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What is the Tasmania Tomorrow Project?

Post compulsory education in Tasmania has undergone a major reform called Tasmania Tomorrow and DayMap has been a key part of ensuring the success of the student information management solution that is helping to deliver the reform.

On 1 January 2009 three new post compulsory education entities - the Tasmanian Academy, the Tasmanian Polytechnic and the Tasmanian Skills Institute - came in to being, created from and replacing the system of secondary colleges catering for Year 11 and 12 students and the highly successful TAFE Tasmania, twice winner of the Australian Training Provider of the year award.

The roles of the three new entities are:

- Tasmanian Academy focussed on preparing students in Years 11 and 12 for entry to University
- Tasmanian Polytechnic focussed on vocational training for students after leaving Year 10 as well as mature-aged students. In general these students will not be in an employment arrangement associated with their training.
- Tasmanian Skills Institute focussed on vocational training for students in employment arrangements associated with their learning including apprentices and trainees, commercial courses etc

Working together with DayMap

The student management solution in 2009 to support the three entities involved rolling out to the former secondary colleges the student management system used by TAFE Tasmania called QL-S. QL-S was not able to replace all the functionality that existed in the system that had previously been used on the college campuses, SACS, in particular recording and reporting of student attendance.

DayMap was selected to replace this functionality because of its ability to work with The Timetabler, the timetabling application used by the former colleges.

We had very short timeframes in which to implement DayMap and very little contingency time between implementation and it being required to be operational at the beginning of February when classes started.

Our support by Loop Software in the implementations was excellent and DayMap was operational from day one. Since then we have worked with Loop Software to tailor DayMap to our needs, in particular, in terms of reports and importing student information - contact details, medical alerts - into DayMap. The support we have received has been outstanding and DayMap has been praised by users.

The Future with DayMap

With a single application hosted in the data centre we have a system that can easily be scaled out to more sites as required. Implementation is being staged over two years, with four of the eight secondary colleges joining the initiative in 2009, and the remaining four in 2010 and 2011.

The Tasmania Tomorrow initiative represents significant change for many staff both in delivery and support. DayMap has not just provided a replacement functionality for attendance recording and reporting. Because of the high regard it has from users, it has made a significant positive contribution to the overall success of the Tasmania Tomorrow Project.

We are delighted with DayMap and the support of Guy Thomas and Loop Software.

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