

Case Study



One by Wacom transforms digital writing and extends Chromebook use at Witton Park

More than two thirds of learners look to Wacom for ease of use when digitising (traditional) handwriting centric learning activities such as Maths and Science

wacom®





AT A GLANCE

SECTOR

Education

ORGANIZATION NAME AND LOCATION

Witton Park Academy

WORKFLOW

Adding a stylus input to Chromebooks

CHALLENGES

Students at Witton Park have Chromebooks without a touchscreen or stylus. This limits the use of tools in some lessons, in particular those which may benefit from alternative input methods, such as STEAM subjects.

SOLUTION

A class set of One by Wacom tablets, used in lessons in combination with the students' Chromebooks

OUTCOMES

- Low cost - affordable tools for whole class use
- Certified as Works with Chromebook
- Single USB connection - easy to plug and go
- More precise, smooth input method than touchscreen
- Enhances student-centered digital learning in maths and science lessons

ABOUT

Across the globe learning is still handwriting centric, especially in Mathematics and Science. This can make the shift to digital tasks challenging. Many schools are seeking effective apps and hardware to ensure a smoother transition for digital learning.

Staff at Witton Park asked: "How might we streamline digital workflows and improve students' digital task completion?"

Witton Park students all have Chromebooks but they are not touchscreen. They were super excited to work with a One by Wacom graphics tablet and pen, as they have historically struggled with writing with a mouse. The quality of the One by Wacom pen improves digital handwriting legibility and the tablet assists students with digital input. Affordable solutions like the One by Wacom that extend the functionality of existing hardware is advantageous from both a learning and budget management perspective.

Witton Park Academy is a secondary school in Blackburn with approximately 1240 students. They are part of the Achievement Through Collaboration Multi-Academy Trust. They are using Google Chromebooks 1:1 and Google Workspace for Education. Witton Park Academy is a Google for Education Reference School with more than 75% of teaching staff certified as Google Certified Educators (at least Level 1). Google Reference Schools are recognized by Google for their outstanding use of technology to drive positive learning outcomes.





“I think it will really help in maths and science because annotating our work on our Chromebooks can be hard; with the tablet we can write and annotate as well.”

Student, Witton Park Academy

CHALLENGE

Pupils are currently using non-touchscreen Chromebooks without any stylus. Teachers are searching for ways to improve student engagement and activity during lessons, particularly those in mathematics and science.

Additional hardware and software needed to be:

- Affordable
- Easy to store and distribute
- Quick for students to learn
- Improve student-centered learning

SOLUTION

A bank of One by Wacom graphics tablets and pens were distributed to learners in STEAM subjects

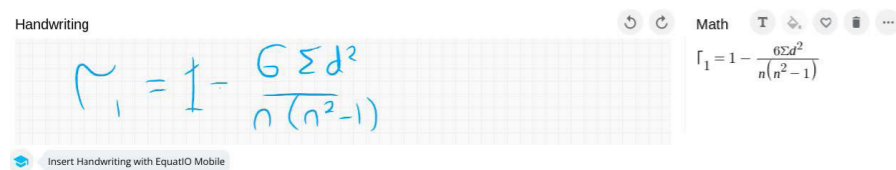
Witton Park piloted the use of a class set of One by Wacom tablets with their students. One by Wacom works with Chromebooks, allowing students to write, annotate, create and collaborate using a stylus. Students simply connect a single USB cable to their Chromebook and the tablet is ready-to-go.

The pilot devices were used in several classrooms to support a range of year groups. Of the students who used the tablets, 83% found One by Wacom made it easier to complete their work in that lesson.

Efficient collaboration with ease

In their first lesson using the tablet, students were given some free time to explore its use. They were then asked to complete equations using Google Jamboard, sharing their completed equations in Google Classroom. Jamboard is a digital interactive whiteboard that allows students to collaborate and annotate images, add text and hand write equations and more.

The pupils were also introduced to the Chrome Extension Equatio, which allows you to digitally create equations, formulas and more. With the handwriting recognition, you can hand write math expressions and add them to Google Docs, Forms and Jamboard. During the lesson, students were encouraged to create equations in Equatio and then send them to each other, providing extension activities for each other to complete.



Equations are handwritten on the tablet using the One by Wacom and Equatio.



As drawn by a student, using One by Wacom and Google Canvas.

“I really enjoyed the accuracy of the tablet; it enabled me to easily plan using Equatio on Google Slides.”

Ms. Francesca Bury, Teacher, Witton Park Academy



Students hard at work visualising monoclonal antibodies in Science.

Greater legibility for annotations

In Science, the students worked with the One by Wacom to annotate exam questions, study graphs, produce visual representations of concepts, and practice equations.

It was inspiring to see students annotate a graph as they would on paper. Using a One by Wacom to digitally complete the task provided greater legibility than previous attempts with a mouse. The direct digital input saved student's time. Previously students would have to photograph handwritten activities and submit photographs on Google Classroom. The One by Wacom virtually eliminated printing and documenting worksheets as classwork was completed digitally.

The devices were easy to distribute and store, ensuring minimum learning disruption and maximum focus on teaching and learning.

Accuracy at a low cost

Once students were assigned work via Google Classroom, the teacher was able to view their ongoing work in real-time as they attempted the tasks set using Google Docs and One by Wacom. This allowed the teacher to correct any errors the class was making, using verbal instructions.

Overall, some major benefits of the One by Wacom tablet are:

- Low cost - affordable tools for whole class use
- Certified as Works with Chromebook
- Single USB connection - easy to plug and go
- More precise, smooth digital input method than touchscreen
- Enhances student-centered digital learning in Maths and Science lessons

Both students and teachers saw the potential in the use of One by Wacom offers for multiple subjects and year level. As such Witton Park seeks to integrate digital input with One by Wacom further across multiple subjects at Witton Park.



Useful Apps for STEAM Learning:

- Google Jamboard is a collaborative whiteboard
- Google Canvas is a digital drawing board
- Explain Everything is an interactive whiteboard with recording functions
- Kami turns any document into a canvas for digital input and collaboration
- Google Cursive makes digital note taking easier with cloud storage

Global reach. Local impact.



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