

Public values and FOSS for education



The **Coalition for Fair Digital Education** is an ISOC Netherlands workinggroup.

*In Dutch: Coalitie voor **Eerlijk Digitaal Onderwijs CEDO***



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Coalition for Fair Digital Education

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Public values by design

Free and open source



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Issues and risks for public values in edu tooling

**Profiling and Targeting
for Ads and Service
Personalisation**

Behavioral predictions

Personal lock-in

Organisational lock-in

Societal lock-in

**Privatisation of
collective effort**

Privacy risk

Risk for democracy

**Normalization of
unethical tools**

Unethical practice

Risk for sovereignty

**Risk to academic
freedom**

Risk of monopoly

Financial risk

Risk of dependency



Core issues

**Privatisation of
collective effort**

- Adaptive learning is hot!
- Payed for 3 times:
 - Scientific research into the method with public money
 - School buys proprietary licenses to use form commercial vendor
 - Kids have to train the algorithm at school --> bigger dataset, increasing prices!

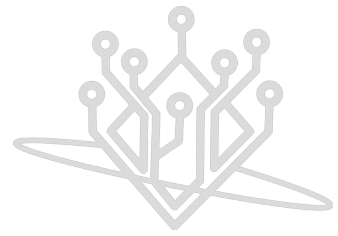


Core issues

Societal lock-in

Nice that you love free and open source services, but...
Continuous links and invites to Big Tech cloud services

- Fill out this Microsoft form please
- Join our zoom meeting
- Here is a Google doc
- Join the school WhatsApp group



Core issues

Organisational lock-in

- Classic vendor lock-in:
 - Proprietary code
 - Lack of open standards
 - No proper API's
 - Bad documentation
- School has no exit strategy
- Thus migrating complicated and expensive



Core issues

Personal lock-in

- You spend time to learn a tool
- This is what you are familiar with
- You won't switch easily



Core issues

But school has a dataprocessing agreement...

- Is the technical manual implemented?
- Only applicable to “core services”, but mixed with other services
- Only applicable IN school, not after school



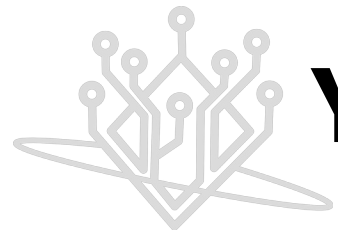
**WE TEACH CHILDEN TO USE
BIGTECH SERVICES IN CLASS.**



**SO THESE SERVICES
RESPECT FREEDOM AND PRIVACY,
ALSO OUT OF SCHOOL, RIGHT?**



RIGHT?



You will accept whatever terms are attached:

**Profiling and targetting
for adds and
service personalisation**

Behavioral predictions

Personal lock-in

Organisational lock-in

Societal lock-in

**Privatisation of
collective effort**



A dystopian nightmare!



Google
IS WATCHING
YOU



1984





The dutch school system

“Freedom of education” Constitution article 23

- Meaning:
 - Any conviction or religion can start a school based on this law
 - State funds the schools
 - Municipality provides buildings
 - Only a minimal curriculum is prescribed
- So schools decide themselves about:
 - teaching methods used
 - **IT environment used**

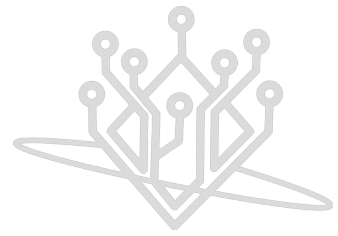




“Freedom of choice”

- The choice is Google, Microsoft and some iPad schools. **You have no say in that.**
- “GDPR” compliant
 - Schools don't implement the required thick manuals
 - Minimal legal compliance only taken in account, other public values are ignored.





Approach the problem from 3 angles:

- Pilots and educate at schools to show case alternative IT
- Lobby, advocate at national and European level
- Journalistic research to enforce legal pressure



4 IT domains in school

Common cloud software:

- Docs
- E-mail
- Videocall
- Calendar

Hardware in class:

- laptops
- tablets
- and Operating Systems

School specific:

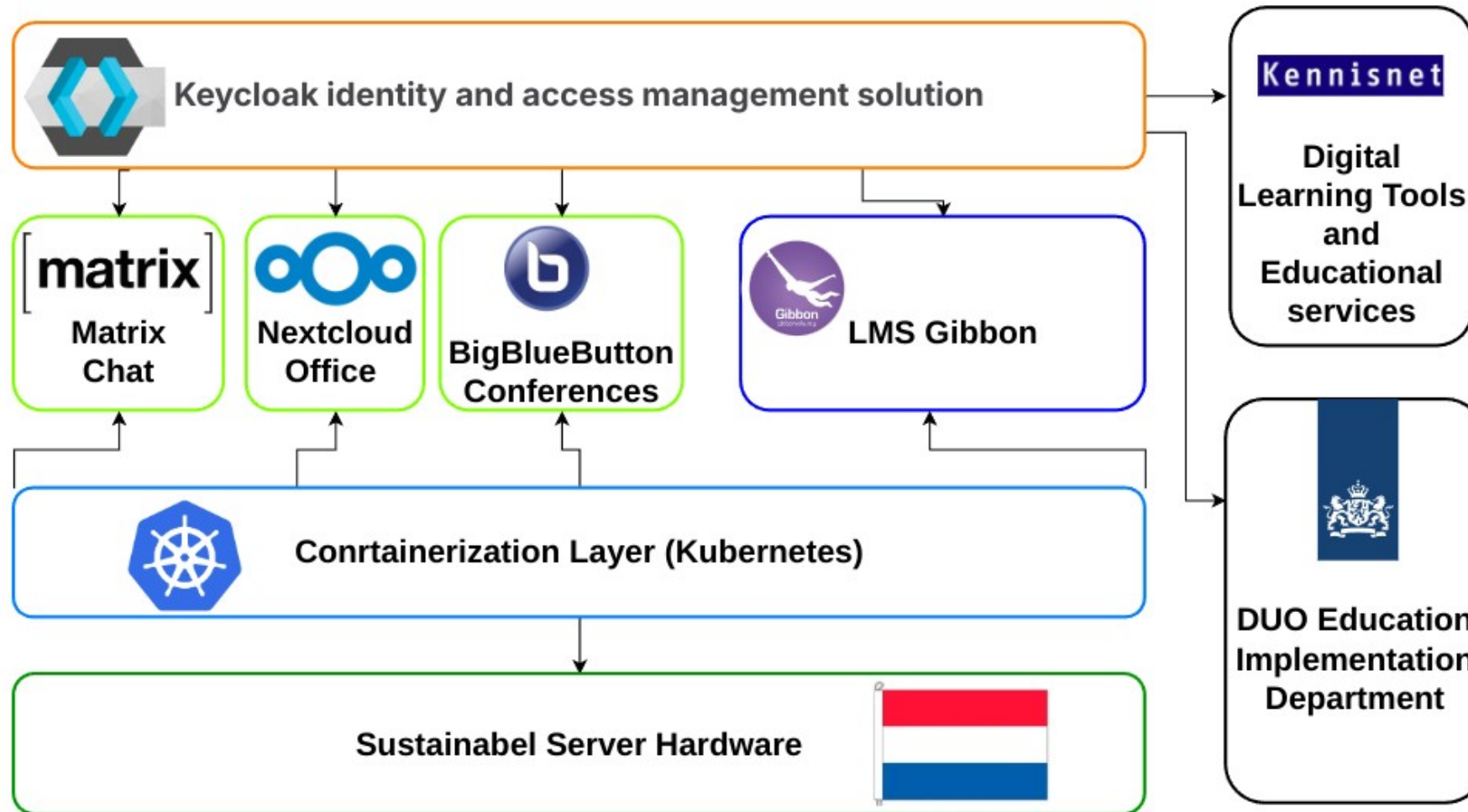
- Learning Management System
- Student Administration System

Educational content:

- wikiwijs
- MOOC
- open acces

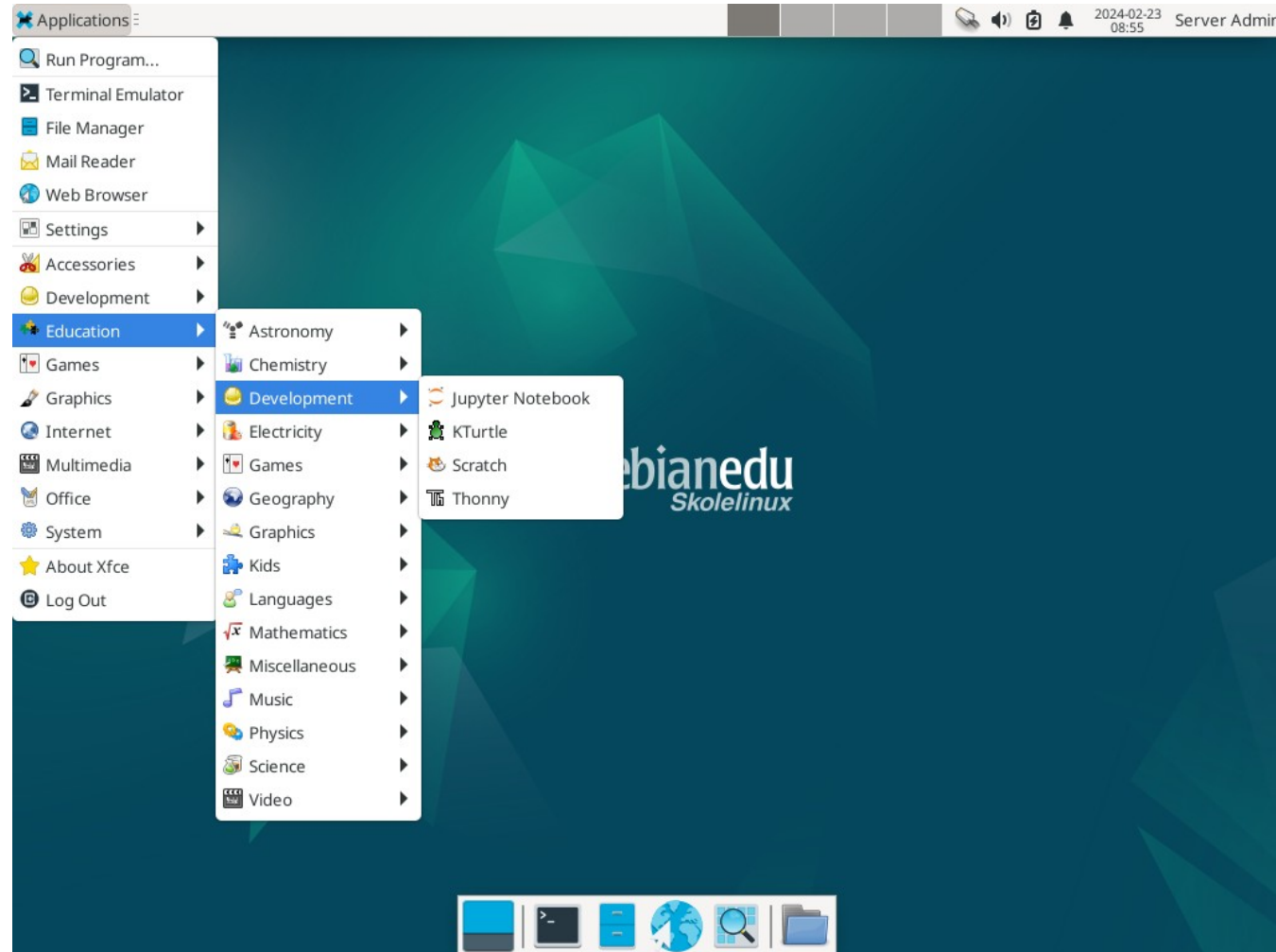


Educational Stack





Software on Hardware





Fix the internet: Start at school!

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Special thanks to the main sponsor:

- For teaching children not to look into the software used
- For teaching a whole generation to NOT own your data
- For running project Maven and enabling genocide on the Palestinians

Fuuck off

Google