

BSF Bristol Schools ICT Solution



While BSF does include new school buildings, it is intended as far more than a simple building project. Using ICT to support new approaches to teaching and learning, the approach enables students to learn outside the normal school routine and offers access to a new and exciting range of information and resources. Through extended opening hours, the new facilities will be also available for use by the whole community.

In Bristol the programme's objectives include increasing parental engagement, providing safer schools, creating active learners, enabling personalised and collaborative learning, and providing 24/7 access to resources. As the project has progressed, the partners have developed an integrated approach which combines new buildings, ICT, and opportunities for innovative ways of organising teaching and learning to support these objectives.

Northgate Education was appointed ICT managed service provider as part of Bristol's BSF program on 4th July 2006. The 5-year contract with a value of £8.9 million was the first integrated ICT contract under the Government's flagship BSF programme.

ICT Managed Service in Bristol

N-able Integrated Managed Learning Environment

- On-line access to portal anytime, anywhere and from any device
- Fronter VLE and on-line content
- Mail and communications
- Reporting
- Integration of access control, library, cashless catering and e-registration

Provision and management of school based infrastructure

- Central support – helpdesk and remote management
- Local support - on-site technical teams
- Wired and wireless network
- Teacher tool kits - laptops/whiteboard/specialist equipment
- Student access devices - desktop/laptop/hand held devices and SEN equipment
- Managed Print

Wide Area Network

WAN and Data centre provision and management

Curriculum software

Authority wide and school specific software and business applications

Benefits of ICT in Bristol

Bristol BSF schools benefit from the investment in ICT through

- Personalised learning - customising the traditional methods of learning to provide an interactive environment with students actively involved and engaged in the direction of their education;
- Improved access to ICT for all students, helping to narrow the digital divide;
- 'Anytime, anywhere learning' - aimed at breaking down the barriers that exist between schools and local communities and promoting lifelong learning;
- Enhanced assessment - enabling teachers to respond more effectively to individual learning needs and use teaching methods most appropriate to meet those needs;
- Rising attainment levels - embedding innovative ICT into the learning process that can bring both enjoyment and attainment to students traditionally 'turned off' by education;
- Reduced bureaucracy - enabling teachers to focus on education rather than paperwork.