

Case Study:

How St Roch's Implemented a Robust Solution to get Greater Visibility Into Students' Online Behaviours

This case study focuses on St. Roch's Parish Primary School in Glen Iris, Victoria, and its journey to strengthen digital safety and wellbeing in an incredibly online world. The school recognised the need to address the challenges of the modern digital age and the growing impact of technology on its students. They sought solutions that would enable them to strike a balance between leveraging technology for learning and safeguarding students against online risks.

The school prides itself on its commitment to academic excellence, wellbeing, and fostering a strong sense of community among students, families, and staff.

Transitioning everyone in the school on Chromebooks one-to-one was absolutely fantastic, as it opened so many avenues for learning, but then also opened up so many worries for risk and things like that as well. So we had to address that head-on"

Cassie Jensen ICT and Digital Technologies Leader

The problem and its context

With the rise of online learning due to the pandemic, St. Roch's Parish Primary School recognised the need to strengthen digital safety and wellbeing with kids spending a lot of unsupervised time online. The school wanted to go above and beyond the Diocese tools, often used in Catholic education, to get better visibility of their students' online usage and a more effective way to filter harmful online content and protect students. The first step to keeping their students safe online was to set up a filtering system to block content that could distract students but this failed to provide the level of control and granularity that the school required.

The pandemic amplified the urgency for a more robust solution with remote learning and increased screen time, leading to the adoption of 1:1 Chromebooks for enhanced online safety and learning.







The problem and its context cont.

With this shift in learning, the school's focus on guiding students to behave responsibly online while ensuring a safe learning environment became stronger. Their aim was to balance open access to digital resources and protect students from inappropriate content and online distractions. However, they faced challenges such as students getting distracted, accessing inappropriate content, and communicating off-task during online sessions.

Previous filtering solutions at the school weren't up to the task of effectively handling these challenges. As inappropriate content like explicit pictures continued to slip past filters and students required more guidance and stronger protection whilst online, the school began seeking a more comprehensive solution. This new solution wouldn't just offer better visibility of student online activities and behaviours, at school and home, it would also bolster digital safety and wellbeing.



There was nothing that we could do with our filter to stop them from using a lot of different things that they were finding their way to. Unfortunately, explicit pictures and things like that were still sneaking through a Google search."

Cassie Jensen
ICT and Digital Technologies Leader

The Linewize journey

The school's partnership with Linewize brought about a transformation in its approach to digital safety and wellbeing. The integration of Linewize's solutions allowed St. Roch's School to adopt a proactive approach to monitoring and managing students' online activities. They embraced Linewize's offerings, including digital safeguarding, filtering and classroom internet management functionalities and the platform's capacity for data-driven insights and real-time engagement aligned perfectly with the school's mission to cultivate responsible digital behaviour.

"We loved that Linewize could help us support our students to build lifelong digital habits" - Cassie Jensen

Giving teachers greater visibility and control

With Linewize's classroom internet management feature, Classwize, teachers at St Roch's School gain real-time visibility into student screens during online learning sessions, block or allow sites that are required for learning and can control the use of the internet during class.

As needed, they are able to send messages to individual students or groups, redirecting them to the task at hand. This eliminates the need for constant in-person supervision and enhances the ability to provide timely guidance to students who need support. This approach not only removed digital distractions and boosted student engagement but also fostered a collaborative approach to digital learning. It spurred discussions on safe online habits and responsible internet use.

"I can just sit with a group who need extra support, have Classwize up on my laptop, monitor what they're doing, and send them a message if they're not on task, rather than calling it out in front of the rest of the class, which I don't think supports their wellbeing fully all the time." - Cassie Jensen







Swift responses to alerts and insights

Alerts provided by the platform have allowed the school to learn things that regular observations wouldn't catch. This helps them solve small problems in class quickly. These situations also showed how talking about online behaviour is important. The school sees the importance of these alerts in solving problems and having important conversations. The real-time insights and fast teacher responses help them really know how students experience the digital world.

St. Roch's School uses Linewize's powerful reporting functionality to act quickly and have personalised interventions. The leadership gets weekly reports about issues, helping them solve problems fast.

"Having that peace of mind that if something bigger was to surface we would get that alert straight away."
- Cassie Jensen

Promoting dialogue and awareness

Linewize's granular filtering capabilities and reporting solutions have opened a channel of dialogue between educators and students. When students encounter blocked content, they show curiosity and seek explanations. This has led to discussions about responsible online searching and the importance of using digital resources thoughtfully. Notably, the school has observed a decline in instances of students getting sidetracked, as they are now aware that the school stands ready to provide assistance whenever required.



We didn't want to stop them doing everything, but we wanted to enable openness and conversation"

Cassie Jensen
ICT and Digital Technologies Leader

Engaging parents and guardians

Recognising that digital safety should extend beyond school hours, the school introduced Linewize Connect's integrated parental control tools, to collaborate with parents in maintaining consistent online safety at home. This empowers parents to gain visibility of their children's online activities and play a more active role in creating a safer online space for learning, exploring and socialising. The school's filtering system is seamlessly connected to student accounts, bringing the school and parents together for strong digital safety.

"I'd have parents coming up to me in the yard saying, I'm really glad that this is happening in the school. Please be open with us. If anything pops up, we want to know about it." - Cassie Jensen

Right timing and acceptance: rolling out new features

The school realised that parents needed time to settle after the pandemic expressing reluctance to try new things. The school recognised the collective need for an adjustment period after extensive online interactions with both parents and students. So, they waited to launch the parental tools to ensure parents felt a genuine need to join the program, creating natural conversations among them.







Achieving a higher standard of digital safeguarding through collaboration

At the school, they understand the power of collaboration. The leadership team works closely with their staff to handle individual class challenges and requests, like using Pinterest or YouTube for certain projects.

They set up rules to keep things safe and allow using these platforms with care.

This helps teachers guide students safely and has even influenced how they teach, encouraging them to try new tools. These efforts and the availability to gain visibility into what students are doing in the classroom through Linewize Connect has culminated in an effective model, where teachers balance content delivery with safety monitoring.

A personalised approach to early intervention

St. Roch's School adopts a proactive stance, intervening early to address issues before they escalate. For example, they take focused measures like placing certain students in targeted groups with specific restrictions or using Linewize Classwize to block sites, especially for students struggling with excessive screen time or gaming.

The school values individual differences. Student backgrounds vary, affecting their online exposure. What's harmless for one could be harmful for another. St. Roch's emphasises vigilance and flexibility, ensuring tailored adjustments for student safety, and preventing overexposure or under-informed use.

Achieving a higher standard of digital impact

St. Roch's Parish Primary School's journey toward digital safety and wellbeing demonstrates its commitment to nurturing responsible digital behaviour. Linewize's addressed filtering, classroom management, and parent engagement all in one solution. This gave the school a deeper understanding and visibility to have more informed conversations, targeted guidance and empowered parents. This partnership embodies their dedication to holistic digital wellbeing and responsible engagement in the digital age.

It's all about partnership

St. Roch's values the ongoing support provided by the Linewize Customer Success team. They appreciate the prompt and comprehensive assistance they receive along with a supportive relationship with accessibility, responsiveness, and personalised engagement. The school commends the flexibility and adaptability emphasised by the support team. The freedom to experiment, coupled with readily available guidance, enables schools to tailor solutions to their unique needs.

"That's always the response. Give it a go. I love that it can be personal for our school and our experience. You are never going to know as a school if (a solution) is the right fit for you. You just have to try. And if it doesn't work, then someone's always on the other end to help you find a way that it could work." - Cassie Jensen

Reflecting on their own journey, the school encourages other schools to embrace proactive digital safeguarding measures. They stress the value of trial and error, underlining the availability of expert assistance to recalibrate strategies.

Contact us

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About Linewize

Linewize create school communities that free our kids to get the best out of the digital world, while protecting them from harm. We empower school communities with the tools, expertise and support they need to ensure students are safe and prepared for their digital futures.

