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# Education Update



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**\$2.615.00**  
**+ GST**

## 26 bay trolley

### Mobile security

A laptop trolley provides storage, security, mobility and power management for multiple laptops in one mobile cabinet. It is a self-contained unit that allows the computer laboratory to move to any classroom. If the priority is storage rather than mobility, a laptop trolley can be fixed to floor or wall mountings. When looking at purchasing a trolley, schools should consider the following questions:

- What sort of terrain would the trolley be expected to traverse? Select a trolley that is stable and safe.
- Will additional features be used? Some trolleys can have printers and wireless access points added.
- Do the teachers know how to use the trolley? Will training and ongoing support be needed?
- How many laptops are to be housed in the trolley?
- Is the trolley to hold a full class set, or will it supplement desktop computers already in the classroom?
- Will laptops be shared, or will each student use one?

At Moncrieff, we have a range of trolleys available for schools, to suit the school's e-learning plan. The latest trolley in our range is the new and improved ECO revolution, a trolley with an emphasis on added value, build quality, easy functionality and school friendly design. Above all, it also comes with a 10 year manufacturer's warranty,

it's recycled and recyclable, supports carbon neutral and there are no delivery charges involved.

To see a full range of the trolleys on offer (cheaper than RRP), go to our website, [www.moncrieff.com.au/education-online](http://www.moncrieff.com.au/education-online).

### Top sites for students

*(From the Microsoft website)*

If you want to see a blank look on students' faces, ask them about the Dewey Decimal library classification system. For better or for worse, the internet has become the alternative to a library card catalog for browsing and locating resources. But how do you navigate that system, and how can you trust what you read on the web?

This is the main concern of many parents, along with stumbling onto inappropriate material. Just because someone publishes something on their home page, it doesn't make it gospel—many kids don't know this.

Learning how to find the information you need on the internet, and how to evaluate and appropriately use the information you find, can be challenging for both parents and students.

*(please turn over)*

### EDUCATION ONLINE

Moncrieff's website now displays education prices online. Check out the specials at [www.moncrieff.com.au/education-online](http://www.moncrieff.com.au/education-online)

14" Lenovo special!

Lenovo ThinkPad Edge  
\$865 + GST



08 9473 3804 / [kabir.walia@moncrieff.com.au](mailto:kabir.walia@moncrieff.com.au)

### Moncrieff services

deployment, extended warranty, SOE loading, software maintenance.



Ask us for a competitive quote today

The following is a look at some of the most comprehensive educational websites a student can bookmark and use to research school projects and homework assignments.

### **Web literacy and general reference information literacy**

All students - no matter what age - need help navigating and evaluating the ever-growing store of information available on the web. This University of Idaho site is an information literacy primer that will quickly turn any half-hearted or random searcher into a savvy one. It guides students through a series of modules that teach them how to distinguish different kinds of information on the internet, search for and select research topics, search databases and other collections, locate and cite sources and evaluate the sources they find.

### **ipl2**

A merger of the Internet Public Library and the Librarians' Internet Index, this site is a comprehensive source of information you can trust. Thousands of volunteer library and information science professionals created and maintain the site's reference collections—sets of links to websites on U. S. presidents, author biographies, museums, research and writing, literary criticism, and many more topics. The Ask an ipl2 Librarian reference service, available 24/7, provides individualized help finding authoritative, free online sources for specific topics.

### **Refdesk**

Checking facts in internet sources is one of the key ways to evaluate them, and Refdesk.com, which stands for "reference desk" simplifies this essential step. Since 1995, Refdesk.com has served as a one-click springboard to many of the web's top dictionaries, encyclopedias, calculators, atlases, news headlines, and search engines. The site also includes a handy Homework Helper section (under the Help and Advice column on the lower right of the page) that provides help in all subjects to students in every grade.

### **Fact Monster**

For younger students who are not quite ready to navigate Refdesk, Fact Monster from Information Please is the tool to use. The Reference Desk on this site features a layout that is designed for easy fact-finding and includes timelines and an almanac, atlas, dictionary and encyclopedia, as well as a Homework Center. Students can also search by visually identified topics or by typing in keywords. Check out fun features such as Biographies of the Presidents, the Geography Hall of Fame, and the Tallest Buildings Slideshow.

### **Microsoft Student Experience**

This site is the cool place for the technology leaders of the future. It offers student resources, helps students stay connected through its newsletters and technology clubs and provides a career portal and Students-to-Business program. The links to scholarship competitions and to TechStudent - a site for website builders, designers and software developers in training - encourage creativity and skill development. The Student Experience site also links to DreamSpark, which enables students not only to download professional software such as Microsoft Visual Studio, SQL Server, Visual C++ Express Edition, and Robotics Developer Studio for free but provides free training for using these tools as well.

### **Math.com**

This site provides help in a number of mathematics-related subjects, including basic grade-school math, calculus, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and statistics. Practice exercises are automatically graded - and this free site also features a glossary, calculators, homework tips, math games and lesson plans for teachers.

### **HowStuffWorks**

Ever wanted to know why earthquakes happen? How CD burners work? What the sun is made of? These questions, and many others related to computers/electronics, automobiles, science, entertainment and people, are all answered at this award-winning website. Simply type a query into the search window or peruse the topics by category. Extras include free newsletters, surveys, and printable versions of all answers.

## **Acceptable Use Policy - a good start**

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All Hallows Catholic College in Cheshire, UK, has developed state of the art e-learning facilities and implemented a new user monitoring and image control solution in 2006.

All Hallows has a very comprehensive Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for both staff and students and these are an integral and important part of managing e-safety as Wallace Johnston, head of e-systems, explained. "No member of staff is allowed to use College ICT resources until they have signed the AUP. Similarly, students are given limited access for the first week, after which they must sign their AUP for continued use."

This ensures that every ICT user throughout the College knows their responsibilities and is aware of the consequences of breaking the rules. As e-safe education records all incidences of inappropriate



use, documented evidence is automatically available. This has proved extremely useful for All Hallows, when the actions of one individual who had previously eluded detection, was finally caught. "Their actions were deliberate and calculated, resulting in totally unacceptable behaviour. With e-safe education in place and records of the transgressions recorded, the governors were able to review the evidence, enabling them to act swiftly and decisively.

This sent out a clear message to all of our stakeholders that it was important to comply with our Acceptable Use Policy", said Wallace.

Transgressors are warned through personalised messages that appear on screen the moment they breach policy, encouraging behavioural change so that the school can determine if the actions were accidental or not, ensuring that only serious or persistent offenders face the risk of a sanction.

### **Evolving solution**

Wallace is convinced that e-safe education's enforcement of the AUP has enabled the College to fulfil the requirements of e-safety that is high on every parent's agenda. "It's helped us to manage e-safety and encourage the values of the school's cultural and faith ethos," he said. "The team at e-safe education demonstrated an understanding and expertise of the problems schools face in e-safety from the outset and have produced a solution that met all our objectives. Their technical support is excellent. Whenever we have a problem or question on the solution we get a rapid and knowledgeable response".

At Moncrieff, we offer schools a comprehensive e-safety solution. For more information, please go to [www.moncrieff.com.au/e-safe](http://www.moncrieff.com.au/e-safe).

Moncrieff is a Perth owned and operated IT company, providing reliable IT services with integrity and has been operating since 1966.