



LARMERBROWN

LARMER
LRS

**PRODUCT
GUIDE**



WHAT IS AN LRS?



An LRS (Learning Record Store) serves as the central hub for the xAPI ecosystem, acting as a high-powered repository for tracking diverse educational data. Unlike traditional systems that only record course completions, an LRS captures a wide spectrum of learning experiences ranging from standard eLearning and high-stake simulations to real-world on-the-job performance and informal peer interactions. By utilising the xAPI standard, it provides a unified, comprehensive view of a learner's journey across multiple platforms and environments.

While SCORM (Sharable Content Object Reference Model) and xAPI (Experience API or "Tin Can") are both standards for tracking and reporting eLearning, they differ significantly in their scope and flexibility. SCORM is the legacy industry standard designed primarily for traditional, desktop-based courses hosted within a Learning Management System (LMS); it tracks basic metrics like completion, time spent and quiz scores. In contrast, xAPI is a modern, more versatile protocol that tracks learning "experiences" anywhere they happen, including mobile apps, offline activities, VR simulations and social media.



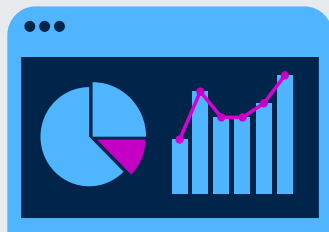
THE LARMER LRS

The Larmer LRS offers recording and reporting on Learner activity and achievement using the Experience API (xAPI) specification. Not a replacement for a Learning Management System, although often used in conjunction with one, the Larmer LRS incorporates features not typically found in other LRSs resulting in a unique analytics platform for learning reporting.



A Learning Record Store (LRS)

Larmer LRS is an official xAPI-Conformant LRS for storing and retrieving xAPI statements. We fully support all types of xAPI data, including statement signatures, binary attachments, and document stores. You can also import from other LRSs, forward statements, or export data out.



A Learning Analytics Platform

Powerful graphing and reporting tools help you organise your data and detect trends. You'll gain valuable insights even from your first xAPI statements using our default dashboards. Take your analytics to the next level via the chart builder, advanced graph query tools, custom dashboards, and special support for common xAPI profiles.



A Learner Portal

Larmer LRS can support some basic LMS use cases for managing users and content. Larmer LRS has a back-end interface for administering the content and a front-end interface for learners to login and launch the content.

Cloud-Hosted LRS

Larmer LRS is accessed directly from a web browser without any downloads or installations required. Larmer Brown hosts and maintains high security servers, and databases in the UK, mainland Europe and the Middle East. All support and services are provided by a dedicated UK Team.

Whether single or multi-tenancy is required, we offer a highly secure cloud service to deploy and store LRS software instances and data. The scalability, availability and security provided by our hosting platform simplifies LRS deployment and the lack of end user licence greatly reduces customer costs. It also allows us to future-proof our LRS architecture for our Customers. Our Customers grow their architecture as their user and storage requirements grow. We have several Support and Training offerings, customised to meet requirements.

KEY FEATURES

The Larmer LRS has many features not typically found in other LRSs on the market, including:

Activity-Based Pricing

Our pricing model is based on the volume of activity and storage. There is no seat-based pricing where you pay per user. You can start small, test the results and then step-up as required. Our subscription service offers rolling monthly or annual subscriptions, the former being designed to meet short-term project reporting.

Branding

The UI is fully customisable, including the Learner Portal login screen, and can therefore be branded to reflect your corporate style.

Learner Portal

Not only is Larmer LRS a Learning Analytics Platform, Larmer LRS has a back-end interface for hosting and administering your content and a front-end Learner Portal for learners to login and launch the content that generates the xAPI data. Learner profiles can be set up simply and quickly, allowing full access to all the content.

Analytics & Dashboards

Our robust analytics and dashboard platform allows you (or us on your behalf) to monitor many metrics at once. It is possible to view correlations between different reports, as well as identify and track learning trends. Larmer LRS provides several default views and dashboards “out-of-the-box”. Alternatively, we can create custom dashboards on your behalf. You can also create multiple dashboard interfaces for different roles or permissions (e.g., learners, instructors, admins).

Larmer LRS offers a handy visualisation tool for creating ‘widgets’ without having to write any complicated code or queries. The Widget Builder tool provides a simple interface for building a wide variety of charts to visualise your xAPI data. You can create a single bar chart or a series of custom charts to reflect the data. It also fully supports xAPI context extensions and result extensions data.

Integrate and Embed Dashboards

Share dashboards and widgets as secure dynamic links and embed them in external applications, such as your website or desktop, providing real-time insights. L&D Teams do not necessarily need to navigate the LRS, just view the data. Sharing the dashboards via dynamic links provide L&D or Managers a live view of the shared information without the need for upskilling.

Data Migration and Integration

In the case of data transfer, importing or exporting of data as CSV, JSON and data dumps via URL is possible. A SQL plugin for exporting data is also available as an option. You can also integrate entire binary database exports/backups and ingest xAPI data from other sources. Statement forwarding allows organisations to link together several LRSs into a network, so you can aggregate data from multiple accounts.



Advanced Queries & API

Our LRS offers query and aggregate xAPI data using a powerful advanced search API and a simplified query language (VQL), together they enable the creation of complex queries and metrics.

Multi-Hierarchical Architecture

Using the Larmer LRS, you can create multiple LRS instances in a hierarchical structure to provide different testing environments and data integration opportunities. Each LRS database within the structure can be assigned its own Administration Teams with each having full responsibility, including learner and content management, as well as the tracking and reporting of data within their dedicated LRS. Each LRS in the hierarchical structure can generate analytics from each LRS reporting to them. Multiple LRS instances offer customised, segregated reporting, for example by location, job role, department, etc. In addition, using statement forwarding, reporting can be collated in a master instance.

Security

Larmer LRS supports basic authentication and two-factor email verification by default but can also be configured or integrated with any Identity Access Management (IAM) or Single Sign-On (SSO) solution. Our LRS has been used or tested with the OpenID Connect specification and is compatible with OpenID providers such as OKTA, GLUU, and Auth0.

Cross Platform

The Larmer LRS is platform agnostic, accessed via any web browser via a URL.

Flexible Deployment

The LRS can be deployed as a Software as a Service (SaaS) option hosted in a Larmer Brown private cloud, with or without Administrator Support. Alternately, it is available as an on-premise solution.

Enterprise Scalability

Larmer LRS is designed to store hundreds of millions of xAPI statements and receive tens of thousands of API calls per second. This means that the platform will never fail to accommodate the increase in resources necessary should your requirements scale up, or down.

Data Debugging & Event Logging

Your LRS subscription incorporates several tools for increasing the quality and accuracy of your data before it is stored in your LRS database. System and event logging allows Administrators to audit information for learners and data.

xAPI 2.0 Conformance

The new xAPI 2.0 standard is an IEEE open-source standard and used the IEEE's open-source process. IEEE 92741.1 is the base xAPI standard, with additional companion standards for xAPI profiles expected to follow. The Larmer LRS is the first commercial LRS to be xAPI 2.0 conformant by passing the ADL LRS Test Suite.

Support & Training

We offer a four-hour virtual workshop covering set up, analysing data and reporting, with a final session focusing on the client's own data. Bespoke support to suit your needs is also available upon request.



KEY DIFFERENTIATORS

Learner Portal

Larmer LRS provides a user-facing portal for learners to launch training content. It supports tracking for many content types (i.e., links, PDFs, videos, SCORM 1.2 courses, and xAPI content). This is normally a feature provided only by an LMS.

The user-facing learner portal also allows hosting of content and provides an administrative interface for enrolling individual users or batch importing them into the system.

Advanced Multi-tenant Architecture

Unlike any other LRS, the Larmer LRS offers a more advanced multi-tenant architecture data segmentation capability by allowing administrators to create unique LRS instances with isolated databases. This directly supports the requirement for controlling access to different segments of the data based on specific regional areas or restrictions.

Define User Roles

Larmer LRS is the only LRS on the market that provides the ability for customers to define their own user roles and permissions in the system. Not only can the system identify a platform-level administrator (master admin), but additional administrative permissions and access controls can be enabled at more granular levels for a wide variety of organisation-defined role types (e.g., Application/Platform Administrator, Manager, Viewer, Data Scientist, Content Tester, etc.). This supports the requirement for an administrator to be able to control all user accounts, but provides many more organisational hierarchy possibilities as well.

Robust Analytics

Larmer LRS has the most robust xAPI tooling and learning analytics platform of any LRS product on the market. Like most LRS tools, it provides several reports and graphs out-of-the-box. However, Larmer LRS surpasses other LRS products by providing more built-in dashboards and widgets, such as dashboards based on measures for training effectiveness and efficiency, test item analysis over assessment data, individual visualisations over all types of assessment question interactions, video histograms, Sankey diagrams, and many more.

Advanced Data Analysis Tools

Larmer LRS also surpasses other LRSs by providing advanced data analysis tools for viewing xAPI data and built-in tooling for creating custom analytics and dashboards. Most other LRS products require customers to buy additional third party BI software for conducting more in-depth data analyses, business intelligence, or creating custom graphs and analytics over the xAPI data.

Security and Conformance

Larmer LRS hosting offers dedicated, cutting-edge security from an ISO accredited data centre that adheres to UK Government specifications. For our government and public sector clients, our hosting service has also achieved Cyber Essentials Plus certification and is available on the G-Cloud framework. This ensures the very highest standards of security, business continuity and peace of mind.