



## Background

William Ellis was a public-spirited businessman who, in the mid-nineteenth century, founded a number of schools and inspired many teachers with his ideas on education. [William Ellis School](#) in the London borough of Camden is the only one of his schools that still exists.

Much ingenuity has gone into extending and converting the building to provide the additional classrooms and specialist accommodation required to support the modern curriculum and explosion in the use of Information Technology. In 1997 the School gained Language College status under the Specialist School Scheme.

## The Challenge

Colin Hamilton, Head of ICT, explains why his department felt the introduction of a classroom management tool would enhance lessons from both the teacher and student perspective:

“As computer based teaching spread across the curriculum it became clear that some sort of PC management solution was required. Teachers need to be able to focus their time and attention on the students, ensuring the technology is being used productively so there was an obvious requirement to be able to monitor activity across the ICT labs. However, the more we looked into available options the more our eyes were opened to other possibilities. This is where NetSupport School had the advantage over other similar products.”

## NetSupport Solution

“The internet is a wonderful resource and opens up all sorts of ‘learning’ possibilities for the students! NetSupport School provides us with a powerful range of monitoring tools that help us reign in the students’ enthusiasm if needed. It is very easy to introduce restrictions if we feel students are losing focus but rather than seeing the software as being overly restrictive, they now appreciate why we need to have an element of control over what they do. At the click of a button teacher’s can also open a relevant website on each desktop.”

For more details and to download free 30 day software trials go to

[www.netsupportsoftware.com](http://www.netsupportsoftware.com)

The recent addition of the 'student information bar' has helped overcome any negativity towards NetSupport School. This is a slim toolbar that sits on each student desktop and shows them the current status of any restrictions that are in play. It also lets teachers display the objectives for the lesson.

Multimedia plays a big part in many lessons and NetSupport School is a big help in allowing us to monitor sound. Audio Monitoring is a new feature in version 10.5 and with William Ellis being a specialist Language College this fits in really well with our multimedia language labs. It is an excellent tool for student and teacher to interact during a lesson. No specialist equipment is required, just a headset and microphone, and as with all features in the product it is provided as standard.

Speed at start-up is great. The teacher machine can power on and find all the computers in the classroom and work files can be distributed out to each machine and then collected back in later. Teachers can pre-prepare a lesson plan and to confirm topic understanding they can even distribute a custom designed test which NetSupport School automatically marks.

NetSupport School has been an excellent addition to our ICT infrastructure, it keeps the students focused and saves teachers a lot of potential headaches!"

[www.williamellis.camden.sch.uk](http://www.williamellis.camden.sch.uk)

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