

Preparing for success with Cambridge Digital Mocks: Colegio Colombo Hebreo, Colombia

In January 2025, Colegio Colombo Hebreo became the first school in Colombia to use Cambridge's Digital Mocks Service. The experience delivered strong results, leading the school to participate again in 2026. With plans to continue using digital mocks and transition to digital exams as they become available, the school has embraced digital assessment as part of its future.



Cambridge Coordinator **Richard Hobson** shares how the initiative has enhanced engagement, confidence and performance. Colegio Colombo Hebreo introduced digital mock exams to provide a more engaging and accessible

assessment experience. This offered students a different way to approach assessment and helped them become familiar with digital exam environments.

'There was a general mood of positivity among students about digital mocks,' says Richard. 'It was an opportunity for them to experience a different dynamic.'

'We saw higher engagement levels from a number of students who lack confidence in the conventional classroom.'

Cambridge has been working with schools worldwide to develop digital exams since 2023, with more than 45,000 digital mocks taken across 66 countries.

An engaging, user-friendly platform

Students and teachers at Colegio Colombo Hebreo quickly adapted to the digital exam environment, finding the platform intuitive and easy to navigate. Richard explains: 'The platform helped students with time management and the thinking process.'

Learners can see at a glance which questions they have answered and which have not yet been viewed using a navigation bar that sits at the bottom of the screen.



They can also flag questions to revisit later and use a timer to help monitor their progress. Other tools include a notepad and calculator.

The benefits of typed responses

The school entered students for three digital mocks: Cambridge IGCSE™ English as a Second Language, Cambridge IGCSE Biology and Cambridge International AS Level Sociology.

'Most students were more comfortable typing than writing by hand and were unburdened by the worry of their handwriting not being clearly read,' says Richard.

This had obvious benefits for teachers too: 'The clearer presentation of students' extended writing made it easier for teachers to assess their work and provide personalised feedback.'

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Fast results and meaningful insights

Multiple-choice digital mock exams are auto-marked, with results typically available within two hours of submission. Non-multiple-choice exams are marked by Cambridge, with results available within 14 days.

‘The digital exams give speedy results that improve the efficiency of our feedback process,’ says Richard. ‘As Cambridge Coordinator, I was particularly interested in using the scores for individual and group data-driven analysis.’

Improved accessibility and learner experience

While Cambridge digital mock exams offer the same rigour, validity and reliability as paper-based exams, Richard says that student performance was generally higher in digital mocks than in paper-based equivalents, due to the added benefits of improved accessibility and a more effective digital exam experience.

‘Mostly, student results increased by 5 to 10% compared to paper-based past papers. Students attributed this increase to using a keyboard and taking advantage of the on-screen menu features.’

Advice for schools

Richard advises schools to plan carefully and communicate clearly when preparing for digital mocks: ‘Students must be kept in the loop during the lead-up. Make sure teachers and IT staff are well trained and can troubleshoot minor issues.’

The [Digital Mocks Service page](#) of the Cambridge website has a whole suite of support resources, including user guides for staff with advice on each step of the process and interactive tutorials for students. Cambridge’s Customer Support team is also on hand to help.



‘We had an issue with usernames and passwords during our first session but with the help of Cambridge’s Customer Support team and our IT department, we were able to overcome this,’ says Richard. ‘Our IT team learned a lot from the entire mock phase about running international exams.’

‘It’s important to educate parents and guardians too about the benefits of switching from traditional forms of assessment to going digital.’

Looking to a digital future

Colegio Colombo Hebreo plans to continue using digital exams: ‘The Digital Mocks Service is a useful asset for both formative assessment and operational efficiency,’ says Richard. ‘It provides a better experience for candidates and supports teachers in terms of delivering early, actionable feedback.’

‘The exams also equip students with the digital literacy skills they need for higher education and their future careers.’

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About the Digital Mocks Service

Cambridge’s Digital Mocks Service gives schools a genuine digital exam experience. It builds confidence for students, provides teachers with actionable insights from Cambridge-quality assessment and marking, and helps make sure schools, teachers and students are ready for a digital future.

Find out more about the Digital Mocks Service on our website at: cambridgeinternational.org/digital-mocks-service



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