Trinity Grammar School automates remote student roll calls

School streamlines daily attendance register with Nintex Workflow Cloud.

Organization

Trinity Grammar School

Website

www.trinity.nsw.edu.au

Industry

Education

Country

Australia

Business situation

With the suspension of in-person classroom teaching during the COVID-19 shutdown, students were forced to learn from home. The school needed an efficient and effective way to check student attendance at the start of each school day.

Solution

The school used Nintex Workflow Cloud to create a digital form for students to report their participation in online classes each morning.

Benefits

Streamlined remote attendance checking

Integration with learning management platform

30,000+ remote student attendance records in 4 weeks

Ensured continued use of existing SMS-based absence process

Remote learning roll calls

Established in 1913, Trinity Grammar School is an independent boys school for pre-K to year 12. The school has more than 2000 students, a staff of 400, and three campuses in Sydney's inner west.

The school is committed to delivering best-practise learning experiences for students and uses a mix of ICT resources to support classroom and administrative activities. For the past nine years, Trinity has worked with technology partner Synergy to deploy a range of technologies including a Canvas Learning Management System and a Synergetic school management system.

When the COVID-19 pandemic led to widespread lockdowns in early March 2020, Trinity pivoted quickly to its remote learning program. Working from home, students engaged with teachers, undertook online coursework, and interacted with their peers.

"The shift to remote learning happened with very little warning," says Paul Queeney, Head of ICT at Trinity Grammar School. "We had just a couple of days to change from classroom-based activity to having all students learning from their homes."

As part of this transition, the school needed to swiftly and accurately check attendance to ensure students were participating in online activities each day. "Our plan was to continue to follow the school's existing timetable for classes, so we needed a way for students to confirm their participation each morning," says Queeney.

Trinity's ICT team considered a range of options for creating an electronic student attendance register. Existing digital tools used to mark attendance in classrooms were evaluated, however configuring for online use wasn't practical.

Supported by Synergy, a Nintex Premier Partner, the ICT team created an attendance registration form on Nintex Workflow Cloud that connects with the school system's Microsoft SQL database. Following the decision to proceed with Nintex, the new system was fully operational in just two days.

ICT calls on Nintex Workflow Cloud

"The school had to rapidly find an alternative. When we realized how quickly we could build a solution with Nintex, we knew it was the right choice."

— **Paul Queeney**, Head of ICT at Trinity Grammar School

"We were fortunate we already had a long-term working relationship with Synergy," says Queeney. "Synergy already had a strong knowledge of both the school and our technology infrastructure. Once we decided to use Nintex Workflow Cloud, with Synergy's help we were able to respond quickly and get a solution in place fast."

With the new system up and running, students were asked to confirm their attendance at 8:25am each school day. More than 1,600 middle and senior-school students access the form via the school's Canvas learning management platform to register their presence each school day.

"The Nintex form allows us to quickly assess which students are in attendance and whether there have been any unanticipated absences," says Queeney. "If a student fails to log their attendance, an SMS message is sent from the school's student management system to their parents asking for an explanation for the absence."

Nintex Workflow Cloud was an appealing choice for Trinity as it provided the ability to configure single sign-on capabilities. When a student logs into Canvas, they click a link to submit their attendance which opens the Nintex Form. It's lightweight and responsive on whatever device the student is using at home—the entire experience is totally seamless.

It just works

While there has been very little feedback on the form from students or parents, it's a case of "no news is good news."

"If the form had been problematic or hard to use, we would have heard about it in a heartbeat. Thankfully, it hasn't generated any commentary at all which shows it just works and does the job required."

Once the COVID-19 lockdown conditions have passed, Queeney expects to leverage Nintex Workflow Cloud in other ways within the school.

"Nintex has capabilities that we can use to improve processes across the school and we'll continue to work with Synergy to identify and improve. We still don't know if or when future periods of remote learning may be required, so it's good to have the attendance system available if we need it."

About Nintex

Nintex is the global standard for process management and automation. Today more than 10,000 public and private sector organizations across 90 countries turn to the Nintex Platform to accelerate progress on their digital transformation journeys by quickly and easily managing, automating and optimizing business processes. Learn more by visiting **www.nintex.com** and experience how Nintex and its global partner network are shaping the future of Intelligent Process Automation (IPA).

Product or service names mentioned herein may be the trademarks of their respective owners.