



The Essential Guide to Data Driven Decision Making

Action Ideas for School Leaders



Table of Contents

Introduction.....3

School Leader Reports: High-Level Organisation Performance & Strategy ...4

IT Administration: Ensuring Secure and Efficient Digital Infrastructure5

Curriculum & Instruction: Aligning Technology with Learning Goals6

Financial Planning: Maximising ROI on Organisation Investments7

School Board Reports: Governance, Transparency & Policy Oversight8

Student Safety & Well-Being: Proactive Monitoring and Intervention9

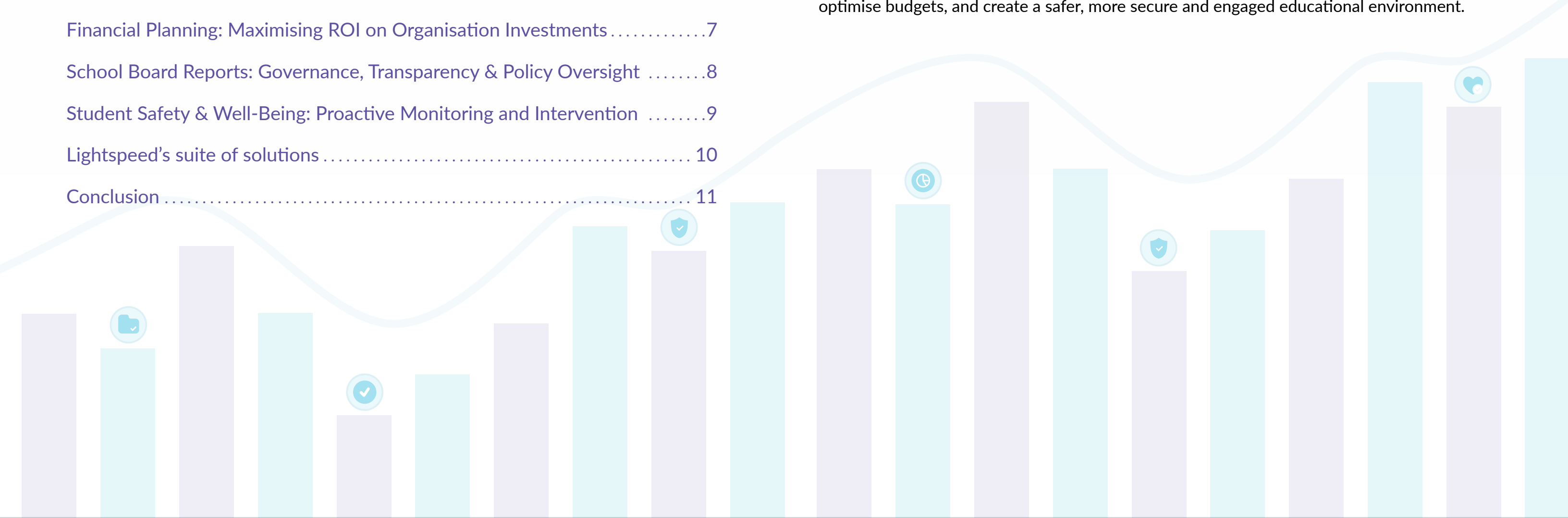
Lightspeed's suite of solutions 10

Conclusion 11

Introduction

In today’s digital-first educational landscape, data is the foundation for informed decision-making across all levels of school leadership. From Curriculum & Instruction teams ensuring technology supports academic goals to IT administrators safeguarding network security, every department relies on clear, actionable reporting to drive student success, optimise resources, and maintain organisation-wide efficiency.

This guide outlines the essential reports that help key MAT and school leaders—Curriculum & Instruction specialists, Student Services teams, Finance leaders, IT administrators, CEO’s, and School Board members—make strategic, data-driven decisions. By leveraging reporting and real-time analytics, MAT and schools can align their digital investments with instructional goals, optimise budgets, and create a safer, more secure and engaged educational environment.

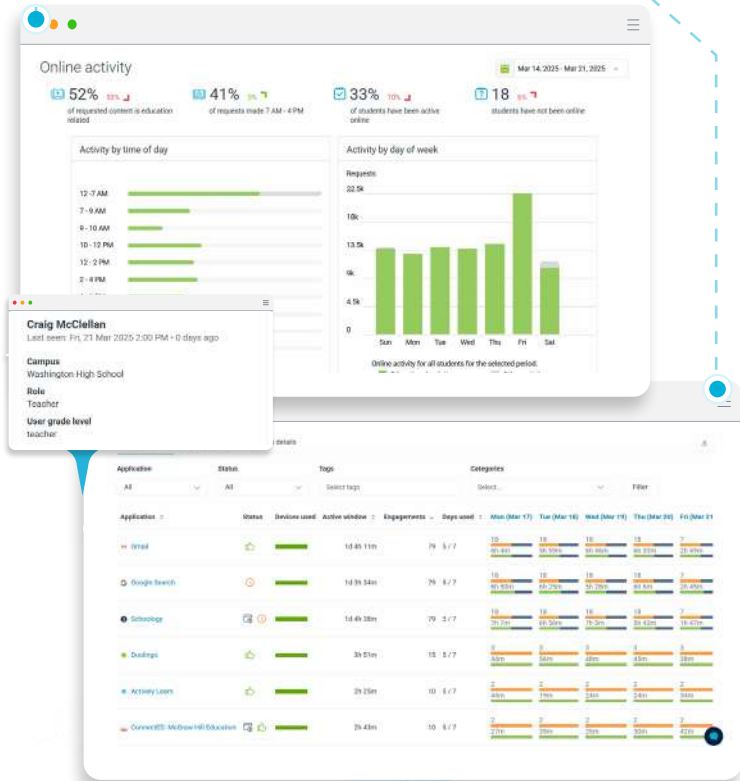




School Leader Reports: High-Level Organisation Performance & Strategy

School and MAT leaders set the strategic direction for their organisations, overseeing academic performance, financial accountability, and digital learning initiatives. They require big-picture data to guide policy, resource allocation, and long-term planning. The most critical reports include:

- **Organisation Performance & Usage:** Tracks overall technology adoption across schools, identifying trends in digital engagement and tool effectiveness.
- **Student Engagement & Achievement Correlation:** Links technology use with academic outcomes to measure the impact of digital learning strategies.
- **Professional Development Impact:** Evaluates teacher training programmes to ensure they drive meaningful adoption of edtech tools.
- **Consistency in Technology Access:** Identifies connectivity gaps in device availability and Internet access across different student populations.
- **Threat Detection & Response Summary:** Summarises online safety alerts, behavioural concerns, and intervention strategies to protect students.



Data from Lightspeed Filter & Lightspeed Insight

See Everything Across Your Schools

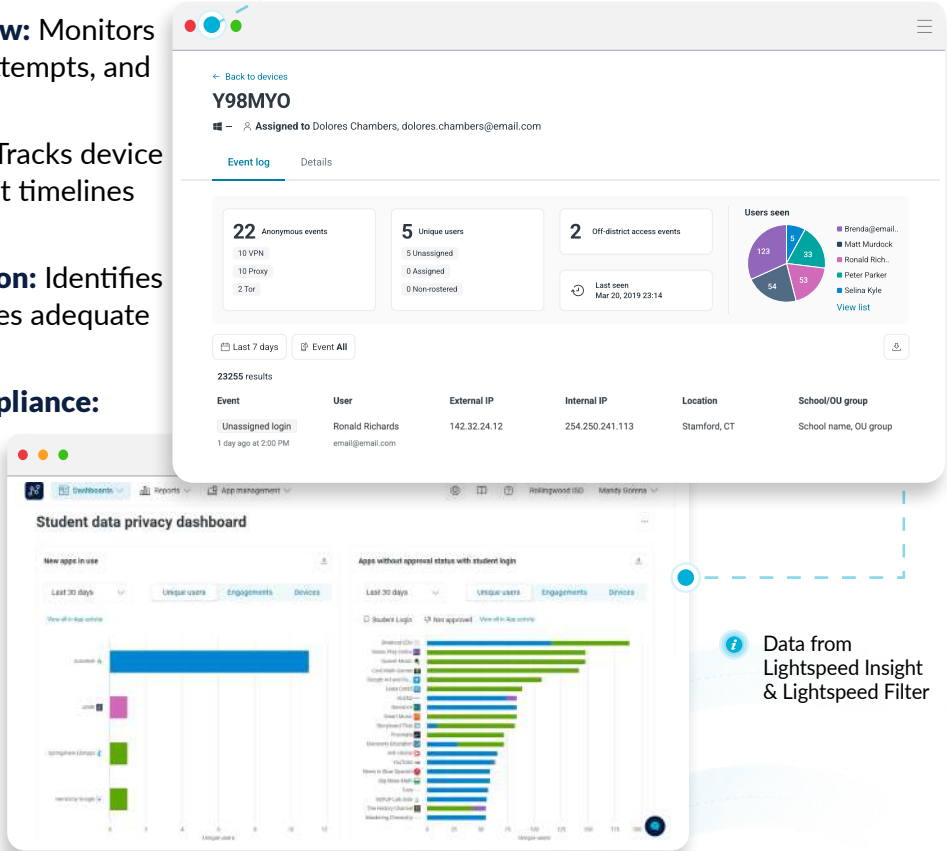
For school leaders, these reports cut through the noise to reveal what’s really happening with technology across their schools. They provide the confidence to tell your community, “Yes, our technology investments are making a meaningful difference for our students and teachers.”



IT Administration: Ensuring Secure and Efficient Digital Infrastructure

Technology administrators are responsible for maintaining secure, reliable, and compliant IT environments for their schools. Key reports that IT teams should leverage include:

- **Network Security & Threat Overview:** Monitors cyber threats, unauthorised access attempts, and security vulnerabilities.
- **Device Health & Inventory Report:** Tracks device usage, repair history, and replacement timelines to optimise asset management.
- **Bandwidth Utilisation & Optimisation:** Identifies peak network usage times and ensures adequate bandwidth for digital learning.
- **Software License Utilisation & Compliance:** Prevents overspending on unused licenses and ensures adherence to privacy regulations.
- **Patch & Update Compliance:** Monitors device and software updates to prevent security breaches.



Data from Lightspeed Insight & Lightspeed Filter

Ensure Compliance, Security, & Efficiency of Your Technology

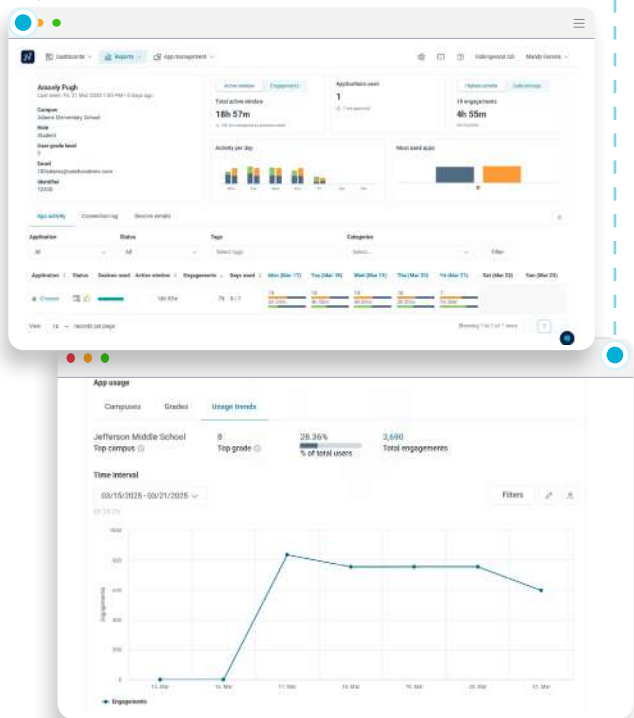
Behind every successful digital learning experience stands an IT team armed with the right information to keep things running smoothly. These reports help tech teams shift from “putting out fires to preventing them in the first place”—giving teachers and students the reliable digital environment they deserve.



Curriculum & Instruction: Aligning Technology with Learning Goals

Curriculum and Instruction (C&I) leaders are responsible for ensuring that instructional strategies and digital tools align with organisation goals and often compliance requirements. The following reports provide the insights needed to assess the effectiveness of educational technology and instructional initiatives:

- **Standards Mastery & Technology Usage Alignment:** Correlates digital resource usage with academic standards, ensuring that edtech investments directly support learning objectives.
- **Resource Adoption & Efficacy:** Evaluates which digital tools are used most effectively and whether investments provide a strong return.
- **Intervention & Early Warning Signals:** Flags students who may be struggling academically or emotionally based on their online behaviours.
- **Professional Development Impact:** Tracks the effectiveness of teacher training by measuring shifts in technology adoption and student performance.
- **Access & Accessibility Overview:** Identifies digital connectivity gaps and ensures that all student populations have access to learning tools.

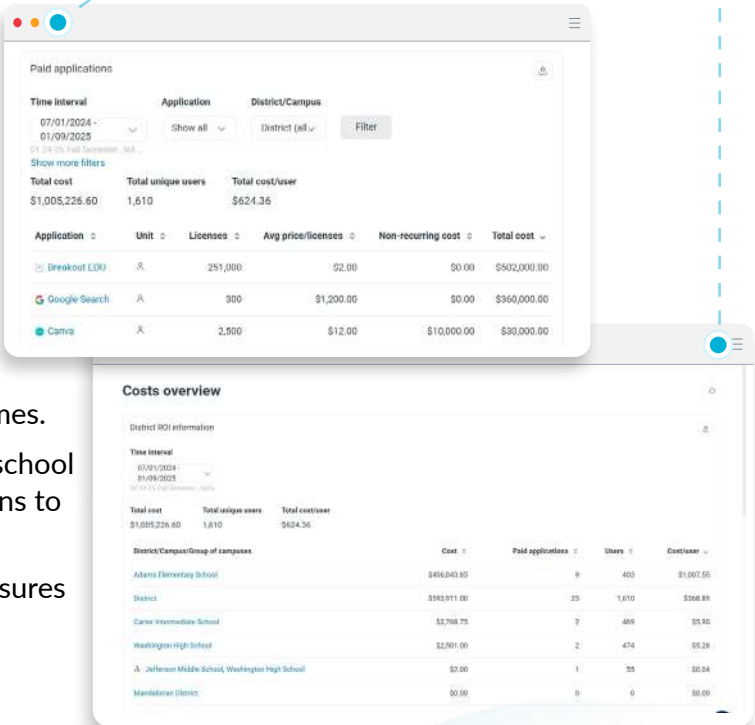


Data from Lightspeed Insight

Financial Planning: Maximising ROI on School Investments

Finance leaders must ensure that edtech investments align with actual usage and educational outcomes. By tracking spending and resource allocation, schools and MATs can make data-driven decisions that optimise budgets and prevent waste. Essential financial reports include:

- **EdTech Cost vs. Usage Report:** Compares spending on digital tools with actual adoption rates to ensure resources are well-utilised.
- **Student Engagement & EdTech Adoption:** Analyses how technology impacts student learning and teacher engagement.
- **ROI Analysis:** Measures the return on investment of digital tools based on usage and student outcomes.
- **Budget vs. Actual Expenditure Summary:** Helps school and MATs track spending against budget projections to maintain financial discipline.
- **School-by-School Cost & Utilisation Analysis:** Ensures equitable distribution of resources across schools.



Data from Lightspeed Insight



Drive Informed
Curriculum & Instruction

These reports help answer the question: “Are our tech tools actually helping students learn?” When digital resources are aligned with clear learning goals, classroom technology becomes a powerful ally rather than just another distraction.



Empower Decision Making
for Finance & Procurement

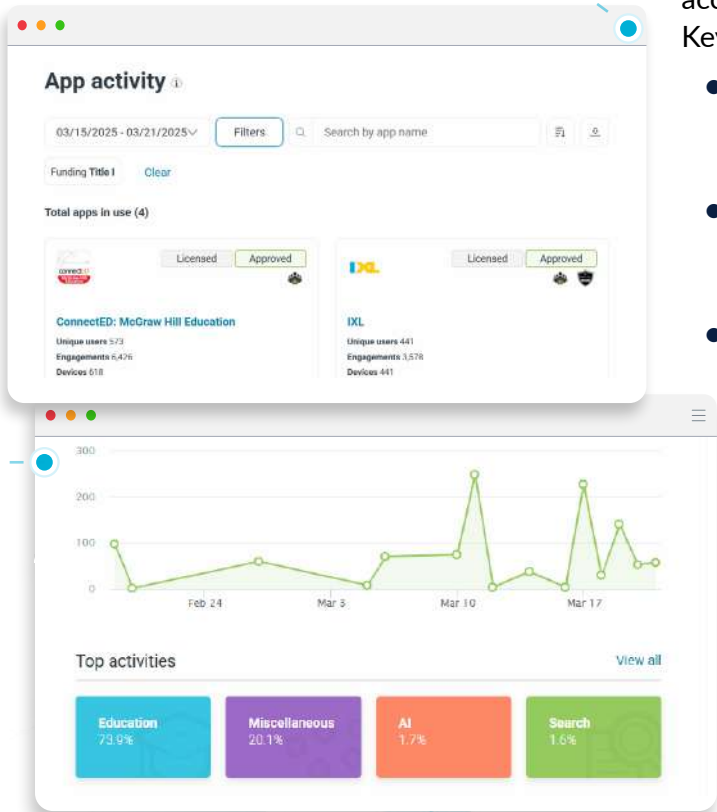
Let’s face it—every pound counts in education, and these reports help ensure funding is spent wisely on technology that makes a difference. By connecting spend directly to student outcomes, budget conversations transform from “How much does it cost?” to “Look at what our students achieved!”



School Board Reports: Governance, Transparency & Policy Oversight

School board members shape school policies, approve budgets, and ensure compliance with government regulations. They require comprehensive reports to uphold transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility. Key reports include:

- **Screen Time Insights:** Tracks student device usage to guide policies on balanced technology integration and digital well-being.
- **Mental Health Indicators:** Identifies behavioural patterns and early warning signs of distress based on student digital activity.
- **Funding & Resource Allocation:** Provides visibility into organisation edtech spending, ensuring investments align with student and teacher needs.
- **Compliance & Policy Visibility:** Monitors adherence to government requirements for digital safety, student privacy, and cybersecurity.
- **Transparency for Parents & Community:** Offers high-level, anonymised data on digital learning trends, technology effectiveness, and student safety initiatives.



Data from Lightspeed Filter & Lightspeed Insight



Drive Powerful Decision-Making for Your Organisation

School board members need clear insights to make decisions they can stand behind with conviction when community members ask tough questions. These reports transform abstract technology discussions into concrete evidence of how digital tools are helping fulfill your school's most important promise—giving every student their best chance to succeed.

Student Safety & Well-Being: Proactive Monitoring and Intervention

Student safety extends beyond physical security—it includes monitoring online activity for signs of distress, cyber bullying, and threats. By leveraging real-time data, student services teams can take a proactive approach to ensuring a safe learning environment. Key reports include:


- **Crisis Alerts and Intervention Reports:** Detects self-harm indicators, threats, and concerning digital activity in real time.
- **Student Engagement & Well-Being Reports:** Identifies students who are disengaged or struggling emotionally based on their digital behaviours.
- **Web Filtering & Digital Safety Reports:** Monitors internet activity to enforce safe browsing policies and detect potential risks.
- **Physical Safety & School Incident Reports:** Tracks security incidents to improve emergency preparedness and response.
- **Behavioural and Incident Monitoring Reports:** Documents trends in disciplinary actions and bullying reports to inform proactive intervention strategies.




Get Proactive About Identifying Students in Crisis

Nothing matters more than keeping students safe. These reports turn concerning online signals into opportunities for timely support. By spotting warning signs early, safety teams can step in with the right help at the right time.


Leverage Data-Driven Decision-Making with Lightspeed.

- 

Lightspeed Insight™

 - Visualises edtech adoption, cost-per-use, and standards alignment across schools and student groups.
 - Enables finance, curriculum, and leadership teams to optimise investments and ensure equity in access.
- 

Lightspeed Filter™

 - Enforces safe browsing and compliance policies while surfacing trends in online behaviour and potential risks.
 - Provides reports for IT, student services, and administrators on web usage, blocked content, and filtering effectiveness.
- 

Lightspeed Alert™

 - Detects early warning signs of self-harm, bullying, or threats through real-time AI monitoring of student activity.
 - Delivers actionable alerts and reporting to safety teams, IT teams, and leadership for timely interventions.
- 

Lightspeed Signal™

 - Identifies connectivity and access gaps across sites and student demographics.
 - Supports equitable device and resource allocation through visibility into usage patterns and access disparities.
- 

Lightspeed MDM™

 - Tracks device health, inventory, and update compliance to reduce downtime and budget surprises.
 - Supports IT and finance leaders in planning refresh cycles and managing security risks.
- 

Lightspeed Classroom™

 - Provides teachers with real-time visibility into student device activity during class.
 - Enables instructional leaders to report on engagement and classroom technology usage trends.
- 

Lightspeed StopIt™

 - Offers standard and custom reporting on tip types, timing, resolution status, and more.
 - Supports safety teams and administrators with flexible, dynamic reporting to meet organisation-specific needs.



Data-driven decision-making is no longer optional—it's essential for school leaders seeking to improve student outcomes, optimise resources, and ensure a safe, effective learning environment. By leveraging the right reports, schools and MATs can turn raw data into actionable insights that guide curriculum strategies, financial planning, IT security, and student well-being initiatives.

With powerful analytics and real-time reporting, schools can confidently align their technology investments with their educational goals, ensuring that every pound spent contributes to student success.

For more information visit www.lightspeedsystems.com





One powerful platform. One Lightspeed.

Lightspeed understands schools and the challenges they face in fulfilling their mission to support students. With Lightspeed's comprehensive solutions, schools can reduce administrative time, improve workflows, and gain real-time insights across products.



Lightspeed Systems®

Request a Demo



020 4534 520

www.lightspeedsystems.com