

Why Mobile Learning is Key in the Future of Education

In a survey this year of school district Chief Technology Officers in the USA, one of the top priorities identified was *“we want to make sure that students have access to the content, to [technology] tools, both inside and outside the school building.”*

Another survey, the “2017 K-12 IT Leadership Survey Report” found that **‘improving mobile learning’** was the highest priority this year for district officials.

With this as focus, it’s no wonder that mobile learning will play a major role in education in the future.

The growth in this trend becomes apparent from this data, *“the number of laptops, tablets, netbooks, and Chromebooks shipped annually to U.S. K-12 schools grew by 363 percent over the past seven years, from just over 3 million devices in 2010 to almost 14 million this year.”* (Education Week Research Center report, 2017)

Mobility has powerful applications in education. Mobile devices enable learning content to be delivered to students whether they are on-campus, off-campus or distance learning. With the right mobile learning systems in place, teachers can focus more on instruction, and not worry about the logistics of sharing content or assignments with students. Learning can continue seamlessly across devices such as classroom computers or personal mobile devices.

Challenges: However, with this growing adoption, cyber security becomes a matter of great concern. A recent study of IT infrastructure in several industries by BitSight, a security ratings company, found that K-12 and higher education experienced the highest rate of ransomware.

Having the **right Security and Governance** measures in place are paramount in order to get the real benefits of mobile learning. On the one hand it is essential to protect against possible attacks. For the teachers and administrators, it is also necessary to centrally update Apps and content and provide support as required. Typically, the learning system is designed for teachers and students, so identity based access has to be managed.

A good **Enterprise Mobility Management** solution will deliver these benefits. Once the right Security and Governance policies are defined, the system enforces these, and mobility becomes a very powerful way to enhance learning. As non-official usage of devices is prevented, students focus on the learning content provided.

At 1Mobility, we have worked on a nationwide initiative of the Education Ministry of Antigua and Barbuda, for the security of devices and to ensure that they can be used only for educational purposes.

Read the case study here: