

Case Study



Enhancing Digital Lessons on Chromebooks with One by Wacom

86% of primary students say Wacom tablets made lesson easier

wacom®





AT A GLANCE

TYPE OF SCHOOL

primary school - ages 5-11

WORKFLOW

Adding a stylus input device so Chromebook screen stays unobstructed

CHALLENGES

How might we enhance pupils' digital input during lessons?

- make students' digital contributions legible?
- equalize the playing field, allowing digital access for all students, regardless of device?

SOLUTION

A class set of One by Wacom tablets, used in lessons in connection with the students' Chromebooks, to bring various hardware setups to the same high standard

OUTCOMES

- Low cost - affordable tools for whole class use
- Compatible with Google Chromebooks
- Simple setup - single USB connection - easy to plug & go
- More precise input method than touchscreen
- Pen functionality across many handwriting apps
- Enhance student-centred digital learning in lessons
- Keep screens clean and allows hand-eye coordination practice



ABOUT

A digital primary school

LEO Academy Trust consists of six schools across the London Borough of Sutton with 4,000 pupils and more than 400 staff members. They are 1:1 using Google Chromebooks and Google Workspace for Education across the trust. LEO Academy Trust is a Google for Education Reference School and a Department for Education Demonstrator School for their use of technology.

The LEO Academy Trust uses technology that benefits all stakeholders – students, teachers, parents and schools – exemplifying a well-rounded, 21st-Century education. They've provided each student with their own Chromebook and access to the best digital software out there.

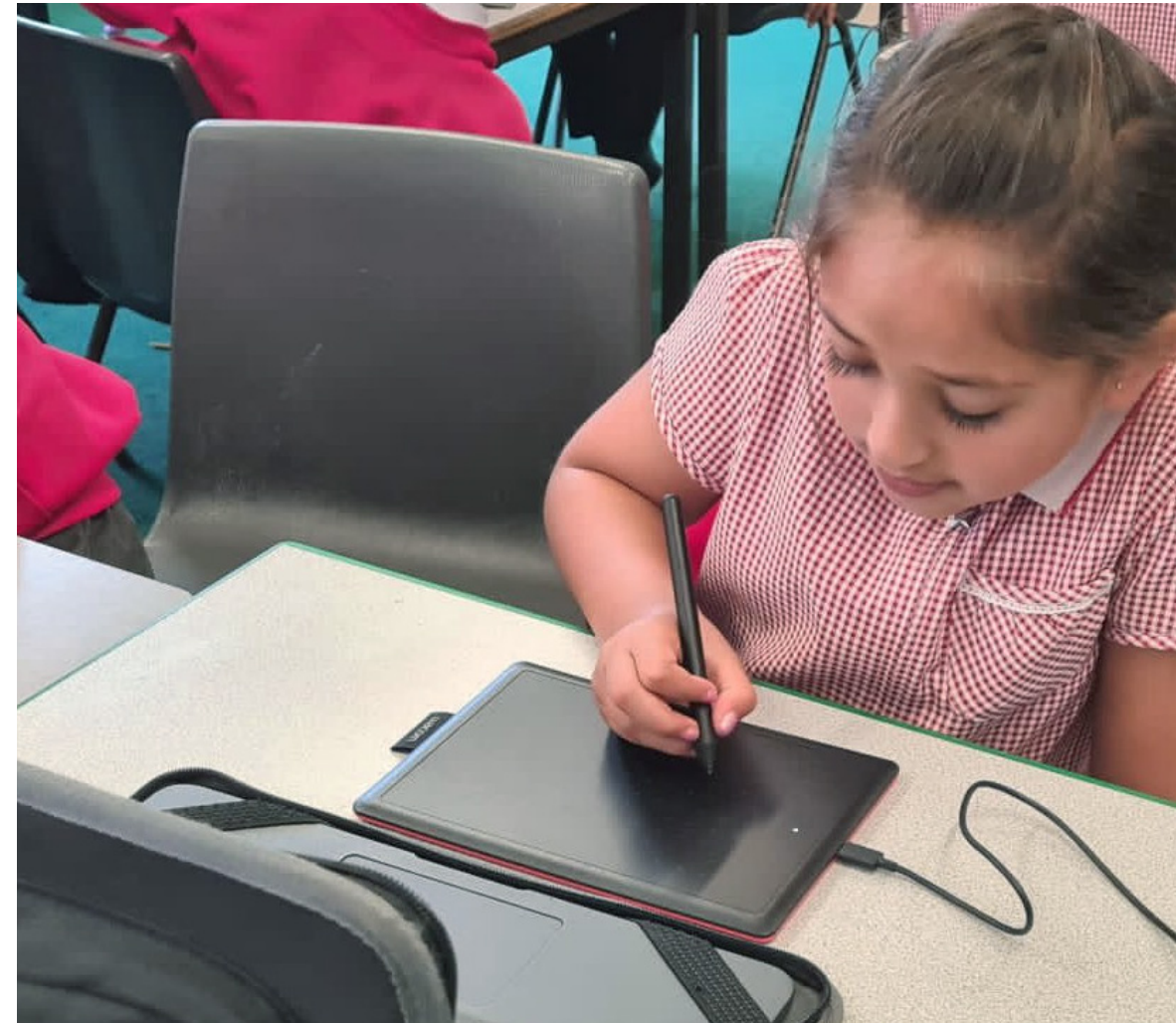
While touchscreen devices are amazing resources to have (and some schools don't have them at all), much teaching and learning relies on written input, which is a missing feature on many digital devices. For young learners who are not yet able to type fluidly, handwriting is a must. LEO's teachers identified a need for better legibility, especially in mathematics. The trust was faced with the question: How might we bridge this gap of continuing to enhance and support digital learning while also allowing for multiple modalities and needs in various subjects?

CHALLENGE

Enhance pupils' digital input during lessons

Students at LEO Academy Trust are digitally savvy but have various inputs and preferences with their Chromebook devices. Even those with touchscreens do not offer consistent digital input of text, numbers and artistic drawings. The trust was in search of a tool that could provide digital equity and improve lessons in a more efficient and effective way.

The schools integrate a high level of technology in their lessons, including a range of tools such as Google Jamboard, Nearpod and Google Classroom. While many of these digital tools have opportunities for digital input and interactivity, the students' scribbles of a solution in mathematics or a story's mind map are not always legible and thus not communicated meaningfully to their peers and teachers.





SOLUTION

A whole new world of collaboration

The trust piloted the use of a class set of One by Wacom tablets with their students. The One by Wacom has better accuracy than a touchscreen tablet and stylus used on the main screen, as it separates the pen from the on-screen visuals. Wacom tablets work with Chromebooks, allowing students to write, annotate, create and collaborate using a stylus. Each learner simply connects a single USB cable to a Chromebook and the tablet is ready-to-go.

Useful apps that enable handwriting:

- Jamboard
- Squid
- Equatio
- Whiteboard
- Notes
- Google Canvas
- Texthelp's OrbitDoc



Learn more

“Even with students who have touchscreen tablets, the presentation was better using the Wacom. They had more control and precision than a stylus on the screen.”

Ms. Julaan Govier, Teacher, LEO Academy Trust



OUTCOME

More equality, higher accuracy, easier learning

The tablets were used across a range of subjects and year groups, from ages 5 to 11. Of 140 students who took part in the pilot, 96 (69%) found One by Wacom made it easier to complete their work in that lesson. It was most effective in mathematics lessons (see figure), an area where teachers and students had previously struggled to deliver student-centred learning content using digital tools. Now teachers could clearly read their students' sums and figures as they worked on solutions and reported them digitally.

In maths, a class used One by Wacom with Chromebooks when asking students to model their answers on Google Jamboard. Each student worked on their own tablet, connected to their Chromebook, to interact with the Jamboard shared via Google Classroom. They could also clearly understand their peers' ideas as they collaborated online, thanks to the accuracy of the Wacom devices. Students loved the 'drag object' feature of the pen, which dually allowed them to practice hand-eye coordination.

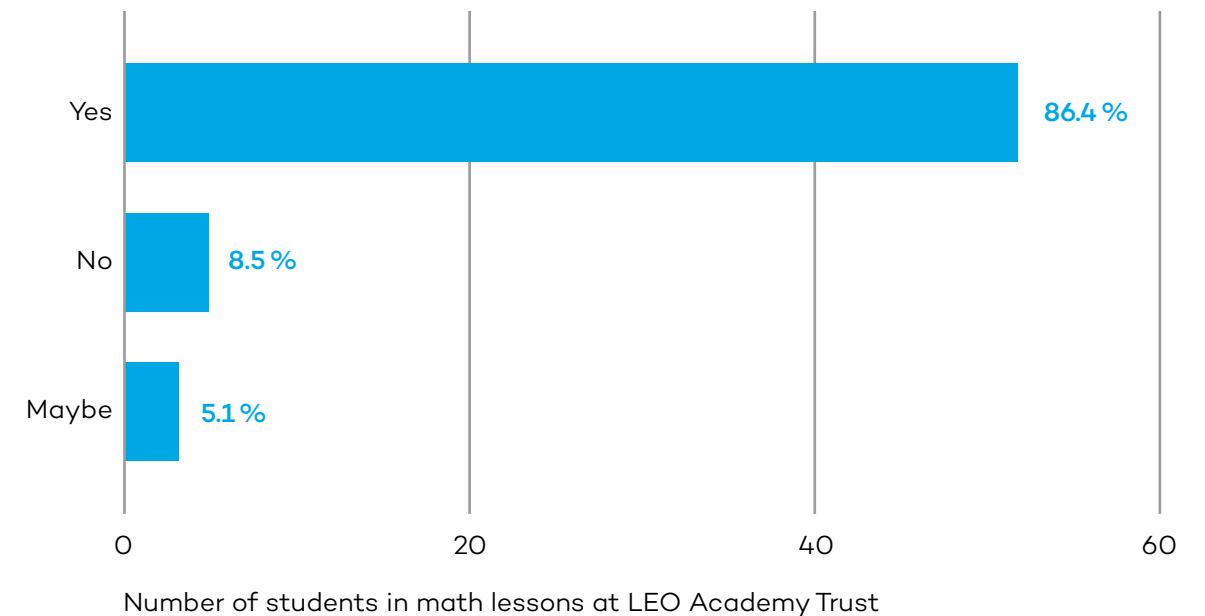
The tablets were also used to support English. Students used Squid and Google Canvas to create drawings, then imported these as images into Google Docs to support their writing as illustrations.

Wacom allows for cost-effective new opportunities for digital input in arts classes. During an art lesson where older students were given the opportunity to sketch, a student commented, "One by Wacom helps me practice control; my artwork is a lot easier with this product and my handwriting looks better."

Students and teachers at LEO Academy Trust are excited to integrate the One by Wacom tablets as a part of their standard tech stack across subjects, thus enhancing and extending the use of digital tools in all classrooms.



One by Wacom made it easier to complete my lesson



“It makes it easier for people who don’t like using a stylus on Chromebook (as it can sometimes be annoying) – using this allows you to feel like you’re writing in a book, while still being able to have the capabilities of Chromebooks.”

Student during a mathematics lesson

Global reach. Local impact.



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