

Academy of Lincoln Trust

Migrates to Sage 200 with GCC innova

Lincoln Castle Academy was originally using Iris Exchequer. Additional and flexible budgeting requirements prompted the need for either an upgrade of Iris Exchequer or a move to Sage 200. Lincoln Castle Academy had prior knowledge and expertise with the Sage suite of products in the education sector and had total confidence and trust in Sage 200.



LINCOLN CASTLE ACADEMY



The Academy of Lincoln Trust consists of Lincoln Castle Academy and Ermine Primary Academy which now collectively provide education for children from three to eighteen years and are supportive of each other in all areas of their respective responsibilities.

The Challenge

The Trust needed to run two separate companies with clear management reports. The existing reporting functionality was difficult and cumbersome and was not sufficient to produce the reports for the new trust. Governors, department heads and teachers required enhanced visibility of committed costs and detailed budgetary analysis.

The Solution - Sage 200

For larger establishments such as Secondary schools and Academies, the Sage 200 Suite offers the functionality required to deal with more complex reporting and processes. As well as a 3 tier nominal ledger the Business Intelligence module gives you access to powerful analytics tools that enable you to identify inefficient processes and make informed budget decisions.

Commitment accounting - Sage has the ability to show departmental heads budget funds that are available based on committed costs and actual costs per period per school year.

Incorporating key reporting requirements: Budget Holder Statement, Budget Forecasting for EFA, General Annual Grant – GAG, Fund Accounting – Restricted and Unrestricted Funds

"GCC innova successfully migrated our data across to Sage 200 down to the last penny!"

**Mark Straw – Finance Manager
Academy of Lincoln Trust**

GCC innova has been a Sage Partner for more than 20 years, and they hold the rank of Strategic Partner, the highest level in the Sage Partner Programme. They are experts in the implementation, customisation and support of Sage software and have a specialist interest in the education sector.

Implementation

At GCC innova projects are delivered professionally by following a Sage project delivery process that has been refined over 20 years. All Sage projects are specified, project managed and documented.

GCC innova partnered with Exchequer Dynamics to extract the data from Exchequer and provide consultancy to format it for a Sage 200 import. Using the ExSync data extraction tool it took only 30 minutes to extract the data from two companies into a Microsoft SQL database ready to be queried and imported into Sage 200. GCC innova created export and import routines of account headers and opening transactions that reconciled to the control totals.

My major reason to migrate from Iris Exchequer to Sage 200 was Sage's superior management reporting functionality plus the cashbook reconciliation process. GCC innova were very supportive during the migration process and extremely quick at responding. The Trust's governors and senior managers are extremely pleased with the level of budgetary analysis and management information

**Mark Straw - Finance Manager
Academy of Lincoln Trust**

Business Benefits

- ✓ **Sophisticated budgetary analysis:** Provides budget holders with real time access to their current expenditure and committed expenditure against budgets
- ✓ **Reduction in cost of hardware :** Sage 200 is installed on a virtualised platform
- ✓ **Significant time saving** with a choice of over 200 automated reports including supplier catalogue imports
- ✓ **Enhanced visibility of data** via Sage 200 reports, Sage Business Intelligence, Microsoft Excel integration, workspaces and SSRS (SQL Server Reporting Services) at an operational and management level



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