



Instant access to key information integral to the working of Bishop's Stortford College

Founded in 1868, Bishop's Stortford College has grown to be one of the country's leading co-educational day and boarding schools for 4 to 18 year olds. It is situated in a beautifully peaceful and spacious setting close to the Hertfordshire-Essex border and midway between London and Cambridge.

Friendly and ambitious, without being pretentious, it is a place that nurtures impressive enthusiasts with a love of learning; independent thinkers with the confidence to succeed and the courage to take risks; interesting people with a heart for others and a desire to make a difference.

Keith Irvine, MIS Project Coordinator and Senior Teacher at Bishop's Stortford College explains, "We were looking to take advantage of a browser-based academic information system, that would enable all our teachers, house masters and mistresses, the ability to access up to date information across an extensive campus, as well as from other locations."

Other key requirements included electronic attendance, easier creation of academic reports and monitoring and rewarding pupils

"Access to key information via the Management Information System is absolutely integral to the working of the whole school. We operate over a very extensive campus, so we need instant access to critical information, wherever staff might be and at any time."

The challenge: Wanted a system that could handle all information requirements and was accessible anywhere, anytime

"It's possible for someone to be logging onto our Management Information System at 3am, because a teacher or a Director of Studies wants access to information to compile reports from home or may be about to set off on a school trip and needs contact details."

The solution – 3Sys - a centralised and browser-based MIS from WCBS

In 2011 Bishop's Stortford College moved to 3Sys, a browser-based and centralised information system from WCBS which means that teachers, housemasters/mistresses and other staff can now retrieve up-to-date information wherever they are, at any time.

The Features and Benefits 'Easy access to information, Faster Reporting, Enhancing Pastoral Care.'



Pastoral care support enhanced at Bishop's Stortford

Easier to create and distribute academic reports

The college is also taking advantage of the new system to create academic reports.

“In the past paper reports were individually generated which was much more difficult to organise. Now, with 3Sys, it’s easier for staff to create reports and grading for pupils, which can be up to 6 times a year,” says Keith. “We can also now email these to parents in a format that is professionally presented. This communication is clearly of value to parents, in particular for boarders with parents overseas.

“These reports are often opened within four to five minutes of receiving them on the other side of the world.”

Enhancing pastoral care “allows us to do what we’re good at – to know our pupils well.”

“Sharing and exchanging up to date information allows us to do what we’re good at – which is to understand and develop good relationships with all our pupils on an individual basis.”

The school prides itself on producing rounded pupils.

“The extent of the information available helps teaching staff to build relationships with pupils. For example, when a new pupil joins at the beginning of term, with 3Sys we now have all their details on the system from their very first day. Teachers can easily check lists, as well as view photographs so it just helps them to get a full insight of individual pupils.”

Pupil Performance

Another part of 3Sys that the College regularly uses is the ability to track and monitor pupil performance and behaviour.



Keith comments, “A housemaster for example can view the total merits of a pupil. This allows them to manage any rewards. Conversely, if there any behavioural issues, 3Sys can act as an early warning system by allowing staff to record and recall a history of any incidents.”

Enhancing pastoral care – “allows us to do what we’re good at – to know our pupils well.”

Better Attendance Management

On the ease-of-use of 3Sys for electronic registration, “This is incredibly easy to do and gives all staff up to the second information on who’s on and who’s off campus.”

Events Management

“In particular, the events management functionality of 3Sys is really popular with the Senior School, that uses it to track all pupil involvement.”

On WCBS and 3Sys

“The teachers have really reacted positively to 3Sys- it is totally flexible and can be customised to deliver exactly what the individual wants.”

“Our overall experience of working with WCBS has been very positive. The support is excellent and they are very willing to listen to our views for future development of the product.”

Final Words

“It is difficult to know when to turn 3Sys off for upgrades, because it really is used at all times of the day and night and is essential to the overall running of the school.”

“3Sys is absolutely integral to the working of the whole school.”

Summary of key benefits

- Easy access to up-to-date and in-depth information
- Supports enhanced pastoral care
- Assists with monitoring pupil performance
- Easier to manage and more comprehensive academic reporting

For more information go to www.wcbs.co.uk