21 Steps to 21st Century Learning™
A Framework for Effectively Implementing 1-to-1

Anytime Anywhere Learning Foundation
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Introduction

As we head toward the end of the first decade of the new millennium, more than a million students and teachers worldwide have embraced the laptop revolution. Along with this major change, much has been written about the benefits of 1-to-1 initiatives where each student has his or her own personal computer. But if this is a revolution, it is only a revolution in terms of the number of students with their own personal computers. It is not a revolution in terms of profoundly impacting the learning opportunities for young people.

There have been many isolated pockets of exceptional work, driven by teachers who have seized upon the opportunities provided by the “instrument whose music is ideas.” These teachers have grasped the potential that personal computers can provide to young people. But these examples have not been consistent - or comprehensive enough - to truly impact the wider school community.

Now is the time to tap the potential of this change and make it a true educational revolution. Let us build a coherent foundation from which all students will ultimately benefit, which will transform learning and, ultimately, through the new opportunities, our society.

How can we make that happen, and how can you help lead that revolution? This workbook is a small first step that helps you build out both the fundamentals that are critical to the revolution’s success and the broader strategic issues that must be addressed.

A 1-to-1 initiative is both challenging and rewarding. It can lay a foundation on which new learning dynamics can be built. It can create a platform for reform, for re-imagining what school could be, and for building a more authentic, relevant and worthwhile learning environment for young people in the 21st Century.

However, to make this revolution in learning succeed, there are some essentials that must be followed. You will find an outline of those essentials outlined here as 21 Steps, upon which these possibilities for a new era of education and learning can be built. On their own, they simply provide the team, your students, with their “bat, ball and uniform” so they are ready to play “the game” that makes it all possible. Whether they do, and how well they do, is then up to you and what happens in the classroom as a result of this opportunity.