

Case study

Bensham Manor School transforms its print environment



HP PageWide Pro series provide the speed, flexibility and quality to help bring learning to life

Industry
Education

Objective

Bensham Manor School wanted to replace its aging network of HP LaserJet printers with a modern print platform that would enable high quality, fast prints in the classroom

Approach

Bensham Manor School worked with its IT partner, EBM Office Centre Limited, a HP Gold Partner and print specialist, which advised piloting the new generation of HP PageWide Pro series printers. These combine the flexibility of wireless connectivity with copy/scan/digital sending functionality and web-based printer management

IT matters

- Web-based interface makes management simple
- Standardising on one model has streamlined maintenance and the use of consumables
- Wireless capability means that installation in the new build section of the school is straightforward and requires no network ports

Business matters

- Having a flexible and fast printer in the classroom makes teachers more productive and helps pupils engage with lessons
- Bensham Manor School is on target to save £3,000 in its first year - even taking into account the initial investment in the printers
- Automatic timers mean the printers are ready in the morning and switch off in the evening, helping save energy bills and improving the school's environmental rating
- Scanning functionality is enabling the school to efficiently digitise important records



“We’ve had practically no downtime and the print quality is excellent, even better than our old HP LaserJet devices. Also, the ability to scan means we’ve been able to digitise all our legal documents. Even the most IT-phobic staff members have really embraced the HP PageWide printers and are using them to augment their teaching.”

– Kevin Pullar, IT manager, Bensham Manor School

Bensham Manor School has replaced its legacy HP LaserJet models with 21 HP PageWide Pro series printers that deliver better speed and functionality

The new print platform has removed the need for centralised photocopiers, giving the teachers more time in class while the speed of the print process has reduced frustration among pupils and teachers alike. In addition, the scanning capability is enabling the school to digitise important documents quickly and the in-built timer is reducing energy consumption.





Challenge

Finding a smarter school print solution

Bensham Manor School (BMS) is a special needs secondary educational establishment based in Croydon, London, which offers high quality accredited learning activities personalised to meet each individual pupil's needs. Each class group is taught by specialist teachers and every pupil has a dedicated teaching assistant to support pastoral care. There are currently over 200 children in attendance, all of whom require the dedication of the teachers and support staff.

BMS had accumulated 15 network laser printers over the years but found the cost of maintaining them had become prohibitive. In an effort to manage costs, it switched to remanufactured ink cartridges which led to a deterioration in print quality as well as the risk of the cartridges exploding unexpectedly.

"Moving to remanufactured cartridges was a calculated risk but it soon became apparent that we needed to introduce a new print platform that would be fit for a modern learning environment," explains Kevin Pullar, IT manager, Bensham Manor School. "We also wanted to introduce new functionality so that teachers wouldn't be so reliant on the two central photocopiers."

At the time, teachers would usually print one sample of their lesson guide and then visit the photocopying suite to copy the requisite total. This involved leaving the classroom and was often disrupted by the unreliability of the photocopiers, which were prone to paper jams. Furthermore, pupils were frustrated by the long time it took to print their own material, leading to significant wastage.

"Our children are young and have special needs, including Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), which means if their document doesn't pop out straight away, they'll keep hitting print on the PC. That means they would end up with multiple versions of the same document," adds Kevin. "We wanted to find a new print solution that could produce high quality prints in an instant without costing the earth."

The school consulted its IT partner, EBM, a Service One specialist and HP print specialist. It advised piloting the new generation of HP printers which led Kevin to order two HP PageWide Pro printers.



Solution

Flexible next generation printing

HP PageWide Pro series printers are ideal for small to medium-size business organisations that need high-quality, low cost per page printing at speed. They combine the flexibility of wireless connectivity with copy/scan/digital sending functionality and web-based printer management. BMS was immediately impressed with the performance of the printers and ordered 21 new units to replace its entire fleet.

“The response to the two pilot printers was universally positive; finally our teachers had a user-friendly, super-fast printer that could also scan and copy documents,” continues Kevin. “So rolling out the HP PageWide Pro to every classroom was the natural next step.”

Another advantage is the wireless connectivity which has removed the need for network ports in a recently completed new build section of the school, making it simple for Kevin to install the new printers and connect them to the network. It’s also easy for pupils and teachers to connect wirelessly with their own devices because HP AirPrint™, enables them to print straight from their devices via the Wi-Fi network with no setup required.

Benefits

Enhancing the learning experience

BMS has seen immediate and tangible benefits since the installation of the HP PageWide Pro series printers. Most importantly, the new print solution had created an environment more conducive to learning. Pupils can print material instantaneously while the teachers no longer have to leave class to photocopy lesson aids. For a school that focuses on educating children with special needs that is priceless.

“Our teachers are now more productive because of the speed and functionality of the new printers. It makes a huge difference for pupils that struggle with ADHD because they get great quality prints when they need them,” says Kevin. “That improves the morale of the classroom and lets them get on with the important business of learning.”

BMS has also been impressed by the quality produced by the PageWide Pro series printers as well as their versatility and reliability: “We’ve had practically no downtime and the print quality is excellent, even better than our old HP LaserJet devices. Also, the ability to scan means we’ve been able to digitise all our legal documents. Even the most IT-phobic staff members have really embraced the HP PageWide printers and are using them to augment their teaching.”

Case study | Benham Manor School Customer solution at a glance

Hardware

- 21x HP OfficeJet Pro X576 printers

Our solution partners



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EBM is a long established HP Gold Preferred Partner specialising in Education, with excellent business relationships throughout the education arena across the U.K. Working with EBM opens up your establishment to access a comprehensive range of hardware, software, peripherals and consumables, with extremely competitive education only pricing, this twinned with unbeatable after-sales and ongoing support producing a formula that is hard to beat. Ultimately this gives you the best-in-class one-source solution for all ICT requirements. Free consultancy with project management and guidance plus free tools to give you clarity over your whole network and printing environments. EBM are an authorised ServiceONE partner and undertake HP warranty and care pack services on the entire HP product range free of charge.

EBM Office Centre Limited.
HP Gold Preferred Partner 2015
142 Central Street
London EC1V 8AR

Tel: 020 7324 1991
Email: sales@ebm.co.uk

As a publicly funded establishment, cost is also a key concern – and another area in which the HP print platform has made a significant impact. Kevin estimates that the school will save £3,000 this year due to longer lasting ink cartridges and that figure takes into account the initial investment required for the 21 printers.

“We can get up to 7,000 prints per cartridge which translates to dramatic savings and saves me time as I don’t need to run around replacing them as often. As we have standardised on one model, we also have one set of cost-effective HP cartridges, making maintenance simple,” comments Kevin. “The integrated web interface makes management easy and I can get on with helping the school run smoothly rather than fire fighting faulty printers.”

The HP PageWide Pro series printers are also reducing the school’s carbon footprint thanks to their energy-saving timers. Whereas the previous devices would often be left running 24/7, these new models are set to start automatically at 7am and switch off at 6pm, which means they are primed and ready to go when classes begin and they don’t waste electricity overnight.

“We recently had an environmental inspection and our rating has improved from Class G to Class D; that’s largely down to this new intelligent print platform,” says Kevin. “It’s more efficient, it reduces costs and it minimises our carbon emissions. That’s a win-win all round.”

BMS is delighted with the flexibility, speed and value of its HP PageWide Pro printers and has become keen to recommend them to other schools.

“I’ve had nothing but good reports from the teachers which makes my life easier,” concludes Kevin. “And I’ve been so impressed that I went with EBM to educational trade show BETT to showcase just how powerful they are. I have no doubt that the HP PageWide printers will make a real difference to other schools.”

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The HP products highlighted in this case study are HP OfficeJet Pro X and HP OfficeJet Enterprise X using HP PageWide technology. All references to the HP OfficeJet Pro X, HP OfficeJet Enterprise X and inkjet in this case study have been replaced by their current HP PageWide brand name: HP PageWide Pro, HP PageWide Enterprise and HP PageWide. The change of brand name does not affect the results of the case study.

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