# Success Story:
## Rangi Ruru Girls' School- NZ

**650 Students**

**500 Slips sent**

**Joined in 2019**

### Pain-free administration lightening the load in NZ

Rangi Ruru is an independent girls' school in Christchurch, offering personalised, holistic education from Year 7 – 13, day and boarding.

In an effort to discover a better way to perform crucial administrative tasks, such as permission slips, the school looked towards potential digital solutions that could fit their exacting requirements.

Head of IT, Carl Hogan, had implemented EdSmart in his previous role at Lincoln High School - another EdSmart Smart School - so was confident the platform could meet their needs.

In his role at Rangi Ruru, Carl looks after the strategic oversight of all IT-related items, anywhere from physical infrastructure to the deployment of software. As an advocate of EdSmart, he commends the "user-interface design and the ease of use - how easy it was for teachers to self serve."

In addition to staff being able to smoothly transition into using the platform, EdSmart's wide range of integrations meant Rangi Ruru was able to confidently deploy EdSmart knowing that data would be easily readable and accessible by their PCSchool student management system.

"You know the right data's in there, the right students are in the right classes, and so on and the teachers can find them."

Other facets of the platform that addressed the needs of Rangi Ruru were EdSmart's record-keeping functionality and digital workflows. Prior to EdSmart, the school had been using paper-based processes, which were completely transformed by going digital and using EdSmart's flexible forms.

"The school had procedures or policies around the way things ought to be done with forms or permission slips - workflow enforced that."

Accurate and streamlined data and reporting equipped the school with the ability to track and access important information. The school is now happy that all the data around trips and permissions is safely stored in a centrally accessible place.

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> Any good administrative system is quiet and pain-free because it gets out of the way rather than gets in the way.
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> So once people have created and actioned one or two forms, they're off and running, and really enjoy how easy it is to do.
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**CARL HOGAN**
Head of IT
Rangi Ruru Girls' School, New Zealand

Rangi Ruru Girls' School

EdSmart

## Platform champions as the secret ingredient to successful deployment

This has instilled confidence and reliability so "if there ever were any questions or (worst-case scenario) investigations, the data is right there for the right people to access."

Another key part of Rangi Ruru's successful deployment of EdSmart is their secret weapon, Jude Connochie, who is the database administrator and silent champion of the platform.

A huge part of Jude's role is ensuring that data being pulled from the database relating to current and past students/parents is accurate so, when EdSmart came about, Jude was able to dive in and take ownership of its use over the last 12 months. She is now known as the resident EdSmart expert!

Jude was excited to make the jump to digital as she was keen to get rid of paper forms. Carl explained that, in the past, "if a teacher wanted to send a form, they had to come and see Jude, provide the rationale, and then Jude would have to make time to get that done."

This involved designing a new form for the staff member to make sure they could do that particular action. Then, get it edited, checked and changed so that, eventually, it went out. Everything was customised and different. This process was not just extremely laborious and time-consuming, but also a large financial burden to the school.

"With EdSmart, Jude's done a great job of making some of our templates very generic and open, and the teachers love the idea that they can just self-service and get something done."

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> **With EdSmart, staff members don't have to make their own forms, as was previously done.**
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> **Before EdSmart, trying to explain what they wanted for the form and waiting for its customisation meant that, in a world where even the most organised teachers don't have time, a simple form could take away from their key role as educators.**
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> **With EdSmart, they can now use the platform's templates to send out forms with ease and effiency.**
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As Carl explains, the ability to create flexible templates has meant that the school has become "really good at asking ourselves, hang on, does this need a special template or could they be using one we've already done?"

A big point of difference for Rangi Ruru is EdSmart's ability to meet the needs of the school's boarding house. Jude emphasises the importance of accurate data and reliable processes in this part of the school as "parents delegate authority to the boarding house staff to look after their children while in their care."

EdSmart empowers the school to maintain trust amongst its parent community through clear and easy communication - knowing that the boarding house is able to view their child's information and track progress.

Jude looks forward to exploring other ways the boarding house can further utilise EdSmart.

In the year since Rangi Ruru's deployment of EdSmart, the school has been silently kicking goals by transitioning to digital and reducing administrative burden. And, they look forward to more wins to come.

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> **Our teaching staff rave about it - they say it's so good and easy to pick up!**
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> **JUDE CONNOCHIE**
> **Database Administrator**
> **Rangi Ruru Girls' School, New Zealand**

Rangi Ruru Girls' School

EdSmart