Projects, consultancy and training

Services Guide 2016 / 2017
Formed in 1992, Gaia Technologies has become one of the leading providers of ICT solutions to UK schools. From our headquarters in Bangor and with operational bases in Birmingham, Manchester, Cardiff and London, we currently look after more than 500 education customers.

Through a well earned reputation for innovation, commitment to customer care and an unrivalled track record for on-time and on-budget delivery of projects, Gaia has established itself as a trusted partner for schools.

Gaia’s Managed Services offers your school a valuable resource in managing and maintaining IT assets.

Providing bespoke solutions, developed to meet your exact IT requirements, we work to gain a deep understanding of your unique educational needs and goals. This approach does not revolve around just selling you the customer a product to meet your immediate needs, but aims to support you and the school’s development over a period of time. We work with you to address your wider IT vision and to ensure that all your support and maintenance needs are met.

Gaia’s Managed Service support ensures that highly qualified and experienced IT personnel are continually and actively engaged in undertaking maintenance and precautionary activity for your school, both on site and remotely. We can provide complete reassurance that your systems and machines are always modern, fully maintained and work-ready.
Our Philosophy

We work at the interface of pedagogy and technology to help you transform learning and teaching. We achieve this through sustained programmes of project-based professional learning.

Our approach always starts with teaching and learning. We give you access to reliable and intuitive technology which allows you to deliver exciting and relevant lessons.

We support the use of technology and deliver programs which are proven to raise standards and enable progress, whilst preparing pupils for life and work in a digital world.

Our mission is to help pupils learn more effectively:

- Through access to experts
- As critical users of digital information
- By working together and learning collaboratively
- By creating and being creative with digital media
- Through enquiry, research and exploration
- By practising and applying in interesting contexts
- By receiving feedback through purposeful assessment
- In, around and beyond school.
Meet the Team

Our large team of associate trainers and consultants cover the whole of the UK, incorporating every aspect and subject of educational technology. The team is headed up by our key personnel:

**Bernard Dady**

Bernard is Head of Education Transformation and has been a secondary teacher, adviser, inspector, education action zone director and local authority strategic manager.

Bernard’s key areas of expertise include learning & teaching, curriculum development, learning space design and the application of ICT.

**Joe Basketts**

Joe holds the role of Senior Educational Technologist and was previously a primary teacher, ICT subject leader, local authority adviser and business leader.

Joe’s main areas of interest include effective pedagogy, curriculum development and leadership, including e-safety, ICT mark and self review framework. Joe has specialist expertise in digital media and music technology.

**Jon Rashid (Head of Studio Services)**

Many of Gaia's projects in academies, schools and colleges are supported by the programmers and artists in Gaia's Studio Services Team, which is led by Jon.

Jon is a programmer, CAD specialist, architectural technician and CGI artist. His previous work includes the game, *Sonic the Hedgehog* and the animated television series, *Danger Mouse*. 

Website: [http://gaia-tech.education](http://gaia-tech.education)
IMPACT Projects

Learning is at its best when it is developed in context, builds on prior experience and most importantly meets real needs. Gaia IMPACT Projects are focused upon improvement through creative teaching and the use of current technologies. Gaia deploys its expertise to work alongside teachers and students and weaves the use of educational ICT into real teaching and learning.

We will work alongside you to identify opportunities across the curriculum where teachers and students can develop their subject learning.

We provide expertise and support from our Studio Services team, thus allowing students to work together with real programmers, digital artists and video technicians.

Our IMPACT Projects will leave you with a final product which can be viewed and distributed through websites or other forms of social media.

See an overview of our IMPACT Projects on the following pages.
Talking Heads

If you could speak to any person from the past or present, what would you ask them?

Our ground-breaking software allows you to bring a topic to life by bringing characters into your school. Your class could interview Henry VIII and his wives, talk to a World War 1 soldier or debate with a character from a text they are studying.

This project develops skills in listening and speaking, deepens pupil understanding of character and improves their knowledge on a historical or topic based subject. It can engage children with specific learning needs by using a character as an intermediary.

Publishing with Digital Media

Your pupils engage with digital media in the form of cartoons, animated films, interactive activities and games on a daily basis, but do they know how these everyday assets are created?

Our team has expertise in computer games, children’s television, engineering visualisation, app development and architecture and this knowledge can make your projects come to life.
IMPACT Projects

App Design and Development

Within the current computing curriculum, there is a heavy emphasis on teaching children computational thinking skills, so imagine having your very own published, downloadable App.

Our App. development team can guide your pupils through the basics of design, from the initial concept, through to the production of graphics, coding and finally publishing.

Immersive Visual Learning

Why teach in a classroom when you can teach in a rainforest?

Our virtual field trips transport you and your pupils to places not accessible in real life, whether exploring a street in the Blitz, talking to Anglo-Saxon villagers, or walking through the streets of Rome.

This project utilises the latest in 3D stereoscopics and virtual reality technologies to create a multisensory experience that will deepen learning.

Geography, literacy, history and many other topics can all benefit from these immersive environments, with improved retention, behaviour, motivation and attendance being some of the likely outcomes.
GreenScreen Video Production

Filmmaking is an effective way of supporting and enhancing the learning experience. Skills such as storyboarding, scripting and planning are wrapped up in collaboration, communication and problem solving.

Modern films are often shot in a studio, with backgrounds and effects added afterwards. This process is called green screening and is easy to replicate within a classroom using equipment that is already available in your school. Our team will work with you in a supporting role, from planning through to the completed video.

Digital Product Design

Give your pupils the opportunity to experience first-hand what it means to design and build something. During this type of project our industry experts will work with you and your pupils to identify, design, build and evaluate a product.

Along the way, your pupils will develop skills in teamwork, problem solving and communication.

Projects can be tailored to focus on areas such as math, literacy, design technology, art and many other areas of the curriculum. We can also deliver content to compliment Advanced Engineering from KS1 to KS4, incorporating 3D printing where appropriate.
Consultancy and Training

Our extensive team of educationalists support schools, colleges and other institutions in harnessing the full potential of learning technology.

Experts in Educational Technology

We work closely with teachers to help them improve teaching and learning with technology. We also help leaders to ensure effective implementation with a range of planning services, audits and visioning support so they can be confident in meeting the dual challenges of rapidly evolving technology and shifts in educational policy.

Education First

The Gaia CPD team are from an educational background. We understand the potential of educational technology and know first-hand how it works in the classroom.

Because we know that schools need to see evidence of why technology enhances learning, we ensure all of our services and training have a significant and measurable impact.

Change Need Not Be Challenging

One of the main obstacles for successfully embedding ICT in schools is time:

- Time to introduce it.
- Time to learn how to use it.
- Time to experiment with it
- Time to consolidate it.

Technology is evolving at such a fast pace that it necessitates immediate support, which is why we provide this assistance before, during and after an investment.
What Next?

Whether you are looking to develop a CPD programme, access consultancy or book a training event, we can help.

We can help you build a CPD programme.

If you wish to discuss a Gaia CPD programme we will provide a FREE, no obligation consultancy visit from one of our team to help you choose a provision that is tailored to your needs and budget.

How to get started

Just contact us and we’ll work with you to do the rest.

Tel: 0845 867 4792
Fax: 0845 867 5276
Email: cpd@gaia-tech.com
Address:
Gaia Technologies Plc
Woodlands House,
Parc Menai,
Bangor,
Gwynedd,
LL57 4FA (UK)

Contact us now for a FREE, no obligation consultancy!
Many primary schools are still facing the challenge of implementing the computing curriculum into their planning. We help you understand how to make the move from ICT to Computing and help you to explore how this curriculum can be taught from Reception to Year 6. Our support gives you the confidence to deliver this curriculum and to recognise the benefits it will bring to your pupils.

**We can provide:**

- The Gaia Primary Computing Framework from Reception to Year 6
- Training and advice on the key features of the computing curriculum, including how the iPad can be used to support programming lessons
- One to one support with staff to help implement the curriculum into their long term plans
The Gaia Primary Computing Framework has been produced by an experienced primary teacher and adviser to help schools plan the delivery of a broad, comprehensive computing curriculum.

The Framework provides comprehensive planning for all year groups from Reception to Year 6 providing a structured, progressive teaching guide. Aimed specifically at teachers with no specialist computing knowledge the framework is easily customisable to fit with your existing planning and written in clear, non-technical language. Planning grids, assessment sheets and supplementary information are included, along with ready made lesson presentations in PowerPoint, Word, SMART Notebook and Promethean formats.

The framework is based on commonly available resources meaning you don't have to invest in additional subscriptions or software.
Online safety is a growing concern in many schools and is now a key element of the Computing Curriculum. This is a hugely diverse area and one that is continually changing and growing.

Schools will have different requirements, but all schools need to be aware of the issues and trends that are affecting the school community and its learners in particular.

**We can support schools with:**

- Audit of current practice
- Consultancy
- Policy development and advice on issues
- Online safety training for staff, governors, parents and pupils
- Specialised online safety leader training
The rise of tablet computers and mobile devices has had a huge impact on schools, with many choosing to adopt tablets or ‘Bring Your Own Device’ schemes. The instant-on benefits, the swift access to internet services and the massive array of creative apps available, offer enormous potential for learning, but also present unique challenges for teachers.

**We help schools with:**

- **Planning:** Plan properly to maximise the effectiveness of devices
- **Training:** Support and train teachers and leaders in best practice
- **Support:** Overcome technical hurdles and advise on infrastructure
The Cloud will always remain a collection of tools, offering different platforms and subscription services. These will evolve over time, thus the management, user provisioning and authentication of many systems is critical. By linking these elements together Gaia can help you develop a flexible and future-proof virtual workspace.

Gaia One is a solution that integrates a number of tools to help schools benefit from and prepares for migration to Cloud services.

The Gaia One core solution includes:

- Synchronisation of users between your MIS and the Active Directory
- Set up of a Cloud communication & collaboration platform (Office 365) including shared libraries in Sites (SharePoint). Alternatively, we can facilitate the same using Google Apps for Education.
- Provision of a web-based user interface (Airhead Education) that facilitates connection directly to shared storage and a variety of Cloud based services for education
- Single sign on to multiple on-line services
- A catalogue of free on-line services
Google Apps for Education

The sheer variety and breadth of Google’s offer is huge and its potential for education is equally exciting, placing powerful cloud based tools into the hands of teachers and pupils at minimal cost.

We can help you get up and running quickly with essential features, ideas and activities designed for education, by showing you how to:

- Use sharing and commenting to revolutionise assessment and feedback
- Encourage independent and collaborative learning
- Create a virtual workspace to transform your learning environment

Microsoft Office 365

Most teachers and students use Microsoft Office in some form so moving to Office 365 is a natural way to keep consistency and familiarity whilst moving to cloud based services.

We can help you:

- Get to grips with using Office 365
- Use the power of the cloud to share and collaborate on documents
- Create a virtual workspace to transform learning
Effective use of interactive displays such as whiteboards, screens and projectors is the key to making a positive impact on teaching and learning, while ultimately raising standards. Too many interactive displays are used as little more than glorified projection screens, which fail to motivate pupils or create inspiring learning environments.

**We offer workshops for all brands and models of interactive display and manufacturer endorsed training on:**

- Interactive whiteboards, projectors and displays
- Learner response and voting systems
Gaia has partnerships with all of the leading suppliers of software and services to the education sector which means we don’t just provide you with a service, we work with you to help you use it. We can tailor the training and CPD available, incorporating single training sessions, extended professional development programmes and action research. We provide:

- **Product training sessions**
- **Skype support**
- **Online learning**
- **Awareness sessions**
School Projects

Star Academy, Sandyford

Admirals Academy, Thetford

Denbigh High School

Birmingham Ormiston Academy

Ysgol Y Gogarth, Llandudno

St. Ambrose College, Altrincham

Website: http://gaia-tech.education
Contact Us

Tel: 0845 867 4792
Fax: 0845 867 5276
Email: cpd@gaia-tech.com

Address:
Gaia Technologies Plc
Woodlands House,
Parc Menai,
Bangor,
Gwynedd,
LL57 4FA (UK)