

UNITY Trust Collaborative of Schools



UNITY Trust Collaborative of Schools, a group of schools and academies within North Solihull, were looking for a solution that would encourage greater collaboration between their schools and give teachers and pupils access to their online resources simply and easily. Jane Wheelband, Head of UNITY IT Services, began working with RM Education a year ago to support them in achieving their vision and strategy for IT.

The Trust's Vision

UNITY Trust are committed to delivering a supportive, innovative and focused strategy that underpins the foundations for School Improvement and wider development.

Jane Wheelband's vision for IT at UNITY Trust is "to ensure that ICT is reliable, just there as a tool and resource for teachers to use when they need it. Also, we want to move towards schools using technology to collaborate effectively within the UNITY trust network."

Why RM?

UNITY Trust were looking for a single sign on solution and a one click toolbox of applications for all of their schools to benefit from. We asked Jane why UNITY Trust decided to talk to RM about a solution;

"RM have experience in the education sector and we valued their understanding of how schools work and what teachers need."

David Weston, Trust Consultant for UNITY Trust, has worked closely with Jane and the Senior Leadership Team over the past year to understand their vision for ICT and build a solution which works for them. This solution included RM Unify, a cloud-based platform that gives access to online productivity tools and educational resources with just one username and password and enables collaboration between multiple school sites.

‘Working closely with a Trust over a period of time allows us to better understand what is important to them and which ICT tools they need to help deliver and support their vision. For UNITY Trust, collaboration and easy access to online educational resources was a clear requirement, this made RM Unify an obvious choice for the group.’

David Weston, Trust Consultant

Impact of RM Unify

RM Unify was implemented into UNITY Trust in December 2015. We asked Jane about the difference that RM Unify has made so far to teaching and learning;

“Schools love the look of RM Unify and the fact that they don’t have to remember loads of passwords and website links. Teachers love that they can create tiles to provide a single point of access to their resources.

Before RM Unify was installed staff and pupils had to navigate to sites and sign in. In the classroom this meant that teaching a simple maths lesson, which required accessing a website, would mean that a part of the lesson would have to be spent explaining how to login, now a tile is just clicked and everyone has instant access.”

Would you recommend RM Unify to other school groups in your position?

“Yes - once the initial network has been setup it’s easy to manipulate the interface and personalise it for your school group. Individual schools can customise their own RM Unify site, adding the appropriate resources to make sure that it works for them.”

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LET'S WORK TOGETHER

RM Unify is a part of our portfolio of products and services which have been designed to support multi-academy trusts and their evolving ICT requirements. If you would like to find out more about how RM Education can support your multi-academy trust please visit rm.com/trusts, email trusts@rm.com, or call **0808 172 9527**.

