

Increasing Canvas LMS Adoption and Building Staff Resilience



Cidi Labs Customer Since:
2020

Website:
www.kings.edu.au

Industry:
K12

Institution Demographics:
Independent Secondary School
2,000+ students



Background

The Kings School, the oldest in Sydney with a heritage running over 190 years, consists of three campuses: The Senior School and The Preparatory School, located in North Parramatta, Syney and Tudor House, Bowral in the Southern Highlands, Sydney.

The School's three pillars of Character Development, Academic Excellence, and Christian Community are the foundation for the development of young men who exemplify humility, compassion, and gratitude.

The secret ingredient to their LMS launch

The King's School took the approach of implementing DesignPLUS in tandem with their launch of Canvas to ensure the success and adoption of their new LMS platform. DesignPLUS was seen as the perfect supportive technology to help teachers, staff and course designers succeed in implementing Canvas due to its complementary and feature-rich toolset that makes it easy to build engaging and modern online resources.

The School simultaneously rolled out DesignPLUS to the Senior School, Preparatory School and Tudor House in 2020 resulting in their teachers being able to quickly develop and deploy pages that contained layered, interactive content that supported creative teaching practices for better student engagement and smoother cognitive apprenticeship.

Familiarity breeds success

Prior to the selection of Canvas and DesignPLUS, the school's previous LMS system had led to an inconsistent course design approach. The same courses incorporated varied digital resources, resulting in content that varied in quality and ultimately a confusing student experience.

Fast forward to today and The King's School now offers a unified, structured and supported approach which has led to a more consistent student experience, a high level of engagement, and improved quality of learning content. This was greatly enhanced through the use of DesignPLUS templates and themes.

Using DesignPLUS templates and the Multi-tool the King's School has noticed improving student interaction with logically structured course content. Through the development of consistent interactive pages students can quickly locate and engage with relevant learning material, which minimise the impact on their cognitive load.



"DesignPLUS has been part of my Canvas journey for the past 11 years. I have implemented 3 Canvas instances in this time and Design Tools has always been an integral part of learning design for LMS success. I would not implement Canvas without DesignPLUS."

Mr Roshan De Silva,
Dean of Digital Learning and Innovation

"It's important to say that everything we've thrown at DesignPLUS it has been able to achieve. Our teachers have found personal and professional satisfaction in what they can design using DesignPLUS and the ownership over the courses that the tool facilitates."

Timothy Ross
Head of Department - Digital Learning

A positive and supported change

Managing change is always a challenge in institutions. The King's School invested in the time to build the teacher skills, helping them develop courses, and discover how they want to actually use it and what they want the students to see. Cidi Labs was able to support this with resources and local personalised training programs to bring the staff along for the journey.



DesignPLUS has been instrumental in improved adoption by their teachers who were reluctant to use the LMS due to a previous negative experience with technology adoption at the school.

With DesignPLUS, the ease of Page design has increased King's staff resilience to change with many willing to experiment on the development of blended courses.

Deploying Canvas and DesignPLUS

DesignPLUS has become one of the most important tools used by the teaching staff at King's because it has ultimately saved time, increased course quality and made the process of designing engaging courseware easier.

Today, all pages within Canvas at the King's School now use a DesignTools template to ensure that every page that faces the student is engaging, standardised and effective in communicating its content.