

Zurich International School case study

Zurich International School Network Supports Educational Excellence



Customer profile

Customer name

Zurich International School

Industry

Education

Results

IBM Services, with Cisco IT infrastructure, enables the Zurich International School to offer:

- Reliable and secure networking for more than 1200 students and 280 staff members
- Enhanced infrastructure-based services even during a complex campus expansion
- Increased IT efficiency—with a small team building a new campus infrastructure—while maintaining quality of service

As the longest accredited international school in Switzerland, Zurich International School (ZIS) comprises three campuses with more than 1200 students and some 280 staff. ZIS is building a new middle school—scheduled to open in 2022—which offers the opportunity to refresh critical network infrastructure and create enhanced capabilities for the future.



Business challenge and results summary

With its planned middle school move, ZIS needed to build an IT network without disrupting students and staff. It was critical for infrastructure to be secure, GDPR-compliant—encompassing physical and data security and more—and consistently reliable to enable students and staff to stay connected. With legacy devices in multiple locations, the three-person IT staff looked to modernize and standardize systems. Making the right choices for the future presented a significant challenge, given the need to manage the school’s existing technology infrastructure at the same time.

To meet this challenge, ZIS turned to IBM and Cisco, trusted advisors for many years. IBM Services offers consulting advice whose objective is to help ZIS use technology to its fullest potential. In addition, IBM implements wired and wireless infrastructure and assists with the design and deployment of the network at the new buildings.

Based on its work with IBM, ZIS continued to gain deeper knowledge of and greater access to innovative, cost-effective, and reliable Cisco technology. As a result, the school decided to build its entire network infrastructure using Cisco components and solutions, from large managed switches to wireless access points throughout the campuses. This approach provides a reliable, high-capacity system that is easy to manage and capable of supporting new features as technology evolves, while also meeting the school’s service commitments to its students and staff.

“Cisco offers a tremendous variety of quality products, and the strategic partnership with IBM clearly shows up in the reliability of our network and the long-term business relationship with ZIS.”

Jonathan Uglow

IT Operations Administrator, Zurich International School