



The Individual Learning Platform™

Case Study: Parkstone Grammar School

Topics:

- *User Adoption*
- *Teacher Collaboration*
- *Student Engagement*
- *Educational Continuity*
- *Ease of Use*



Parkstone Grammar School (PGS) is an outstanding and heavily enrolled grammar school for girls with a focus on science and technology. Established in Dorset in 1937, the school has over 1100 students and faculty. For years PGS had been struggling to implement another learning management platform, but student and faculty use was minimal...

As Network Manager, Craig Judd was responsible for finding a new learning platform that would meet their needs and make it easy for students and faculty to get started. Having previously installed a different supplier's LMS the entire school felt frustrated and the success of the project was in doubt. Craig knew revitalizing this project would be tricky and would demand a first-rate replacement.

The essential criteria were based on:

- Ease of use
- Leading edge functionality
- Integration with their SIS
- Ability to create, tag, store and search for resources easily and quickly

Craig and his team went to the British educational conference, BETT, armed with a clipboard and a set of tough criteria to test all VLE suppliers and find a new solution.

*At BETT, **it's learning** came up first, and the functionality checked all the boxes. We're still thrilled to find it meeting all our developing requirements.*

Craig Judd, Network Manager, Parkstone Grammar School

Three days later, Craig and his team had a clear winner: **it's learning's Individual Learning Platform™**.

Shortly after their implementation of **it's learning**, Parkstone found their objectives being met:

- Student and Faculty use quickly doubled
- Staff were thrilled to be able to create a course with 2 clicks
- Embedding the learning platform into the school curriculum was a breeze

How did Parkstone get started?

The greatest barrier to relaunching their LMS project was the damage caused by the previous platform and the impression it had made on the faculty. PGS teachers found **its learning** much easier to use, and their concerns were answered as soon as they logged on for the first time. Ease of use was a great factor in the rejuvenation of their learning management initiative.

Craig's team quickly switched gears and began to help teachers develop exciting new uses for **it's learning** in the class room instead of simply answering "how do you do this again?" questions. As soon as the staff realised how easy it was to create courses themselves, they began asking all sorts of additional



questions of Craig and his team about what else they could do. New courses went online weekly resulting in more choices for students, a wider availability of curriculum and non curriculum activities and ever deeper embedding of **it's learning** across the entire school.

Outcomes

For Students

Since the introduction of **it's learning** there has been a marked increase in student engagement across many subjects. Students like the access to information in and out of class time and are actively interacting with classmates and teachers through better in-class discussions and online conversations. Additionally, students who have spent long periods of time out of school due to illness have remained engaged and up-to-date with their school work.

For Teachers

it's learning has given teachers the tools, confidence and additional time needed to support individualised teaching and to help raise standards and engagement for all their students. Teachers are working together to share online lesson plans, homework and resources, which streamlines department level planning. Use of **it's learning** has also improved faculty's

technology skills and confidence by giving them tools that are easy to use and have a measurable impact on their students. Even reluctant faculty have adopted the **it's learning Individual Learning Platform™** with open arms!

Future Plans

With such a great start, PGS is looking to the future to expand the impact of **it's learning**. Their 2nd phase plans include:

- Student usage of E-portfolios for writing Blogs,
- Share more best practice within the school
- Create lifelong learning opportunities
- Expand the use of podcasting, online conferencing and embedded video

The overall effects of adopting **it's learning** have far exceeded my hopes in terms of early adopters and progress. Our students have taken to it like second nature. Day to day **it's learning** administration is far easier than I could have hoped for!

Craig Judd, Network Manager, Parkstone Grammar



About *it's learning, inc.*

With offices in Boston, London, Paris, St. Petersburg, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Alicante (Spain), Germany, and Bergen, Norway, it's learning is a global company offering an Individual Learning Platform tailored to meet the needs of educators. In early 2009, we opened our US headquarters in Boston, MA to meet the increasing need for a high quality and affordable learning platform that catalyzes educational improvements in K-12 schools. We offer professional development services in individualized instruction and the ***it's learning*** platform to help educators improve measured outcomes, school retention rates, high school graduation rates and college admissions, all at a lower cost than current instructional approaches.

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