

**THE ADDRESS**

Caddington, near Dunstable,
Bedfordshire

THE REQUIREMENTS

- Coverage of core areas: Science, Maths & Library
- Staff, student and guest access
- Facility to easily expand wi-fi network in future

THE TECHNOLOGY

- Aruba 3400 Multi-Service Mobility Controller
- 37 Aruba AP61 Access Points
- Aruba Policy Enforcement Firewall (PEF) module
- Aruba Wireless Intrusion Protection (WIP) module

THE BENEFITS

- Two-phase implementation spreads costs and enables requirement refinement
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Customer Overview

Manshead is a thriving Upper School in the Chiltern Hills close to the market town of Dunstable. A Church of England (VA) school with a framework for our distinctive ethos, 'in search of personal excellence',

Manshead also specialises in Science and Maths and holds an Artsmark. It has close to 1100 students aged between 13 and 19 years old; 240 of these are in the Sixth Form.

The school believes strongly in 'in search of personal excellence' – particularly in relation to students' success as well as how it grows its staff. Manshead School is proactive in encouraging the utilisation of new technology

The school succeeded Dunstable Grammar School, which existed from 1881 to 1971, when Bedfordshire changed to the Comprehensive Education system.

Business Situation

Manshead was looking for a solution that enabled it to spread the implementation over two phases for budgetary reasons. The school required full access to the school's network for staff while limiting student access to specific areas and internet access for research, communication and general browsing facilities.

Despite the conservativeness of the initial implementation, the school wanted to be prepared for the increased use and access requirements and thus the inevitable growth in hardware and traffic capabilities that the infrastructure would require.

REACT's Solution

REACT Technologies' survey of Manshead School covered all the school buildings, providing the foundation for future expansion and upgrades. The school has a relatively modern campus layout, designed and built for its educational role so the range and signal penetration of the wireless access equipment was similar across the campus.

The first phase of the project covered the main administration and teaching areas. The mid-range, scalable Aruba 3400 Multi-Service Mobility Controller was connected to only 15 AP61 access points but this core component was already in place for the significant expansion planned for the second phase implementation.

This first phase provided staff access to the school's complete network, using dynamic encryption to regulate network access and authentication. The network also integrated with Microsoft Active Directory Services to give staff working wirelessly the same level of access and security as if they were using the physical network.

When REACT Technologies carried out the second phase expansion, guest and student access were provided with special authentication to protect the school's network from students hacking into confidential documents on the network. They are still able to use internet facilities and see areas of the school network containing study materials. REACT established wireless VLANs on top of the established network structure, controlling the parts of the network visible to different user groups using the Policy Enforcement Firewall.

Site controls to monitor and control student access to the internet, and limit their ability to view inappropriate websites, are provided via the Local Authority's control systems.

