Since 2009 the DER-NSW program has successfully delivered 254,166 laptops to year 9 students, installed wireless access points in over 21,000 learning spaces, provided professional learning experiences to teachers and leaders across the state, developed more than 250 online resources, and supported schools with 560 school based Technology Support Officers. Next year will see a final rollout of 63,500 laptops. The Commonwealth DER National Partnership funding finishes at the end of 2013. The following arrangements have been made for 2013:

Laptops

In 2013 there will be a rollout of laptops to schools, similar to previous years.

The 2013 device will be the fastest and most high-spec laptop issued so far.

It has a 64bit operating system and a solid state drive which will provide faster boot and software load times.

Laptops will be provided based on Year 9 student numbers with a pool of laptops for new enrolments and loans when laptops are being repaired.

There will also be a rollout to Senior High Schools.

During term 1, regional teams will manage a small pool of laptops to support schools as needed.

The 2013 laptops will not be considered part of the state wide pool. This means there will be no transfers between schools unless an arrangement is made between principals.

Policies and Procedures

A 2013 addendum will be released to cover the new self-management arrangements.

All existing resources will continue to be available for use by schools.

Principals will be able to work with their school community to develop a distribution process suitable for the school.

For example, some schools may wish to allocate laptops to Year 9 students as in previous years. Others may wish to adopt an alternative approach.

As with previous rollouts decisions on repair costs will continue to be made by the school on a case to case basis.
High and Central schools that have an onsite Technology Support Officer (TSO) employed as part of the DER-NSW Program will continue to benefit from this support through to the end of 2013.

From the beginning of 2014 schools will need to make their own arrangements for technology support.

Schools that choose to employ someone to provide technology support can write their own position descriptions in line with department standards and grades/awards.

Regional Support Structure
The current regional support structure will remain until the end of 2013, in line with the school-based structure. These teams will continue to support schools and school-based TSOs with the technology.

The Regional Teams will cease at the end of term 4, 2013.

The state-wide technology support systems that are in place will continue to exist and be supported centrally.

Schools should continue to use systems such as RMU, AWMS, InfraSight and eTrack to help maintain the laptops and wireless networks.

If problems arise with a wireless network or switches, schools should contact the ICT Service desk (1800 338 483).

Onsite Technology Support

Technology Support Systems

The final DER-NSW Professional Learning (PL) funding was paid to schools in late 2011. Mid-year balances have been confirmed with schools.

All DER-NSW school funding balances for PL and other projects must be fully expended by 30 November 2012.

All enquiries about DER-NSW funding to schools can be directed to Andrew Gowans, DER-NSW Manager Finance & Reporting on (02) 9244 5098.

Regional PL support finishes at the end of 2012. Philippa Cleaves, DER-NSW Professional Learning and Curriculum Support Project Officer will be available to support schools until the end of 2013.

Existing Resources
All existing resources are currently being gathered together onto one DER-NSW Resource Collection site. This site will be available from November 2012.

Regional Professional Learning staff will ensure resources created during their DER-NSW Support work are left open and available to all staff.

Continuing your school-based professional learning
The DER-NSW Professional Learning Team has put together a number of professional learning suggested activity guides. These guides are still relevant and available for use when planning activities in your school. You can find these resources at: http://bit.ly/plideas

DER-NSW Evaluation Report
The three-year longitudinal evaluation, run in conjunction with the University of Wollongong, will continue in 2013.

In Term 1, 2013 a survey of year 10 will be undertaken to confirm evaluation findings on developing teacher capacity and student skill development in stage 5.

The reports describing the impact on teaching and learning will be published.

Further Information
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