ISTE Seal Review Findings Report

Richmond Solution

2025

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ABOUT

ABOUT ISTE

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) is home to a community of global educators and solution providers who are passionate about using technology to revolutionize learning. Our vision is to create a bold community where education innovators are supported in reimagining and redesigning learning with a focus on using technology to create transformational and equitable experiences for learners. We're making this vision a reality by delivering practical guidance, evidence-based professional learning, virtual networks, thought-provoking events and the ISTE Standards.

ISTE SEAL

The ISTE Seal serves as a mark of high-quality product design for solutions that enable and guide high-quality learning. By choosing to demonstrate their commitment to supporting best practices for teaching and learning, these products show a purposeful and meaningful dedication to practical usability, digital pedagogical implementation, and the ISTE Standards. With a focus on user experience, product usability, and the most essential elements of instructional technology today, the ISTE Seal provides a set of criteria and simple indicators to guide educators, students, and technology directors toward the very best products on the market.

ISTE awards a seal only after an extensive analysis conducted by trained ISTE reviewers that ensures a product meets all critical elements under specific review criteria.

By earning an ISTE Seal, ISTE verifies that this product:
- Promotes critical technology skills.
- Supports the use of technology in appropriate ways.
- Incorporates digital pedagogy and the learning sciences.
- Addresses key elements of tech usability, user experience and user interface.
- Aligns to ISTE Standards in specific ways.

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

WHAT IS *Richmond Solution*?

Richmond Solution is an innovative educational system that revolutionizes English programs in participating institutions, ensuring their long-term success and sustainability. Through collaboration with Richmond coaches, the system identifies the specific educational needs of each institution and tailors the processes accordingly. This includes providing evidence of learning outcomes through various assessments, enabling continuous evaluation of individual student progress, and program effectiveness. The comprehensive Richmond Solution package encompasses both digital and paper courses, access to the Richmond Learning Platform, and ongoing support from dedicated coaches. The platform facilitates communication, offers data analytics, and even functions offline in areas with limited internet connectivity. Ultimately, Richmond Solution promotes student-centered learning experiences, monitors the teaching-learning process, and provides teacher training and coaching to enhance overall learning effectiveness.

HOW IS *Richmond Solution* IMPLEMENTED?

Richmond Solution is implemented through versatile usage options, enabling its integration into daily classroom instruction or independent study at home. Students can access a wide range of content, including eStudent's Books, eWorkbooks, Extra Practice Activities, and iRead, either as assigned by teachers or for self-study. They can also enjoy interactive vocabulary games in the Play area, adding a fun gamified element to their learning. Test Manager provides assessment content initially accessible to teachers, which can be assigned to students for ongoing evaluation.

Educators have full access to student materials and exclusive content designed for their use. i-Solutions serve as presentation tools, allowing teachers to display course content on a whiteboard or similar technology. This comprehensive approach supports teachers and students in achieving their educational objectives by offering diverse resources, interactive learning experiences, and effective assessment tools.

ISTE SEAL REVIEW

Product: Richmond Solution
Product Type: Curriculum
Organization: Santillana
Date of Award: June 2023, Updated August 2025

REVIEW METHODOLOGY

ISTE Seal reviews are conducted by a distinguished panel of experts in education, instruction and technology. These experts utilize the most up-to-date data provided by the organization to conduct thorough evaluations of each solution. The evaluations focus on assessing the solution's performance in addressing specific elements outlined in the technical and pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards.

To complete their rigorous evaluations, the reviewers utilize a comprehensive rating system, categorizing each solution as either "meets expectations" or "does not meet expectations." This assessment covers both the required and optional "Look Fors" outlined in the application. To ensure the validity and reliability of their results, the reviewers regularly engage in calibrations. Final review findings are then analyzed and combined, providing an overall score for alignment with each indicator.

At ISTE, we take great pride in our unwavering commitment to delivering results that schools and districts can have full confidence in. To be deemed education-ready learning solutions, products must meet the high standards in learning sciences, user experience and interface, accessibility, and content quality.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

Richmond Solution was reviewed against the technical, pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards to determine whether **the solution is education-ready**. ISTE reviewers examined all evidence provided by the organization and interacted directly with the product.

REVIEW FINDINGS

ISTE Standards: The ISTE Standards provide the competencies for learning, teaching, and leading in the digital age, providing a comprehensive roadmap for the effective use of technology in schools worldwide. Grounded in learning science research and based on practitioner experience, the ISTE Standards ensure that using technology for learning can create high-impact, sustainable, scalable, and equitable learning experiences for all learners.

1.3.d Knowledge Constructor
Build knowledge by actively exploring real-world issues and problems, developing ideas and theories and pursuing answers and solutions.

1.6.d Creative Communicator
Publish or present content that customizes the message and medium for their intended audiences.

1.7.b Global Collaborator
Use collaborative technologies to work with others, including peers, experts or community members, to examine issues and problems from multiple viewpoints.

1.7.d Global Collaborator
Explore local and global issues and use collaborative technologies to work with others to investigate solutions.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
• Project-based activities encourage learners to conduct effective searches within a secure environment to locate specific information for developing creative solutions. • The platform enables information collection from diverse media sources while helping learners adapt language for specific audiences and create authentic artifacts.	✓

• Forums and video conferencing tools facilitate collaboration, idea sharing, feedback exchange, and teamwork toward common objectives. • Through various projects, students are challenged to work as a team, designing presentations and multimedia products that demonstrate their understanding and diversity of points of view.	

DIMENSION 1: USER INTERFACE AND AGENCY

Definition: The design of the product interface and user experience helps teachers quickly and reliably achieve instructional goals. This dimension includes features related to interface design, learnability, navigation, maximizing time on task, control over actions, and general usability.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
• Navigation menus maintain consistent left-side positioning with clear, descriptive labels and visible breadcrumb trails for easy location tracking. • The Interface design delivers clarity and consistency through a fixed sidebar layout with easily interpretable icons and labels. • Search functionality appears prominently in key areas like Assignments and Class Materials, complemented by expandable menus and filtering options. • Help resources offer searchable content organized by user profiles, along with on-demand support desk availability. • The privacy policy clearly explains data collection, storage, and usage practices through a dedicated, easily accessible page.	✓

DIMENSION 2: LEARNING DESIGN

Definition: The product has features that exhibit and promote design and customization of learning episodes in ways that align with research-based best practices, including those rooted in the learning sciences.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
- Platform functionality allows teachers to customize content assignments to meet the specific language learning needs of the whole class or individual students. - Topics and activities utilize real-world examples throughout the PK-12 learning units. - Students complete content that is chunked based on activity type and age appropriateness for optimal learning progression. - Multimedia, including videos, images, and interactive elements, accommodates diverse learning preferences and styles.	✓

DIMENSION 3: DIGITAL PEDAGOGY

Definition: The product is designed to support the development of digital age learning skills, capacities and knowledge. This dimension focuses on how technology can help students and teachers experience the best possible learning experiences, including the social and learning affordances that digital educational products uniquely offer.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
A secure website environment provides safe spaces for learners to curate and evaluate information during research projects.	✓

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
• Activities presented across multiple units offer a solutions-based approach where students use creative problem-solving strategies to address real-world challenges. • Communication options allow direct teacher-to-student messaging and collaborative student interaction.	

DIMENSION 4: INCLUSIVITY

Definition: The product helps teachers provide learning experiences that are relevant to students of many cultures, backgrounds, and abilities, and support learner motivation and agency in the learning process. The product meets current guidelines around accessibility, and supports a positive classroom culture.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
• Content reflects a diverse range of people, cultures, and experiences and provides many opportunities for students to develop social skills. • Activities include opportunities for students to learn about how language is used throughout the world. • Control of audio volume, subtitles, and high contrast design support platform accessibility.	✓

DIMENSION 5: ASSESSMENT AND DATA

Definition: The product uses formative assessments – learning experiences that help make visible what students know and don't yet know – to generate data that inform teachers about student knowledge and skill gaps, and provide students assessment feedback that is specific, actionable, and constructive. As such, it guides teachers' instructional decisions and students' learning journeys.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME

• Immediate feedback delivery through automatic scoring combines with optional educator-provided written responses for comprehensive assessment support. • Assessments incorporate multimedia options and customization capabilities to address individual learning needs. • Comprehensive reporting dashboards display color-coded performance data organized by class, skills, and individual progress with additional analysis capabilities.	✔

CONCLUSION

Richmond Solution demonstrates excellence as a comprehensive educational platform that effectively integrates user-friendly design with powerful learning capabilities across multiple age levels. The platform's intuitive interface design, enhanced by consistent navigation elements and robust search functionality, ensures educators and learners can efficiently access and utilize relevant content. Customization features allow instructional flexibility, enabling teachers to tailor assignments to meet diverse classroom needs while promoting practical language application through real-world problem-solving scenarios.

The platform's commitment to inclusivity shines through its diverse content representation, encompassing various cultures, backgrounds, and experiences that foster social skill development and creative thinking. The multimedia approach accommodates different learning preferences while maintaining engagement through interactive elements. Assessment capabilities provide immediate, actionable feedback through automated scoring systems complemented by opportunities for personalized educator input. The reporting dashboard offers valuable insights into both class-wide performance and individual student progress, enabling data-driven instructional decisions.

Furthermore, the Richmond Learning Platform facilitates collaboration and communication among students through forums and online video conferencing. This encourages idea sharing, feedback exchange, and collaborative work, fostering a dynamic and interactive learning environment.

Overall, Richmond Solution provides a robust, engaging educational resource that successfully aligns with ISTE Standards while delivering comprehensive language learning experiences. The platform's integration of well-defined learning objectives, interactive multimedia activities, and comprehensive educator support materials creates a powerful educational ecosystem that empowers teachers and students.