itslearning services
FROM INTEGRATION TO TRAINING
THE LEARNING PLATFORM DESIGNED FOR TEACHERS

An interactive online learning space, itslearning helps teachers and students manage the learning process – and ensures all stakeholders in education, from senior leaders to parents, have the essential information at their fingertips all the time.

itslearning makes it easy for school leaders, teachers, mentors, students and parents to share resources, lesson plans, news and information simply and clearly online. A secure cloud-based platform designed specifically for education, it gathers progress reports, individual learning plans, grade reports and other information to give everyone a clear overview of each student’s progress. As a result, everyone has the information they need when they need it.

itslearning automates many routine tasks so teachers have more time to do what they do best: teach.

A learning platform teachers use

Ultimately, itslearning benefits young people studying today. But students will only truly benefit from itslearning if their teachers use it effectively.

That’s why we have designed itslearning with teachers in mind - and why we work with you from the very beginning to ensure your implementation is as good as possible. From initial system specifications to integrations and pedagogical training, we work closely with you to make sure you have a learning platform that your teachers want to use.
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8 REASONS WHY SCHOOLS CHOOSE ITSLearning

1. Improve student performance
   Today’s students communicate through Twitter, share photos on Facebook and make their own videos, computer games and music. With built-in pedagogical tools and apps, itslearning gives you a simple way to encourage students to use these skills in an educational setting.

2. Teach 21st century skills
   Many employers want employees who are comfortable with email, instant messaging, video conferencing, digital spreadsheets and much more. Itslearning makes it possible for you to teach these skills in any subject, from biology to modern languages.

3. More time to focus on teaching
   Itslearning automates the routine tasks that teachers and admin staff do every day - such as setting and collecting assignments and reporting grades - so your teachers have more time to do what they do best: teach.

4. Help every student achieve
   With itslearning, you can set assignments and assign resources for groups of students or individuals with differing abilities. And, because resources are always available online, teachers can easily provide students with additional materials in just a few clicks.

“...and students can easily find what they are looking for.

Mathematics teacher Kjetil Idas...
A worry-free IT system

As a cloud-based learning platform, itslearning is fast to set-up, simple to maintain and fully scalable. We take care of all the technical issues such as maintenance, upgrades, backup and data security. We also guarantee 99.7% uptime, so you can focus on other things.

Support your educational processes

itslearning is designed to follow the steps in the teaching process, from planning to testing and reporting. Whether you want to link each activity in a lesson plan to a learning objective or see a report of how much work each student has completed, you can do it in itslearning.

Improve teaching quality and parent communication

Most teachers have a bank of resources and lesson plans that they use regularly, itslearning makes it easy to store, organize and share these resources with your entire organization. It also gathers all your student information – such as attendance, progress and grade reports – and makes it available to those who need it, including parents.

Integrate with anything

itslearning integrates with most school IT systems, enabling you to import and export data when and how you need it. You can add resources, curriculum information and teaching tools from almost any source – and even create your own apps, extensions and integrations.

If we hadn’t chosen itslearning, I’m sure I would be working a lot more to support and train teachers. With itslearning, I can focus on supporting good pedagogical practice, instead of the technical aspects.

Teacher Annichen Morken

The parent portal is very helpful when communicating with engaged parents.

e-learning coordinator
Filip Levalahti
THE ITSLEARNING DASHBOARD

The heart of itslearning is the course page, a shared teaching and learning space for teachers and their students.

English Language Arts year 11

Course dashboard
Status and follow-up
Participants
Groups
Settings
Course content
Planner
Links
Trash can
English Language arts year 11
Resources
Activities
Tests, English
Pages made by students
Add

A Taste of Huck Finn
Two students have made a humorous adaptation of The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. Take a look.

Answer this question before next weeks class
Do you think the Huckleberry Finn video above addresses the most important issues in the book?

You voted: Yes
Things to remember this week

• Theatre trip on Tuesday
• Grammar test next Friday

Created by Anderson, Ann on 12/18/2012 9:00

A Troubled Young Nation
19th century challenges

Characters in fictional in late nineteenth century America express the challenges facing America at the time. How does Twain address the issue of slavery in The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn? We are going to find out!

Essay: Characters in fiction
Photostory - Huckleberry Finn

1 My library
Store your resources and share them with colleagues with just a couple of clicks

2 Inbox
Send and receive messages from students and colleagues

3 Status and follow-up
Check and grade assignments online and get an overview of your students' progress

4 Groups
Create groups within your class to differentiate your teaching

5 Bulletins
Keep your students in the loop with essential class information such as last-minute room changes and reminders

6 Assignments
See who has submitted the latest assignment – and who hasn’t

7 Polls, videos and more
Get your students thinking before and after class with polls, surveys and videos

8 Planner
See complete lesson plans for the entire semester as well as all the resources you and your students need
YOUR ONLINE TEACHING AND LEARNING SPACE

An overview of itslearning’s main tools and features

PERSONALIZED LEARNING FOR STUDENTS

Early Learners
A colorful and easy-to-use interface that early learners can personalize

Personal Dashboard
Every user can add text, images, links and videos to their personal dashboard

Task List
An overview of tasks and when they are due

Favorites
Quick access to the courses, tools and files that are used most

Accessibility
Assistive technology for the visually impaired

ePortfolios
A place to collect work, blogs, CVs and other information

Working Portfolios
A personal space for students to collect and organize all their work

Assessment Portfolios
A portfolio where students can store and show-off their best work

Blogs
Let students create personal and coursework-related blogs

Design Themes
Choose from 15 different themes for ePortfolios and blogs

NEXT GENERATION COLLABORATION

Global Community
Join courses from other schools or invite people from other schools to join courses

Secure Messaging-Mail
A secure internal email system for students, teachers and parents

Cloud e-mail
Integrated e-mail from Microsoft (Live Mail) or Google (Gmail)

Discussion Forums
A built-in discussion tool for online debates and discussions

Calendar
An overview of all personal, course and project-related tasks

Audio/Video Conferencing
A simple way to communicate with people in other locations using sound, audio and text chat

DirectEdit
Let different people edit and save the same document for collaborative writing and simple essay marking

Process-oriented Documents
A tool allowing students to read, revise or remove someone’s comments in a text

Projects
A powerful tool for sharing ideas and collaborative work

Surveys & Polls
Quickly create polls or surveys, and analyze the results using our statistical reports

Contacts
A searchable list of all your school contacts

Sound and Video Recorders
Turn your computer into a film and recording studio with our built-in video and audio recorders

INTEGRATION, SERVICES & SUPPORT

SIS & IMS Enterprise Services
Monitor and manage your itslearning integration with your other IT systems

Grade Book Exports
Export grade books to preferred formats such as Excel or directly into the administrative systems

Software as a Service (SaaS)
We take care of software maintenance and upgrades so you don’t have to

Simple Scale Up
Just ask us if you want to add new users

iPhone, iPad or Android
itslearning works with most mobile computing devices, including mobile phones

Client Requirements
Use itslearning with any operating system and browser

Single Sign-On
You only need one log-in code to access your itslearning sites, your cloud email or teaching applications added through the app library

Training
Our courses, seminars and workshops give you the skills you need to get the most out of itslearning

Tailored Implementation Projects
Make sure you get the most out of itslearning with our tailored implementation projects
## COURSE MANAGEMENT & ASSESSMENT

**Courses**
Administer classes, add tests and assignments, and store files

**Plagiarism Control**
Automatically check student assignments for plagiarism

**Planner**
Create lesson and course plans to share with colleagues or students

**Grade Book**
Automatically collate grades from assignments and tests

**Learning Objectives**
Connect learning objectives to course elements

**Reports**
Automatically generate reports to save time and keep everyone updated

**Test Tool**
Create digital tests with 8 different question types and automatic marking

**Test-Mode Browser**
Create the optimal exam conditions during digital tests

**Assignments**
Set and collect assignments, and manage groups, deadlines and notifications

**Individual Learning Plans**
Help students set goals and reflect on progress

**Differentiation**
Divide classes into groups and assign different tasks to each group

**Attendance Reporting**
Track student attendance and make reports available to mentors and parents

**Behavior**
Track student behavior and make reports available to mentors and parents

**Progress Reports**
Get a quick overview of a student’s progress

**Progress Mentors**
Get a full overview of attendance, behavior and assessment reports for the students you mentor

**Headteachers**
Get a full overview of attendance, behavior and assessment reports for all students

## HIGHLY CUSTOMIZED ENVIRONMENT

**Parent Dashboard**
A dedicated dashboard that collates all information on each child for their parents to see

**Workflow**
Decide when attendance, behavior and assessment reports are made available to learners and parents

**Age Differentiated Interface**
Choose different interfaces for early learners, intermediate learners and older students

**Customize Page Layout**
Decide how information is presented on dashboards, pages and courses

**Custom Skins**
You can decide exactly how itslearning looks, including school logos, colors and fonts

**Alerts (SMS/email)**
Integrated alerts ensure you never miss a deadline, classroom change or other essential information

**User Profiles & Policies**
Set access and administration rights for the entire school, groups or individuals

**Privacy**
Decide who can communicate with whom and what information they can see

**Dashboards**
Organize school and course dashboards to show relevant information

**Languages**
itslearning is available in UK English, US English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Dutch, Norwegian bokmål, Norwegian nynorsk, Danish, Swedish, Finnish, Turkish, Brazilian Portuguese, Corsu and soon Polish.

## INNOVATIVE CONTENT FLEXIBILITY

**Pages**
Like a mini-website, you can create pages to gather all your learning resources in one place

**Embed Web 2.0 Content**
Insert videos, images and other content from the internet directly into your learning material

**App Library**
Use third-party teaching and learning tools directly in itslearning

**SCORM & IMS Support**
Import learning content from external sources

**Rich Editor**
Write texts that include Web 2.0 content, files, images, sound and video

**Library**
Store and share resources with the rest of the institution or the worldwide itslearning community

**Join Any Course Anywhere (AICC)**
Open your courses to participants in other institutions

**Bulletin Board**
Keep up to date with what’s going on in your courses and institution

**Integrated Publisher Content**
Import ready-made teaching resources directly into courses

**Formula Editor**
Add mathematics formulas directly to courses, pages, assignments and tests

**File Versioning & Extensions**
All versions of a file are saved, so you can always go back to find a previous version

**Course Archive**
Keep all courses in one place and re-use them, or part of them, at any time
THE ITSLEARNING IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

From inquiry to installation and implementation

1. YOUR NEEDS
   We discuss your educational needs to find out exactly what you want to achieve

2. THE PLAN
   We work with your institution to create a fully personalized implementation plan

3. THE INTEGRATIONS
   We help you integrate itslearning with your existing systems

4. STAFF TRAINING
   We create a training plan that will give your colleagues the skills and knowledge to start using itslearning

Our implementation process ensures you achieve maximum user adoption and the full benefits of our platform.
Every school or school district is different. That’s why we start by sitting down with you to find out exactly how you want to use itslearning.

Whether you are looking to implement blended learning in your school or need a simple system for hosting ePortfolios, itslearning can help. The best way to guarantee success is to clearly establish goals and success criteria from the start.

We work with you to find out what challenges your organization faces and your goals for itslearning. This can include anything from improving user adoption compared to your previous system, to specific technical integrations, to training teachers to administer formative and summative assessment using itslearning.

What can itslearning do for you?

If you’d like to know what itslearning is capable of, and how it can fit into your IT systems and processes, let us know. We would be happy to give you a quick tour of the system and can even set you up with a demo site so you can try itslearning for yourself.

Sign up for a meeting at www.itslearning.net
Create a project area in itslearning and plan training sessions in itslearning

As an itslearning global trainer, Kat Thorne travels to schools around the world helping teachers get started with our platform. Her tried and tested methods ensure that teachers can start using the platform after training. But how does she do it? It’s easy – she uses itslearning.

“I always create project areas in the customer’s itslearning site and ask the teachers to prepare before training sessions. Preparations can include watching a video introducing itslearning and how it is used for their type of organization. In my experience, this creates excitement and gives teachers a clear idea of what they are going to learn and why. As a result, they are more engaged and motivated.”

Kat Thorne

Identify early adopters

Trond Skeie, Managing Director of itslearning Norway, has worked with hundreds of schools and school districts to help ensure they get their itslearning implementation project right. He believes in the power of early adopters.

“Every organization has a few people who like to be ahead of the technological curve – and these people are important to any implementation project. The key is finding these people and giving them all the training and support they need. They will then happily pass this information on to others.”

Trond Skeie

THE PLAN

The perfect learning platform experience starts with a great implementation process - and that means setting up a great implementation plan

Your implementation plan should cover all aspects of the implementation, from integrations to training and goals for user adoption. We sit down with you to discuss your goals and the best way to achieve them. We then formulate an implementation plan that takes your needs and schedule into account.

Once the plan has been created - including key performance indicators for each stage - we create an action plan. This covers what needs to be done when and by whom, and it forms the backbone of the implementation.

QUICK TIPS
The best implementations work seamlessly with existing IT infrastructure to ensure simple maintenance and an optimum user experience.

At itslearning, we have experience from a wide range of technical integrations, from MIS system imports and exports to curriculum and calendar integrations. All integrations are done on a case-by-case basis and we work closely with you to develop and execute an integration plan that ensures the best possible process.

The result is an itslearning integration that communicates seamlessly with your other IT systems, enabling you to share and export data as you need. We also offer Single Sign-on as a standard, so your users need only one username and password for all school IT systems.
USER PROVISIONING

By leveraging existing user objects and groups in other systems, your new users can log in to itslearning with their existing username and password. Courses can be automatically created and populated with teachers, students and content without time-consuming manual work. We support three main user provisioning variants:

- Standards-based XML file transfers (IMS Enterprise 1.1 format)
- Standards-based SOAP Web Services API (IMS Enterprise Services 1.0)
- CSV imports

SINGLE SIGN-ON (SSO) & AUTHENTICATION

eLogin is our component for authentication with external systems, proven to work with Active Directory (including ADFS 2.0), eDirectory, simplesamlphp, CAS, Shibboleth and others. It supports a wide range of authentication protocols and options, including:

- LDAP
- CAS
- SAML 1.1 / Shibboleth 1.3
- SAML 2.0 (inc. shibboleth 2.x)
- UNI-login

We have ready-to-use integrations with several national federations and can work with any SAML2.0 federation using a hub-and-spoke infrastructure. The SSO Server enables you to build SSO capabilities into your custom website. The SSO server is secured by pre-exchanged certificates, using public/private keys to sign and verify credentials sent as a parameter in the URL.
**EXPORT TOOLKIT**

The Export Toolkit enables you to export attendance, behavior and grades as XML files. You can also transfer files directly to an external system and we have pre-designed specifications for anyone wishing to implement a recipient SOAP based web service.

**ORGANIZATION API**

The Organization API enables organizations or third-party vendors to automate common itslearning tasks when integrating their services into itslearning.

**MIGRATION**

We help you migrate your existing educational content and information into itslearning. This includes:

- Pre-populated courses with files, links, tests, surveys, calendar events, IMS content packages and more
- Assessment and activity management to enable you to import and export information from gradebooks, planners, calendars and more
- Learning objects repository imports so you can link activities to learning objectives and curriculum information

Need something else?

We are happy to look into any integration requirements you have. Just contact us at: www.itslearning.net
At itslearning, we realize that no two organizations are the same. That’s why we offer tailored training sessions that are designed to suit your individual needs and processes and get you achieving your goals in the first session.

Before arranging training, we meet with you to establish exactly what you need to achieve, covering all aspects of your training, from personalization training for administrators to quick start and goal-based pedagogical training for teachers and teaching groups. We then work out the ideal training plan for your organization.

The training plan takes into account your different users’ needs and schedules, and specifies the targets and content of each training session. All of our trainers have worked as teachers and our training sessions are designed to help you make your school processes simpler and improve teaching quality.

Quick start guide
Even with an easy to use system, teachers need help to get started. Our Quick Start Guide for Teachers lays out six simple steps to help teachers make the most of itslearning.

Download the guide at www.itslearning.net/quick-start-guide

DELIVERY
All courses, workshops, seminars and webinars can be designed to suit any number of participants.

Workshops
Hands-on training with plenty of examples covering anything from utilizing ePortfolios and blogs to increasing awareness of social media and succeeding with blended learning.

Seminars
Short sessions (either online or face-to-face) coaching staff on how new itslearning updates can support them to reach their goals and help them address specific educational themes.
TRAINING TYPES

We offer a number of different training types and delivery methods

No two organizations are the same. However, a typical training model will begin with site set up and personalization training before moving onto specific goal or theme-based pedagogical training.

1. Site Set Up and Personalization Training for Administrators
   Training for users who will personalize and manage the administrative part of itslearning

2. Goal and theme-based pedagogical training
   Training for teachers based on their specific needs and requirements

3. Train-the-trainer
   Training for early adopters so they can support and train others in your organization, including helping them to cover specific pedagogical themes, processes or itslearning features

4. Best-practice sharing
   Facilitated by an itslearning trainer, these sessions enable your staff to share tips and ideas

Webinars
Online training sessions that can be recorded and then watched again at any time.

Courses
Focusing on techniques that can be used in the classroom from day one, courses can be spread over a number of days, weeks or months.

From theory to practice
Our pedagogical whitepapers are designed to help schools and teachers implement theories such as blended learning and assessment for learning in the classroom.

Check them out at: www.itslearning.net/whitepapers
Usability testing key to success

When Arcada University of Applied Sciences started the hunt for a new learning platform, they had one main consideration: will our teachers use it? The university ran user tests on four major platforms – and itslearning proved the clear winner.

“We knew from experience that if we chose a learning platform that was uncomfortable for teachers to use, then they wouldn’t do anything with it, and therefore students wouldn’t either,” explains Filip Levalahti, e-learning coordinator at Arcada University of Applied Sciences. “So we made user-friendliness our number one priority.”

The challenge for Filip’s team was that nearly all learning platforms claim to be user-friendly, so he needed to assess the platforms in real-world scenarios. The solution was to run carefully designed user tests on four major learning platforms – including itslearning – with both teachers and students.

The test groups completed a number of tasks – from uploading a file to setting up a course – on each of the four platforms. Filip also used eye-tracking technology to analyze how much each person searched around the screen. The less eye movement, the more user-friendly the platform. “We could see that itslearning was much easier to use than the other platforms,” he explains. “It took much less time to do the tasks, which indicates that the platform is very intuitive.”

The test proved successful. Arcada started with itslearning in August 2011, and the number of people using the platform soon skyrocketed compared to the university’s previous platform. Today, nearly all staff and students are active on itslearning on a regular basis, and around one-third log on every day.
Getting every teacher on board

At Horten Further Education College in Norway, every one of its 1,200 students and 220 teachers uses itslearning to ensure education runs smoothly.

Since first getting itslearning in 2003, Horten Further Education College has seen usage among teachers and students grow and grow. But when the college conducted a survey of teachers and students in 2009, it discovered there was still more it could do to improve how it used the system. One year on, every one of the teachers and students uses itslearning on a regular basis.

“One problem is the difference in IT skills among teachers,” explains maths teacher Kjetil Idas, the man behind the survey. “Some of our teachers were using it every day, in and outside the classroom, while others were only touching the surface of what they could do with it.”

The solution was to set up minimum user requirements for teachers. Kjetil established a basic structure that each teacher must use when creating courses in itslearning. “In the survey, the students pointed out that teachers put information in different places,” explains Kjetil. “The structure we use today means every teacher uses itslearning to communicate basic information in the same way, and students can easily find what they are looking for.”

Principal Lisbeth Bek Svensson points out that, ultimately, this benefits the students. “Our students don’t need to worry about the details surrounding classes because everything is clearly available in itslearning,” she says. “This takes a lot of the stress out of studying, so they can concentrate on learning.”

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About Horten Further Education College

A Norwegian national demonstration school in the use of IT in education, Horten Further Education College has around 220 teachers and more than 1,200 students. It has two teaching sites in close proximity and students can follow a wide range of subjects, from biology to hairdressing.

Facts

Customer: Horten Further Education College
Sector: Secondary
Country: Norway
No. of users: 1,400+
Implemented itslearning: 2003

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At a glance

* Almost all teachers and students using the platform
* College set up minimum user requirements for all teachers
* itslearning enables students to concentrate on learning

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“Every teacher uses itslearning to communicate basic information in the same way.”

Kjetil Idas Teacher
Designed for teachers and how they want to teach, itslearning is a cloud-based learning platform that connects teachers, students, parents and school leaders – both in and outside the classroom. It gives teachers countless ways to create engaging lessons and resources, makes sharing materials easy, and automates routine tasks so teachers have more time to focus on their students.

A cloud-based platform that’s easy to set up and maintain, itslearning is used by millions of teachers, students, administration staff and parents around the world. It can be found at all levels of education, from primary schools to universities, helping teachers make education more inspiring and valuable for today’s students.

At itslearning, we pride ourselves on understanding the needs of education. More than 20% of our staff have worked as teachers and we can often be found in the classroom, learning from teachers.

We provide a full range of services to educational institutions, from simple training sessions to full-scale implementation projects. Established in 1999, we are head-quartered in Bergen, Norway, and have offices in London, Birmingham, Berlin, Paris, Mulhouse, Malmö, Enschede, Helsinki and Boston.