

Conference
14 June
Book on our
website now

Message from the Chair

Dear Colleagues

I hope you are well, and you and your school are thriving.

ABLE is here to ensure that you excel in your role. We have a packed agenda at the ABLE summer conference on the 14th June. At our spring conference many of you told us how recruitment and retention of staff is a real pain point for you. With that in mind we have addressed this at the ABLE summer conference. We have a panel discussion with four specialists to answer your questions and a workshop giving you great ways to market your school to potential new recruits. The DfE will also be in attendance to answer your questions and be running a workshop on their new DfE School Business Professional Strategy. And so much more! Of course there are discounts to be had with suppliers, ABLE app points to collect and lots of networking with your peers. Can you afford to miss it? The agenda is below and full details and the link to book are here, ABLE summer conference.

ABLE is here to help and support you and help you keep those plates spinning with panache! We do everything we can to keep our training and conference workshops current and relevant so you can take new ideas back to school and excel in your role, despite everything that gets thrown at you. Coming to our conferences and training events is invaluable CPD as well as networking with your peers, talking to specialists and suppliers. If you can gather a few ABLE app reward points and collect prosecco and chocolate along the way, then why wouldn't you?!

I so look forward to seeing you on 14th June at Eastwood Hall for the ABLE summer conference.

In partnership with



Affiliated with





Message from the Director

Well, we are getting towards the end of another Academic Year yet again– it seems to go a lot quicker the older you get!!!

It has been a tough year all round for you all. The difficulties with budgets, retention and recruitment of staff alongside increased staff absence seems to have taken it's toll on a lot of schools and academies this year! As Frances said in her note, we are always here to help and focussing on those stress points will hopefully stand you in good stead.

In addition to this I have been working closely with Emma and Bannatynes Spa in Mansfield to provide a well deserved spa and wellness day to end the Academic Year on the 29th June. Spaces are limited so when the booking form comes out you are going to have to be hot off the starter line!

Unfortunately, I won't be able to join you for the last conference of the year but I know you are going to have a fantastic day – don't forget that the power of networking is as valuable as training courses. Make sure you let us know what you would like to see on programmes for next year as well as we will be planning that very soon!

Thanks for everything you do for children and staff in our schools and academies – they simply wouldn't be able to manage without you!

See you either at the spa day or in the Autumn! Have a great, restful summer where you can.

Karen

We are seeking a new committee member

It is with great sadness that we announce the resignation of Clare Stokes. Clare has been with ABLE, initially Nottingham Bursars Group, then Nottingham ASBM for literally decades. Oh she will be missed! That leaves us with a vacancy for an ABLE committee member. To find out more please email Frances at chair@able-pro.co.uk for more details.





Conference
14 June
**Book on our
website now**



Our Conferences

Our Summer Conference date of 14th June is approaching quickly, booking closes on the 6th of June so don't delay if you haven't booked your place yet!

We are pleased to welcome our keynote speaker Will Hussey from the Art of Brilliance to discuss *The Science of Flourishing* and we will be ending the day with a panel discussion focusing on *Recruitment and Retention of Staff* along with lots of other workshop choices during the day.

<https://ablepro.info/conferences/>

Check out our Conference Agendas on page 4 & 5

Just a reminder here, members pay only £65 a year and get to attend all three conferences at no extra charge. These events include refreshments and a full lunch. We also permit you to give your place to a colleague at conferences and training events which means you can share your membership with your team, although only one person can attend each event without incurring an extra fee. Members also get to attend training events at no extra cost, some of these are held online and others face to face. We will hold one training event per term. We hope you appreciate how hard we work to keep the membership rate low for you. We have our business partners and exhibitors to thank for this.

Contributions from members

**Help us to
shape
ABLE!**

ABLE is keen to hear from you! Have you attended a workshop or training event that inspired you? Do you have some practice you want to share with other members? For every piece published in our newsletter from a member ABLE will give you 50 reward points on the ABLE app. Or 250 app reward points for presenting a workshop at one of our conferences. To submit something or ask questions please email chair@able-pro.co.uk.

Summer Conference

Being a Dynamic Educational Business Leader

Free for ABLE members/ £55 non members

Wednesday 14 June 2023

Eastwood Hall, Mansfield
Road, Eastwood, Notts,
NG16 3SS

Our Chosen Charity



In Partnership With



08:30 - 09:00

Registration, Exhibition and Coffee
Wellbeing Rooms – Health checks with Sharon Andrews from SAS and HR Surgery with Cheryl Willey

09:00-09:15

Welcome and update from Chair, Frances Rowland

09:15-9:45

Partner Updates- SAAF, Education Mutual, Breedon, Zenergi & ATOM IT

09:45-10:00

Sponsor – Canopies UK

10:00-10:45

Will Hussey, The Art of Brilliance- The Science of Flourishing

10:45- 11:30

Refreshments, Exhibition and Coffee
Wellbeing Rooms – Health checks with Sharon Andrews from SAS and HR Surgery with Cheryl Willey

11:30-12:30

Workshops

- Will Hussey, Art of Brilliance - From Surviving to Thriving
- Andy Mellor, SAS – Wellbeing for all ... and that includes business leaders!
- Justin Smith - A Brave New World – How to generate new income for your school

12:30-13:30

Lunch, Exhibition and Coffee
Wellbeing Rooms – Health checks with Sharon Andrews from SAS and HR Surgery with Cheryl Willey

13:30-14:30

- Justin Smith – Meeting the Recruitment Challenge – Great ways to effectively market our school
- Sharon Spencer and Sarah-Joe Taylor, Schools IT Nottingham City Council – How to get the data you need from SIMS
- Pete Stopford DfE - DfE School Business Professional Strategy

14:30-14:50

Tea, complete evaluation, app questions and raffle results

14:50-15:30

Discussion Panel – Recruitment and Retention of Staff

- Claire Walters – ABLE member
- Theresa Skillen – Academy Business Leader, Primary and Special, Diverse Academies
- Justin Smith – Marketing Specialist Chameleon Training
- Matt Lydon – Partner, SAAF

Sponsor
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Time for You Event

Join us for a day of self improvement workshops, fitness classes, relaxation and networking.



With a choice of treatment, use of the pool, sauna, steam room and relaxation areas.



Thursday 29th June | 9am-5pm
Bannatyne Spa, Mansfield, NG18 3HS

Free for ABLE Members



Atom IT

20 YEARS' SERVICE
SAS
Schools Advisory Service

In Partnership With
Education Mutual

zenergi

SAAF
EDUCATION

BREEDON

training@able-pro.co.uk

www.ablepro.info

Upcoming Business Network Training Events

Summer Term – 'Time For You' – we will be inviting a host of wellbeing, beauticians, mindfulness and health professionals for a variety of workshops throughout the whole day, to ensure that you can find ways to relax and take some well-earned time for you at the end of the year.

Further details will be sent out shortly so that you can book your place, spaces are limited to 30 people for this one, so keep an eye out for when booking goes live.

Membership Terms & Conditions

Our membership year runs from 01 September to 31 August each year.

Your membership will renew automatically on the 01 September each year and continue on a rolling annual basis thereafter.

If you do not wish for your membership to automatically renew, you must notify us in writing at memberships@able-pro.co.uk no later than 01 July.

If you join or cancel part way through an academic year, the full fee will still apply for that year.

ABLE reserves the right to review the annual membership cost in line with inflation each year. Members will be notified in writing of any changes to fees before the next academic year.

MEMBERSHIP



What are the Benefits of Peer Networking?

Peer networking, or connecting and interacting with individuals who share similar interests or professional backgrounds, offers several benefits.

Knowledge sharing

Peer networking provides a platform for exchanging knowledge and insights.

By connecting with peers, you can tap into a collective pool of expertise, experiences, and perspectives. This can help you expand your knowledge, gain new insights, and stay updated with the latest trends and developments in your field.

Learning opportunities

Interacting with peers allows you to learn from their successes, failures, and best practices. You can gather valuable insights, tips, and techniques that can enhance your skills and improve your performance.

Peer networks such as ABLE organise workshops, seminars, or webinars where members can share their expertise and provide learning opportunities for others.

Support and motivation

Peer networking creates a supportive environment where individuals facing similar challenges can connect and empathise with each other.

It can be comforting to know that others have encountered and overcome similar obstacles. Sharing experiences, offering advice, and receiving support from peers can boost your motivation, resilience, and confidence.

Professional development

Peer networks often provide opportunities for professional development and growth. They may offer mentoring programs, career guidance, or access to resources and opportunities such as job postings, internships, or collaborations.

Engaging with peers can help you expand your professional network and open doors to new opportunities.

Collaboration and partnerships

Peer networking fosters collaboration and the potential for partnerships.

By connecting with like-minded individuals, you can find potential collaborators for projects, research initiatives, or business ventures. Collaborating with peers allows you to leverage complementary skills, resources, and networks, leading to mutual benefits and increased success.

Emotional well-being

Peer networking can contribute to your emotional well-being. It provides a sense of belonging and community, reducing feelings of isolation or professional loneliness.

Interacting with peers who share common interests and challenges can create a supportive social network, leading to increased job satisfaction and overall well-being.

Career advancement

Building a strong peer network can positively impact your career progression.

Your peers may provide recommendations, refer you to job opportunities, or advocate for your skills and abilities. Additionally, being part of a respected peer group can enhance your professional reputation and credibility within your field.

Overall, peer networking offers a range of benefits, including knowledge sharing, learning opportunities, support, professional development, collaboration, emotional well-being, and career advancement. Engaging with peers can broaden your horizons, strengthen your skills, and contribute to your personal and professional growth.

If you haven't booked your place at our next conference, what are you waiting for?

Secure your place at our next conference here:

<https://ablepro.info/conferences/>





5 tips for attracting top talent to your educational institution

Attracting top talent is crucial for any educational institution that wants to provide its students with the best possible education. However, with so many institutions vying for the best candidates, it can be challenging to stand out from the crowd.

In this blog, we'll discuss five tips for attracting top talent to your school, academy, trust, college, or university.

Develop a strong employer brand

A strong employer brand is crucial in attracting top talent to your institution. Your brand should reflect your institution's values, mission, and culture.

You can develop a strong employer brand by highlighting your institution's unique selling points and creating a positive work environment for your employees.

Consider offering perks like professional development opportunities, flexible schedules, and generous benefits packages to showcase your commitment to your employees.

[Read more in SAAF's blog.](#)



Ironing out the bumps – planning towards wellbeing all year round

by Andy Mellor

I hope you managed to enjoy a break from school over the Easter holiday and were able to practise some of the things that you know help to support your wellbeing, de-compress and refresh you.



I had a lovely break in North Yorkshire and took in the waterfalls at Aysgarth Falls and Hardraw Force whilst out on a couple of walks. It allowed me time over the Easter bank holiday weekend to have a mental break and remind myself of the things that support and nourish my wellbeing.

Seeing the falls, the lambs, many of whom were just a few days old, dry sunny days, the peace and space of The Dales, good company, the opportunity to cook thought through meals and enjoy different recipes; all of this helped to nourish and replenish my wellbeing.



Then I started to think about how school works and how difficult it seems to have this quality of wellbeing during term time. Clearly it's the pressure of seemingly never ending work, long hours and the weekly cycle of tasks at home. We therefore have this rollercoaster effect of time for wellbeing during the holidays and no time during term time. We know that this boom and bust approach to wellbeing isn't good for us, much the same as excesses of anything followed by a shortage isn't good for us.

Our journey over to Reeth in North Yorkshire took us over a winding single track road accurately called Long Road. It was twisty, turny, dropped suddenly and at many points had parts of the road when any car speeding would have taken off and landed with a bump. In fact there were marks on the road where cars had hit a bump and taken off creating another gauge in the road where they landed.



The damage to the road both on the upward curve and on landing was in some cases considerable and it reminded me of the impact on wellbeing of those in school both as we hit the top of a stress curve for example at Christmas and again as we come down during the holidays, in terms of illness.

The answer of course is to stop the peaks and troughs and try to smooth these out so that our wellbeing journey through life is less extreme. The way that we can do this is recognising when we are stressed to the max and taking opportunities to do more of the wellbeing things that we know help us to de-stress during the holidays.

Clearly I can't go to the Yorkshire Dales every time I'm stressed but I can build walking into my working week. I can get into nature and experience the changing seasons and I can do some of the things that I know helped to de-stress me during the Easter break.

It's critical that we analyse what we do during the holidays to de-stress and try to embed some of this in our working week. That way we level out the bumps and avoid the impact on our wellbeing during term time.



Andy Mellor

Wellbeing Director

AskAndy@uk-sas.co.uk

School Leaders Thriving Programme

In Partnership With  SAS

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Put your own mask on first

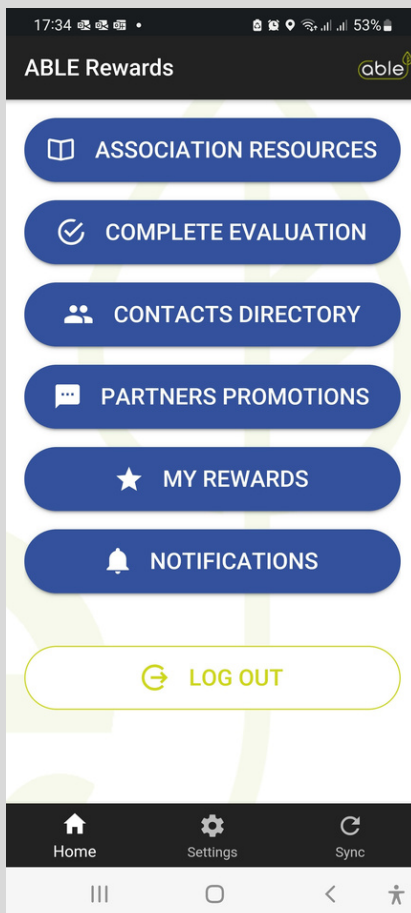
Be Well Lead Well Pulse® Assessment

USE REFERAL CODE: ABLE-Free-Step-one





ABLE Rewards App



The ABLE Rewards app is our very own contacts directory and rewards scheme.

The rewards scheme also acknowledges the commitment you show as members by attending conferences and sharing your professional knowledge and expertise.

Our aim with the rewards scheme is for you to be rewarded for the things you already do as ABLE members. You can spend your rewards on treats and gifts.

**Don't forget points
mean prizes!**

If you haven't downloaded the app
yet please go to:

<https://ablepro.info/rewards/>

for details.

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updates



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Grants for LED Lighting

Since our last ABLE conference many members have been taking advantage of the recent grant from the DfE for improved LED lighting in their school. Schools and colleges in England have been allocated a share of £500 million to spend on energy efficiency upgrades, helping to save on bills during the winter months and manage energy consumption. This will not only help them save money, but it will make them more energy efficient during the cold period and increase winter resilience for future years.

Estimations show that on average, a primary school will receive approximately £16,000, a secondary school will get £42,000 and a further education college group will benefit from £290,000. Improvements could include installing better heating controls, insulation to reduce heat loss from pipes or switching to energy efficient lighting.

Below are just a few of the benefits new LED lighting can bring to your school:

1. Energy savings: LED lighting consumes less energy compared to traditional lighting, thus leading to significant energy savings for the school that can be allocated to other areas.
2. Improved concentration and productivity: LED lighting mimics natural light and helps students feel more alert and focused, leading to better academic performance.
3. Reduced eye strain: LED lighting provides a softer and more even light, reducing eye strain and headaches that can be caused by flickering fluorescent bulbs.
4. Longer lifespan: LED bulbs have a longer lifespan compared to traditional bulbs, reducing maintenance costs and improving the overall long-term cost-effectiveness of the classroom.
5. Environmentally friendly: LED lights do not contain harmful materials such as mercury or lead and can be easily recycled. By using LED lights in the classroom, schools can reduce their carbon footprint.

ABLE Business Partner Andrew Springhall from Breedon, will be attending the next conference and will be happy to advise how you can apply for this for your school if you haven't already done so.



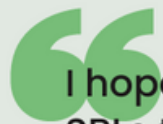
**Education
Mutual**

The mental health and wellbeing of School Business Leaders

in partnership with  Education
Support

Like many other professionals, School Business Leaders can struggle with their mental health. School Business Leaders play an essential – but often unnoticed – role in the smooth running of schools. The position can come with its challenges which can have a significant impact on their wellbeing as they may face long working hours and a need to balance competing priorities. If you work in a school, you're likely to be committing yourself to extra responsibilities which may feel like your job role is gradually snowballing.

Education Mutual and Education Support work in partnership on this newfound research to collectively understand the working role of an SBL in state-funded primary, secondary and special schools across England and Wales. The increased interest in staff wellbeing following the Covid-19 pandemic, highlighted the lack of research relating to this group of staff. Our aim is to support the underestimated mental health and wellbeing of school business leaders to accelerate more fulfilling, successful, and effective educational institutions.

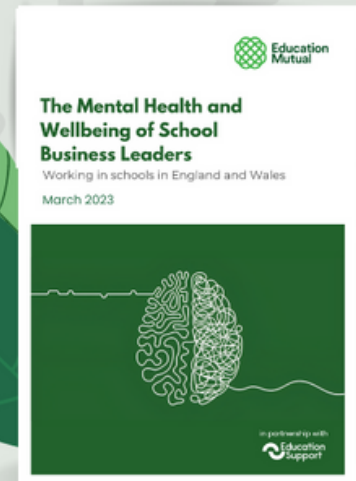


I hope this research encourages SBLs to know they are not alone, and their challenges are shared across their community. I invite you to join us in singing the praises of our unsung heroes, to raise their profile and encourage everyone to support their mental health and wellbeing.

Louise Levy

Director, Education Mutual

COO Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust



So what did we discover?



Workloads are proving to grow excessively at certain points of the year. Managing multiple projects simultaneously with the demand to deliver quality work is becoming intense. Many SBLs felt that the pressure of this authority weighed heavily on keeping the school running.



We found a surprising, varied lack of understanding of what the SBL role entails. A familiarisation with others' roles can help to promote a collaborative working environment but a confusion with other administration roles was a common occurrence for many SBLs.



The finding that we found most staggering, however, was the feeling of isolation within the job role. With a lacking understanding of their role, SBLs struggle to bounce ideas off others and communicate their issues with peers who recognize and relate to the obstacles they encounter.

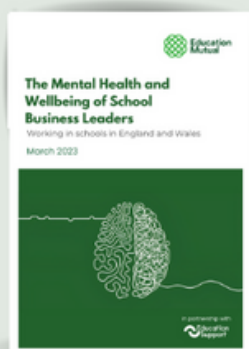
So what can we do?

If you are an SBL:

We strongly suggest that you share this report with your headteacher. Mark the relatable findings of the report to ensure that changes are made throughout your school to prioritise your mental health and wellbeing. Additionally, are you on Twitter? If the answer is yes, there's plenty of networking to be done with large groups of other SBLs – a frequent reminder that you are not alone!

If you are a Headteacher:

When was the last time that you checked in with your SBL? The findings of this report could spark some important conversations and highlight specific areas of improvement to benefit your SBLs. Have you considered the services your staff have available through your staff absence protection?



Read the findings here:

The report is available to read via the Education Mutual website!

<https://www.educationmutual.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/The-Mental-Health-and-Wellbeing-of-School-Business-Leaders-2023.pdf>

SCAN ME





Update on NSPCC's successful Number Day

Number Day is an inclusive maths-inspired fundraising day for children in nursery right through to secondary school, with free downloadable activities suitable for all ages and abilities.

These fun curriculum-based activities take inspiration from famous gameshows, current trends, exciting tasks, and teamwork. Pupils are also encouraged to Dress Up For Digits and make a donation to wear an item of clothing with a number on it.

Funds raised from Number Day will help support vital NSPCC services such as Speak out Stay Safe which visits primary schools across the UK to teach children about the dangers of abuse and what they can do if they need help.

What a success!!

They had 8,711 total signups for Number Day 2023 of which 7,171 were unique school/nursery settings – an increase of 2,186!! Almost 40%!

The funds raised have started to come in now too and they're already at a whopping £101,796.49!

Thank you to all ABLE members that signed up and helped to make this campaign such a success.

Save the date for number day next year on Friday 2 February 2024



Changing Thoughts to make you happier

by June Brade

All of us have beliefs (Things we think about ourselves) from time to time such as:

- I never have anything to say that's interesting
- I am not clever enough
- I am not as good as them

Let's call them limiting beliefs!

The biggest limiting belief that people around the world today think is 'I am not good enough' this is not true! It is just thoughts that come into our mind that we believe. Often these thoughts make us unhappy or worried. But they are just thoughts.

So what can we do to change our thoughts to more happier positive ones?

- First of all think of the thought or thoughts you have about yourself that don't make you feel good.
- Realise it is only a thought and only you believe it.
- Ask yourself is it true? Has anyone ever told you or wrote it down about you!
- Bring that thought to your mind and just notice how it makes you feel.
- Now replace it with a new thought something the opposite to the old thought that makes you sad.
- Notice if that new thought makes you feel happier about yourself.
- Practice that new thought play it over and over in your mind maybe even say it out loud or write it down.

Just notice how good this new thought makes you feel.



June Brade

Mindfulness Teacher
AskJune@uk-sas.co.uk



Reducing Carbon Emissions in Classrooms: The Power of UPOE Network Switches

As the world grapples with the urgent need to address climate change, every sector must step up and contribute to reducing carbon emissions. Education plays a vital role in shaping a sustainable future, and schools have a responsibility to adopt environmentally friendly practices. One area where significant progress can be made is in the use of UPOE (Universal Power over Ethernet) switches in classrooms. By implementing these energy-efficient solutions, educational institutions can greatly reduce their carbon footprint while simultaneously enhancing the learning environment.

Understanding UPOE Technology

UPOE technology allows both power and data to be transmitted over Ethernet cables. This eliminates the need for separate power cables, resulting in simplified installations and reduced energy consumption. UPOE switches can provide power to various devices, such as IP phones, security cameras, wireless access points, and even desktops, monitors, laptops and tablets. By utilising UPOE switches in classrooms, schools can streamline their power infrastructure and significantly lower their energy consumption.

Benefits of UPOE Switches in Classrooms

1. **Energy Efficiency:** UPOE switches are designed to optimise power usage. They incorporate intelligent power management features that adjust power delivery based on the connected devices' requirements, minimising wastage and maximising efficiency. This energy-conscious approach directly translates into reduced carbon emissions and lower electricity costs.
2. **Streamlined Infrastructure:** UPOE switches simplify the infrastructure in classrooms. By eliminating the need for separate power cables, there is less clutter and fewer points of failure. This streamlined setup not only improves aesthetics but also reduces maintenance requirements, further contributing to sustainability efforts.
3. **Enhanced Flexibility:** UPOE switches offer increased flexibility in classroom setups. As power and data are delivered through a single Ethernet cable, educators can easily rearrange their classroom layouts without being constrained by the location of power outlets. This flexibility encourages collaboration, innovation, and active learning, all of which are crucial for a modern educational environment.

4 Remote Monitoring and Control: UPOE switches often come equipped with advanced management features, allowing administrators to remotely monitor and control power consumption. Real-time monitoring helps identify energy-intensive devices or areas that can be optimised for better efficiency. With such control, schools can proactively manage energy usage and make informed decisions to reduce carbon emissions.

5 Future-Proof Investment: Adopting UPOE switches is a future-proof investment. As technology continues to advance, more devices are designed to be powered over Ethernet. By implementing UPOE infrastructure, schools can accommodate evolving technological needs while maintaining energy efficiency, avoiding costly retrofits down the line.

Case Study: Green School Initiative

The Green School Initiative is a prime example of how UPOE switches can be leveraged to reduce carbon emissions in classrooms. By replacing traditional power outlets with UPOE switches, the initiative successfully reduced energy consumption by 30% across participating schools. This substantial reduction in carbon emissions not only made classrooms more sustainable but also acted as a catalyst for educating students about the importance of environmental stewardship.

Conclusion

Reducing carbon emissions in classrooms is a critical step toward creating a sustainable future. UPOE switches offer a practical and efficient solution for educational institutions to lower their carbon footprint. By embracing this technology, schools can optimise energy usage, simplify infrastructure, enhance flexibility, and promote active learning environments. As more schools adopt UPOE switches, we move closer to achieving a greener and more environmentally conscious education system. Let us take advantage of these innovations and empower the next generation to build a brighter, sustainable future.

By Gary Hardy – Atom IT Solutions

Atom IT

Contact gary@atomit.co.uk to learn more, and to see if your school could benefit





FREE WORKSHOP

ACADEMIES BUDGET FORECAST RETURNS (BFR)

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In this free session, we'll be looking at the requirements of the academies budget forecast return and will provide steps on how to prepare for the deadline.

Course Content

- Preparation
- Budget approval
- Extracting data
- Matching to accounts
- Error checking
- Submission to the ESFA

[Click here to reserve your place.](#)



WORKSHOP

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS - ACADEMIES

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This workshop will cover an array of areas to assist you in managing your academy's accounts more efficiently and effectively.

Course Content

- Preparation
- Staffing
- Non-payroll costs
- Additional income/funding
- Reporting variances
- Presenting

This workshop is free for SAAF clients. Please email marketing@saafeducation.org to request your discount code.

[Click here to reserve your place.](#)



FREE WORKSHOP

ACADEMY TRUST HANDBOOK - UPDATES

[BOOK NOW](#)

Academy trusts must comply with the academy trust handbook as a condition of their funding agreement. The handbook provides an overarching framework for the implementation of effective financial management and other controls.

This workshop will cover the key updates to the handbook - to assist you in adhering to the guidelines set out by the ESFA.

Course Content

All updates to the academy trust handbook for the coming financial year

[Click here to reserve your place.](#)



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From scalability to security: the benefits of cloud-based server hosting for your school

In recent years, cloud-hosted servers have become increasingly popular, and for good reason.

From scalability to security - find out why using a cloud-hosted server is the way forward for your school.

Scalability

One of the most significant benefits of using a cloud-hosted server is scalability. Traditional server hosting often requires businesses and schools to purchase and maintain physical servers that have a set amount of resources. This means that if your school experiences a sudden increase in traffic or demand, your server may not be able to handle the influx.

With cloud hosting, you can easily scale up or down your server resources as needed.

Cost-Effective

Cloud hosting is also a cost-effective solution for schools. With traditional hosting, there was a requirement to purchase and maintain expensive hardware, which can be costly. With cloud hosting, you only pay for the resources you use, which can significantly reduce costs. Cloud hosting providers, such as SAAF, offer cost-effective solutions to fit your school's budget.

[Read more in SAAF's latest blog.](#)



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By schools, for schools

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Wellbeing

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- Annual in-person Wellbeing Day
- Oversight of every Academy policy within your MAT

Contact your ABLE Representative to learn more



Abbie Shiels

School Support Specialist

01773 814400 EXT 3106

Abbie.shiels@uk-sas.co.uk

All statements true at time of writing

Trigg House, 11 Maisies Way, South Normanton, Derbyshire, DE55 2DS

Schools Advisory Service is a trading name of Sovereign Risk Management Limited (Registered in England No. 03475198)

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SAS280 V1

Atom IT



ATOM IT
SUPPORTING
OUR
SCHOOLS
WHEN THEY
NEED IT
MOST

STOP

Paying extra every time you have an emergency
Managing multiple contracts for support, broadband, anti-virus, device procurement/leasing and Microsoft licensing
Worrying that your current provider has no-one to back them up
Waiting....

START

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EDUCATION • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL

Trusted energy services for schools

Zenergi is an energy consultancy aiming to make a positive difference in the world of energy in a manner that is simple, sustainable and achievable.

Making a difference to over 3,000 education facilities across the UK, Zenergi is built on the belief that there is a better, brighter way forward for the energy industry.



Our end-to-end services help clients reduce their energy costs, achieve their carbon reduction objectives, and meet their compliance obligations:

- OJEU-compliant energy procurement, offering one of the largest choices of suppliers
- Expert advice offering a wide range of contract terms and lengths
- Bill validation and contract management
- Energy audits and efficiency measures
- Low and zero carbon technologies
- Renewable generation
- Grant funding and applications for Low Carbon Skills Funding
- Energy compliance
- Net Zero roadmap strategies, including Heat Decarbonisation Plans

Our long-term ambition for the future of energy is to help customers reach their vision of energy freedom and to invest in building a future that supports the transition to net zero and tackling the largest challenge of our generation head on — responding to a changing climate. Contact us to understand more about how we can help you reach your energy reduction and cost saving objectives.

Westbrook Lane Primary School

Enhancing energy
efficiency and ensuring
compliance with Air
Conditioning Inspections
(TM44)



Overview

Westbrook Lane Primary school in Leeds has three split air conditioning systems that serve its Library, IT room, and a classroom. The school engaged Zenergi's technical division to evaluate its need to comply with TM44 Air Conditioning Inspections.

TM44 Compliance

Schools with air conditioning systems with an effective rated output of more than 12kW are legally required to ensure compliance with TM44 Air Conditioning Inspections. This includes systems consisting of individual units which are less than 12kW but whose combined effective rated output is more than 12kW.

A TM44 regulation inspection is where an accredited assessor is appointed to carry out an inspection of the air conditioning system. The assessment will review the efficiency of the system, check for faults, and provide advice on how to make it more efficient to reduce the costs involved in running it. Following the inspection, a full report will be provided detailing findings, faults, and recommendations. Inspections are required every five years to remain compliant .

The combined cooling capacity of the air conditioning system at Westbrook Lane Primary is 26.8kW which is over the 12kW qualification threshold required for legal compliance with TM44 regulations.

Following a comprehensive site survey, the compliance certificate and report were produced and lodged onto the central register. The survey assessed key questions set when inspecting the cooling plants, terminal points, system controls and maintenance. For Westbrook Lane Primary, this resulted in 25 recommendations for improving efficiency of the air conditioning systems.

“With the price of electricity increasing, any saving is vital to the school budget.

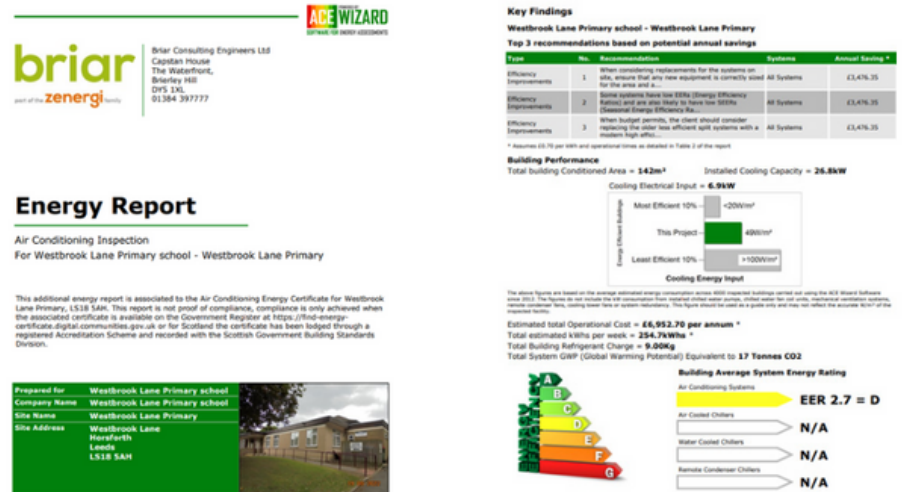
Your energy report certainly provided us with clarity on how much our Air Conditioning systems cost us to run and where we can invest to make savings.

Thank you.”

Vicky Bray
School Business Manager
Westbrook Lane Primary School

Added value

The format and the method of presentation of the report is standard and set by the Government. However, we believe that the output from the compliance report should go a lot further by providing customers with more valuable data. This is why our TM44 inspection service provides a supplementary energy report to provide the savings available for each of the recommendations identified in the report. The information is provided in a much more reader-friendly way so that it is easy to understand how much money each recommendation could save.



Key data for Westbrook Primary:

- Annual operational cost of the air conditioning systems: £6,952
- Total system Global Warming potential equivalent – 17 tCO₂e
- Average Energy Efficiency Ratio of the air conditioning systems: 2.7 = D rating
- Annual saving of the main recommendation: £3,476 (50%)
- This case study shows that even with small air conditioning systems, attractive financial savings are achievable.

Did you know?

The refrigerant in all air conditioning systems is thousands of times more damaging to the ozone layer than Carbon Dioxide should it leak. This is why it is vitally important to maintain compliance with TM44.

We can help you with tendering for an air conditioning upgrade to benefit from the energy efficiency of a more modern system to save your school money. We can even provide a complimentary TM44 air conditioning inspection when you upgrade, allowing you to benefit from no upfront TM44 fee; and annual savings on electricity, while achieving compliance with the legislation.

First Federation Trust:

A holistic approach to energy saving, incorporating behavioural awareness training, compliance, and decarbonisation

First Federation Trust is a family of 19 primary schools across South Devon and Dorset.

As the trusted energy partner for First Federation Trust since 2015, Zenergi looks after the energy and water contracts for all 19 schools. The support includes validating bills and chasing any discrepancies and queries with suppliers.

Engaging staff in energy saving

With one of its core values being to 'contribute positively to all the communities' it is part of, the Trust is committed to energy efficiency and operating sustainably. As such, Zenergi was invited

to present at the Trust's Non Pupil Training Day which brought together 30 staff from across the Trust to understand strategies for saving energy and reducing the Trust's carbon footprint.

The session included an illustration of the impact of leaving common school equipment switched on unnecessarily, with an illustration of the cost per hour, and cost per year based on live energy prices. It concluded with practical tips and no-cost solutions that staff could take back to their schools to help reduce energy consumption and costs.

The informative session has had a lasting impact on those who attended, who are now maintaining the positive energy saving behaviours around their schools.

Heat decarbonisation

The energy efficiency training supported the Trust's drive towards meeting its net zero ambitions. With help from Zenergi's technical division, Briar, the Trust was successful in its application for Low Carbon Skills Funding (LCSF), receiving £65,580 for heat decarbonisation plans (HDPs) to be developed across the estate. The HDPs delivered by Briar, will provide a comprehensive assessment of the costs and potential savings from a range of measures that can be carried out that will reduce the Trust's reliance on fossil fuels in favour of low carbon alternatives.

Compliance

Briar also carries out the Trust's SECR reporting, the legislation that aims to encourage qualifying organisations to report on their annual energy consumption and carbon emissions for Scopes 1, 2 and 3. Briar collates the energy data from the organisation, compiling it into the necessary format and submitting the report. In doing so, Briar helps First Federation Trust to identify where the most energy is being used, to enable the Trust to take steps to reduce its energy consumption, costs and greenhouse gas emissions, while maintaining compliance with the mandatory legislation.



"We highly recommend Zenergi as our energy partner, the advice and support we receive from them is great. We are reassured that they do all they can to ensure that we get the most from our energy providers by obtaining the best prices, and analysing invoices prior to payment to ensure that what we are being charged is correct. We have a dedicated account manager who liaises with each school should there be a problem, so we always have someone at the end of the phone."

Carol Chapman
Chief Operating Officer
First Federation Trust

ABLE is pleased to be working with the Institute of School Business Leadership (ISBL) to offer all members access to the information and resources offered by our professional body (ISBL). We recognise that the sector is undergoing notable change and that our members have asked for greater knowledge and information on professional development opportunities, emerging career options and wider insights into organisational growth.

Through the partnership with ISBL, our members can sign up to extend their current local/regional group benefits to receive the following ISBL membership benefits in addition to access to the website and a range of free resources:

- ISBL member bulletins directly to their chosen email address – fortnightly, termly, and breaking news updates
- Hard copies of the ISBL member magazine, per term, directly to their chosen address
- Access to ISBL PlatformEd community area – normally only available to full members
- Access to ISBL news headlines and blogs
- Opportunity to participate or feed into ISBL consultations with the Government

These benefits are offered at no additional cost to our members as they are being subsidised by a small contribution from ABLE but are also heavily funded by ISBL and Barker Associates.

ISBL and Barker Associates do not want practitioners to have to choose whether to be a member of either their local group or their professional body as both are essential in supporting professionals as they navigate the changing sector requirements and personal opportunities.

What to do next?

You must opt-in to receive these additional benefits in order that you have agreed for your information to be used by ISBL, and you can select what personal data is shared.

[Please click here to sign up](#)

All you will be required to share is your contact information so that ISBL can send you their e-bulletins and hard copies of their membership magazine.

You are signing up to receive the outlined benefits for 12 months from the date you register.

During the pilot, we expect to contact our members using the additional benefits to evaluate the joint membership offer and reach a decision as to whether the pilot is extended.



Association of Business
Leaders in Education

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ABLE is organised by a committee of volunteer educational professionals and supported by select partner companies as a non-profit organisation, to offer support, training and up to date educational guidance.



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Association of Business
Leaders in Education

CORPORATE PARTERS

ABLE memberships are subsidised by the fees paid by our corporate partners and exhibitors. Without them all costs would be passed onto our members.



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