ZYXEL

Success Story

Back to School Bonus for Learners Returning to Upgraded School ICT Network at Bottesford Infants

INDUSTRY Education	**CUSTOMER** Bottesford Infants	**COUNTRY** UK	**SOLUTIONS** Zyxel Nebula Solution

Overview

Challenges

- Replacing an outdated IT network with a centralised one that can be remotely accessed
- Support 140 iPads, eight interactive screens with WiFi, nine laptops, and 10 desktops for the school's 206 pupils and 22 staff

Solution

- Zyxel Nebula Solution
  - Nebula Cloud Managed Access Point
  - PoE switches

Benefits

- Provided school with a fast and simple upgrade of its network infrastructure
- Gave students and teachers immediate access to educational information
- Delivered powerful, state-of-the-art solution at an affordable price

"This upgraded network solution marks a new milestone for our school. Both pupils and teachers alike benefit from having real-time access to important information that makes the learning and teaching process more interactive and stimulating."

Lesley Zetterstrom
Administrative Officer, Bottesford

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Background

After the Scunthorpe-based Bottesford Infant School replaced its outdated network equipment, its pupils will gain access to world-class IT infrastructure when they return to classes in the new academic year.

The school's IT network was previously run by the local county council but ran into a number of challenges because it did not have its own centralised server. This led to network downtime and disruption of classes.

Challenges

Due to not having its own centralised server, the local council ran Bottesford Infant School's network, and controlled their WiFi systems through its own server too, but this would often lead to downtime and class disruption, such was the demand place on the network.

Zyxel, alongside Education Lincs, was tasked with providing the school with a world-class IT infrastructure

built from the ground up by the start of this academic year, replacing its outdated systems.

The desired server had to have the capability of connecting 140 iPads, eight interactive screens, nine laptops, and 10 desktops to the school's 206 pupils and 22 staff, completing the shift away from relying on an outside party to manage its networks.

Solutions and Benefits

Bottesford's ICT infrastructure has now been rebuilt from the ground up—complete with a new, centralised server that easily connects to the school's numerous devices. The network can be managed remotely, meaning changes can be made instantly and seamlessly. Zyxel's Nebula cloud technology enables high levels of visibility into usage and network traffic, as well as facilitates loading across the network, allowing for instant changes if needed.

Education Lincs senior system technician, Ed Parrott, says: "Our solution included Zyxel's Nebula cloud managed network technology, access points, and Power over Ethernet (PoE) switches that ensure high security and efficiency at a reasonable cost. Due to the simplicity and ease-of-use of Zyxel Nebula, our implementation job was straightforward and entirely nonintrusive—taking just three hours to fully complete."

Parrott adds that Zyxel is at the forefront of Education Lincs' network installations: "We have worked with Zyxel

for two years and in that time have successfully completed 18 school ICT projects together. Zyxel ticks all the boxes for us. Its products are affordable but still offer high performance. Past suppliers have been very expensive for licensing, which is unsustainable for schools. Zyxel Nebula offers brand new hardware and a huge amount of flexibility and control at less than the cost of a license renewal. As a result, we plan to transition up to 27 older licenses to Zyxel Nebula, bringing the total number of digitally transformed schools to 45."

Education Lincs utilises Zyxel's gigabit switches to ensure that a school's network is running at a fast and stable speed for tasks ranging from printing to powering PoE devices on the network. Zyxel Nebula is used for WiFi management and maintenance—small access points are installed by technicians to provide strong coverage for all mobile devices around the school, thereby supporting activities like streaming videos in the classroom or browsing the web in the staffroom.