

Boughton Heath Academy

The Academy receive managed service support from a company called 7eleven systems, run by former School Network Manager, Dan Woolley, who has worked with Virtue Technologies for a number of years.

As their service provider, when Dan realised that Boughton's host server was very old, he told Headteacher Steven Ellis to and they should explore replacements.



The Challenge

As their service provider, Dan from 7eleven systems told Boughton Headteacher Steven Ellis that their host server was very old and they should explore replacements.

We spoke with Dan and Steven about their aged server and discussed options. Their physical server hosted all their virtual servers, including their Domain Controller, File & SIMS Server and a Deployment & Imaging server.

A new host server would increase their speed, stability and uptime, while also enabling them to run resource intensive applications and eradicate the risk of any issues that can arise from aging physical servers.



Dan simply knows how to get things done. He and the technicians who support him are professional and knowledgeable. They don't wait to be told what to do- they find out what to do and sort it- quickly and efficiently.

By working with Virtue Technologies he combines both teams service quality and expertise with Virtue's buying power so we get a fit-for-purpose, cost-effective solution.

Solely supporting education means Virtue are able to better support Dan and us by extension, I can't recommend working with either enough."

- Steven Ellis
CEO, Cheshire Academies Trust &
Executive Headteacher, Boughton Heath Academy

x5

Faster, for both
Data Access, &
Quicker Log-on

x2

Reduction in
Maintenance
Time Required



The Customer

Boughton Heath Academy is a co-educational primary school that teaches over 200 boys and girls aged 4-11. A part of the four-strong primary only academy trust, Cheshire Academies Trust which includes Kelsall Primary and Nursery School, Mill View Primary and Bexton Primary School.



The Benefits

Boughton Heath Academy have benefited from vastly improved data access speed because of the new host server. Their log-on times and general server performance is also faster. This has resulted in much quicker Windows Updates and restarts.

They now have access to the latest firmware and patching updates, keeping devices secure and compliant. Their data continues to be backed up every day with the new set-up, which are also a little faster than they were, due to disks being replaced.

To future-proof the new host, a newer version of VMware ESXi was installed, it offers greater long-term compatibility than the version on the previous host. Boughton's two data stores are configured in a RAID 1 setup, improving the overall performance and ensuring better continuity.

Their new, smaller host machine also has a greater capability for higher virtual machine density, so the school has room to grow.

- Faster Data Access
- Quicker Log-on
- Speedier Backup Writing
- More Secure & Compliant Server with Room to Grow
- Improved Compatibility for Future-proofing
- Reduced Energy Costs
- Reduced Maintenance Time

The Solution

01

By installing a new host server, we first needed to migrate the virtual servers across from the old physical host to the new physical server. At Boughton Heath, the virtual servers running on their previous host were particularly slow due to the aging hardware. While this in itself may not sound like an issue, the lack of speed us likely something that end-users likely experienced.

02

One of our Senior Engineers, Joe, worked with Dan Wooley of 7eleven Systems to develop a solution. All the Virtual Machines were fully migrated from the old host to the new.

We then tested the backups and verified that they were still functioning, which they were.

03

Once we were comfortable the new setup was operating as we needed it to, we decommissioned the old host and removed it from active service.

The last step in the new install was ensuring an uninterruptible power supply was reinstated for the new host post-install.

04

When we arrived on site, we also identified that the network was out of IP leases. This meant that new devices, wired or wireless, could not accept new devices until we expanded the DHCP scope of the servers.

100%

Budget Maximization, Fixed Costs & No Hidden Fees

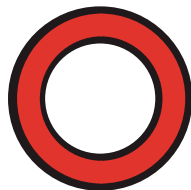
Due to advancements in the technology industry, their new smaller host machine also has a greater capability for higher virtual machine density, so the school has room to grow their infrastructure in the future and they've reduced their energy and cooling costs.

Because Boughton are in a support contract with 7eleven systems, the reduced maintenance time spent on the server doesn't impact their budget or costs. However, that valuable technician time can now be spent elsewhere to further support the school's teaching and learning.



100% Project Satisfaction

Averaged total scored on customer's Project based satisfaction surveys



100% Overall Satisfaction Score

Averaged total scored on all of the customer's satisfaction surveys



100% Support Satisfaction

Averaged total scored on customer's Service Desk based satisfaction surveys