

## Edval's landmark timetable data integration an Australia-wide first

**Technology firm Edval has become the first timetable software provider in Australia to exchange live school timetable data successfully with government schools through a state department of education.**

Working with the NSW Department of Education and the National Schools Interoperability Program (NSIP), Edval has developed a system allowing timetable data to be exchanged and used across NSW.

The system, first piloted in July, is expected to pave the way for schools to have greater choice and control over the software they use, whether that is for timetabling or other essential school software.

"After two years assisting the NSW Department of Education, we've reached an integration milestone ensuring better choice across schools in NSW and beyond," Edval co-founder Tim Cooper says.

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The new system, called 3pi, is a third party system allowing data to flow in and out of the Department's own systems while prioritising and safeguarding data privacy. Data on teachers, students, rooms and courses are sent to Edval, which then publishes cyclical timetables, class lists and daily variations like absent teacher substitutions, excursions, class cancellations and room bookings.

NSIP program lead Matt Farmer says that, while other data sets like attendance data have previously been exchanged, the timetabling data achievement is a "big win" and a first Australia-wide.

"Every integration like this is a really major achievement. Once it is in place and the work to achieve it has been done, it is then replicated around the rest of the country, so it's really significant."

"Timetable data is also foundational. In addition to fulfilling its primary role, looking ahead it will provide a whole ecosystem of services a chance to add value when they know what the timetable is."

NSIP said the end goal is to allow school management to focus on choosing products that provide the most value based on what the product can do rather than whether or not they can integrate with it.

Edval's Tim Cooper says it was honoured to play a critical role in the development of the integration, based on its history of leading the development of cutting edge timetable software for schools.

"Edval was invited to work very closely with the 3pi team, to almost be on the inside, because we had the majority share of NSW state schools as customers," explains Edval's Tim Cooper.

"We were very keen to play a market leadership role with this integration work, and the 3pi team needed a partner with whom they could iterate a design and implementation," he says.

The development of the 3pi system comes as part of the LMBR project, which mandated that Edval and others be able to publish timetable data to the NSW Department of Education.

"Edval wrote a SIF implementation years ago, in the expectation we would need to do this for the NSW Department of Education," Cooper says. "For a long time the software was untested, but more recently momentum built up and now the project – in terms of publishing timetables – is complete."