

Students, Teachers Get Strong Authentication for Google Apps

At St. Michael's RC School in the UK, Google Apps is integrated into the teaching and learning experience, and students and staff use myOneLogin for secure access to Google Apps. Students collaborate and exchange work with teachers, teachers guide student progress, and staff shares confidential information to support teaching. Using myOneLogin, the school feels confident it is protecting access to confidential student information.

Challenges:

- School-wide use of Google Apps
- Protecting access to confidential information

Solution:

myOneLogin Secure Single Sign-On

Benefits:

- Easy deployment
- Secure logins
- Tight integration with Google Apps

Google Apps gets high marks at St. Michaels

As a school that specializes in science and applied learning, St. Michael's RC in Stockton-on-Tees in Northern England is always looking for ways to apply emerging technologies to support the educational experience. With more than 800 students, aged 11-16, St. Michael's has been exploring and expanding its use of Google Apps in education for more than a year.

According to Damien Kelly, Head of E-Learning for St. Michael's, the students are enthusiastic adopters of the technology. Students use Google Apps to collaborate with other students and exchange work with their teachers, without printing, uploading and sending documents back and forth. Teachers can easily provide feedback and guide student work in progress, as it happens rather than days afterwards. And, Google Apps completely eliminates the "I left the project at home" excuse.

While student work has driven adoption, the benefits extend to teachers and staff at the school as well. Student work is always available to the teachers, no matter where they are, and Google Apps makes it easy for teachers and staff to collaborate and exchange information about specific students and their needs.

Securing access to confidential information

As St. Michaels' extended Google Apps to handle secure file sharing of confidential information about students, Damien looked for ways to strengthen the security around access to Google Apps. Says Damien, "I feel confident that the data stored in Google Apps is secure, as Google adheres to the EU's Safe Harbour framework. But I worried about access to that data being protected only by a single username and password. *Access security* was my concern."



St. Michaels needed a solution that works well with Google Apps and would be easy to deploy to 11-year-old students as well as teachers and staff.

Choosing myOneLogin Secure Single Sign-on

Damien found myOneLogin on the Google Solution Marketplace and realized it would meet the school's needs. Says Damien, "myOneLogin was easy to integrate with Google Apps and required no special configuration. It blew away the competition."

"myOneLogin was easy to integrate with Google Apps and required no special configuration. It blew away the competition."

myOneLogin Secure Single Sign-on adds flexible multi-factor authentication to the Google Apps login. St. Michael's take advantage of the tight, SAML-based integration between myOneLogin and Google Apps to ensure that all Google Apps access goes through myOneLogin.

St. Michael's ran a trial of myOneLogin with a group of staff and students, and found that it met their needs. Says Damien, "We loved the fact that the myOneLogin account was automatically created and bound to the Google Apps account the first time you used it. And the students were able to use it easily." The school soon standardized on myOneLogin for all of its Google Apps accounts.

Multiple authentication methods

With both students and staff using myOneLogin to access Google Apps, St. Michael's takes advantage of the different levels of strong authentication available within the solution.

Students, who frequently use different computers, provide a second factor by answering multiple, personalized security questions. For staff, access may use a second factor stored on a physical computer or a one-time password on the mobile phone associated with the account. St. Michael's is using VeriSign VIP Access for Mobile software, which is tightly integrated with myOneLogin, to create one-time passwords for myOneLogin access on smart phones.

Says Damien "I use VeriSign VIP Access for Mobile, and when I log in, I intentionally let the students see the number I type in, because I tell them it will be different the next time I generate the code."

" I know our information is secure within Google Apps. Using myOneLogin, I am confident that access is secure as well."

Using myOneLogin with Google Apps addresses the school's concerns about protecting access to confidential student information. Says Damien, "I know our information is secure within Google Apps. Using myOneLogin, I am confident that access is secure as well."



750 University Avenue, Suite 260
Los Gatos, CA 95032
Phone: +1.650.372.1300
Email: sales@tricipher.com
Sales Phone: +1.650.376.8326