

**THE ADDRESS**

Wimborne, Dorset

THE REQUIREMENTS

Safe, secure wireless connectivity for students throughout the school's seven boarding houses.

THE TECHNOLOGY

- Sophisticated network security ensures school's duty of care is provided
- Scalability – wireless network can grow as school's usage changes and developss
- Central control and administration – IT team can easily monitor and manage the network
- Reduced maintenance – system automatically monitors and adapts to changes
- Ultra-secure solution provides peace of mind

THE BENEFITS

- Students can use the internet safely, protected from harmful or obscene websites
- Fit and forget – wi-fi solution alerts staff when it needs attention
- As your needs grow, the future-proofed system grows with you

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Customer Overview

With a history reaching back to Saxon times, Canford Manor was an asset for the Earls of Salisbury and often reverted to the Crown. Only the Norman church and 14th century John o'Gaunt's

Kitchen survive from those times.

The Grade 1 listed main building, forming the nucleus of the school, designed by Edward Blore and Sir Charles Barry in the early and mid 19th century, stands beside the River Stour. Bought from Lord Wimborne, the manor became home to Canford School in May 1923 and has been developed with the past and future always in mind.

The Guardian newspaper describes Canford School's academic standing as being in the top five coeducational boarding schools in the country. Many of the private school's 600 students board in the four boys' or three girls' houses.

Business Situation

Canford required internet access for students, enabling them to research homework and projects, surf the web and keep in touch with family and friends. They wanted easy maintenance and flexibility for students to connect using their variety of computers, laptops and other devices.

The school takes its pastoral care role seriously and were determined to provide suitable levels of security and control to enable teachers

and administrators to protect students from inappropriate content or situations. Canford wanted security from attacks and intrusion by outside parties or students.

Access points needed to fit discretely into the buildings' character while future-proofing the wi-fi network for expansion to other areas of the school.

REACT's Solution

A site survey conducted by REACT consultants established the spacing and positioning of the access points (AP) throughout the school buildings to ensure all areas were completely covered. REACT also placed as many of the APs as possible in corridors and communal areas – this reduced the disruption to school life and the students' privacy during the installation and for any future access requirements. Having very few APs in private rooms also reduced the chance of people tampering with the equipment.

The Aruba 6000 Controller provides for easy expansion as Canford's use of wi-fi grows and system needs expand. The AP 61 access points use the 802.11g spectrum to provide 54Mbps connectivity. The intelligent management functionality means the whole system detects and adapts to changes in the number of users or background interference, distributing the load between the APs to ensure the best possible performance and speed.

REACT Technologies' consultants integrated the wi-fi system into Canford's existing network infrastructure. The Aruba 6000 Controller dynamically manages power usage to increase efficiency and avoid interference between systems. Self-regulation significantly reduces the time and resources that Canford's IT team spend on maintenance.

Integrating seamlessly with the school's network and policies, REACT's wireless solution uses VLANs so students and staff automatically see only parts of the network they have permission for, using WPA security to authenticate users. Visitors receive temporary credentials for access.

Canford School has already asked REACT Technologies to expand its wireless implementation.



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