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Quality was not negotiable

According to Enrico, Jabra’s PanaCast was the perfect camera for the job. It’s fully Microsoft Teams-certified and the 180-degree coverage provided by the camera ensures the entire classroom is broadcast. “This way, the children stay engaged”, explains Enrico. “We felt it was crucial for their focus, but also for their social-emotional development and well-being, involvement, intrinsic motivation, trust and security for things to stay as personal as possible. Things weren’t the same as they used to be, but we tried to emulate the feeling of an old classroom, with lots of laughter and interaction. You can understand why a high-definition camera and crystal-clear sound solutions were not negotiable.”

Working from home, teachers at De Sprong also taught classes using the Jabra Evolve2 40 headset. In the classroom, when he was moving around and he needed an audio solution that could keep track, Enrico chose the Jabra Speak 750, a sound solution that captures audio throughout a whole room. Enrico explains: “Some teachers used the Evolve2 headsets to record their lessons beforehand. For live lessons, Jabra Speak made sure that teachers were perfectly understandable to the children at home.” Even when they were moving through the classroom, he says. “But the Speak also caught questions asked by children in the classroom, so teachers did not have to repeat anything for the audience at home. Things went smoothly.”

A whole new building

Enrico’s experiment of using Jabra’s equipment for his classroom was a trial for the whole school. Months later, it’s clear that Jabra’s PanaCast, Speak and headsets will be part of De Sprong’s future, especially because the school used summer recess to transform the whole building. Enrico also thinks his direct colleagues will not be the only ones to follow suit.

As a member of the school board, he’ll share his findings with board members of the other schools that fall under the umbrella of Kindante, an organization of more than 40 schools in the province of Limburg, including De Sprong. Enrico is a self-proclaimed lover of all things technical, so it makes sense for him to be the first to adopt new technologies. “It really made a difference for me and my children in the trying times of Covid. I’ll try my best to show others the benefits of Jabra and Microsoft Teams, and I wouldn’t be surprised if all of the schools embrace these new possibilities, even when Covid is long gone.”