration process for the Digital Schools Network

[Register your interest](#) for the Digital Schools Network.

The Cisco Account Team will be in contact with you to discuss your registration and acceptance of the charter and code of conduct.

We look forward to your school and students beginning your journey of *Learning without Limits* with Cisco.

Participating Exemplar Schools

