

STUDENTS GAIN THE ADVANTAGE WITH EPSON PROJECTOR TECHNOLOGY IN THEIR CLASSROOM

Located in southern Queensland, 127km west of Brisbane, is Toowoomba's Newtown State School.

Led by Principal Ben Kidd, the school has 350 students, 14 classroom teachers and delivers classes from Preparatory through to Year 7.

In December 2011, Newtown State School purchased and installed Epson ultra short throw interactive projectors for use across the campus to accommodate the new curriculum from Queensland Education.

Newtown State School chose Epson ultra short throw projectors as they have features specially designed for the education environment, such as a set up that allows it to operate only from a secure remote control or wall panel so the settings can't be easily changed when the teacher is away from the room.

Another great feature of these projectors is that they can either be wall-mounted for normal classroom use, or used with an optional table mount to create an interactive table top workspace for collaborative activities by a smaller group of students.

Nine months down the track, the students love the interactive classes, teachers are less stressed and worried about resources and the focus is on delivering teaching outcomes that benefit each student and their abilities.

The Queensland Education curriculum gives priority to English, Mathematics and Science with a focus on providing children with learning experiences that engage young minds, promote positive dispositions to lifelong learning and ensure a continuity of learning experiences through their early years of schooling. The use of the internet is integral to this and Newtown State School has established its reputation in the community as a school delivering first rate education outcomes that utilise the latest technology.

Bruce Bealby, Epson's Business Unit Manager, Visual Imaging said, "Every School Principal is looking to extract the best value from their annual equipment budget and to source the latest equipment that benefits their teaching staff and student body."

"We deal with schools all over Australia and it is a constant challenge for them. Newtown has led the way in the Toowoomba region to fully integrate interactive projectors into their teaching and they've had substantial interest from other schools in the area. Other schools have come to see what they are doing, how they are integrating the interactive projectors and the benefits gained by students."

"We have consistently received positive feedback from the schools where Epson interactive projectors are installed and that they are a winning combination for the school when it comes to balancing their annual allocation," said Bruce.

"By far, one of the biggest challenges for schools in the modern era is to integrate the technology to each classroom and ensure the teaching staff can make the best use of it. We work closely with our channel partners who then work closely with schools to minimise teaching downtime. Epson Australia reseller Datacom worked through the Christmas 2011 holiday break with Newtown State School so there was no downtime for students and teachers, and every classroom was equipped and ready to go for the start of the 2012 teaching year.

Epson is the leading interactive projector brand worldwide and largest selling projector brand globally and in Australia. Many teachers trust Epson to make it easy to bring interactivity to the classroom. Epson's market dominance puts it at the forefront of innovation offering exciting new technologies without breaking the budget.

Epson's interactive projector range delivers students and their teachers a more dynamic learning experience that fosters an atmosphere of spontaneity in the classroom in real time so the best learning outcomes are achieved.

"There is no doubt the classroom is radically different to how most of us remember it from when we were at school. It's often the case that when parents and grandparents go to visit a school and see how their children and grandchildren are learning these days they are startled to see how much more advanced teaching has become," said Bruce.

Projecting interactive content that can be shared by everyone makes the class more open and facilitates each student to build those vital life skills of conversation, interaction and teamwork. Quite simply, this makes the children more excited about learning and more comfortable and at ease with gaining the skill to express themselves in a responsible way.

For more information about the range of interactive projectors available from Epson Australia or to find a reseller in your state, you can telephone Epson Australia on 1300-361-054 or visit at www.epson.com.au

