



Samuel Lucas JMI School

Established in 1974, Samuel Lucas JMI School is a "one-form entry" primary school in Hitchin, Hertfordshire and has 227 pupils. Sarah Anderson is Head-teacher and is also responsible for the school's ICT strategy and use.

PC Set Up:

The ICT infrastructure at the school is very well developed. The school has 68 PCs, 40 of which are for pupils' use, giving a PC to child ratio of 1:5. Staff have access to 18 tablet PCs.

They have 5 printers (3 which are used by office administration staff). All of this is linked to a network server, using the Windows Server 2003 operating system.

Their current management and control solution is Ranger Primary.

Life before Ranger:

In the past, Samuel Lucas used a "Peer-to-Peer" network approach. This meant that application software programmes had to be downloaded and installed individually on to each PC. This proved extremely time-consuming and risky; often with the software not loading completely and with PCs having to be left on overnight to allow sufficient time to install, with ensuing cost and environmental impacts.

Key Challenges:

The main ICT challenges for the school were:

- Teachers spending too long configuring and fixing computers. This was a particular challenge for Samuel Lucas as their technical support resources are limited to just 4 hours per week.
- Not fully integrating their ICT resources and using them to full capacity.
- Network management reassurance and continuity planning. It was previously difficult to prepare budgets based on PC usage and needs per department.

The Solution:

Ranger Primary was recommended by Mark Armstrong at Primary IT Support (the school's technical support company), who saw its potential within the school. The particular features that appealed to Sarah Anderson were:

- **Ranger RollOut**, which allows teachers to distribute software programmes onto any number of computers simultaneously directly from the server. This is a less time-consuming and complex system, which provides an enhanced service to the school. Lesson plans are not disrupted by software failing to load, being incorrectly installed on individual PCs or failing to be installed at all. Teachers can concentrate on teaching, rather than having to spend time configuring and fixing PCs.
- **Ranger Primary** also provides a better and enhanced service to the school. Sarah Anderson is aware of increasing costs associated with PC hardware and network management, and saw in Ranger Primary an opportunity for the school to manage much of the network for themselves, rather than outsourcing technical issues to a third party, to deliver both greater control and cost savings.

Ranger reseller: Primary IT Support.

Software: Ranger Primary.



Benefits to the school...

...of Ranger Primary:

The benefits the school is getting from using Ranger Primary:

- **Improved network control and security:** the 'Active Security' feature allows the school's IT technician to monitor and configure the use of computers to ensure that pupils cannot access particular applications or sites and to detect any security violations on the network, either by pupils or from external sources.

- **Network Management reassurance and continuity planning:**

Sarah Anderson intends to use 'WebTracking' to monitor all computer use in school, and within each year-group. From this she can generate a report on how to get maximum value from their ICT investment.

- **Enhanced learning environment:** Ranger Primary's log-in feature ensures that pupils' work is automatically saved into their folder. This is then easily accessed by staff for assessment purposes, alleviating the frustration of searching for work that might have been accidentally saved elsewhere on the network.

...of Primary IT Support:

The benefits the school is getting from working with Primary IT Support:

- The partnership between Primary IT Support and Ranger products addresses and minimises computer misuse and abuse, whilst also maximising the school's return on ICT investment.
 - Primary IT Support installed Ranger software, carried out troubleshooting, set up the individual logins, and provided staff training. As Sarah confirms; "I like the advice given by Primary IT Support. During the six years that I've used them, they have got ICT working effectively within my school."

"Ranger has improved the ICT system in our school. We have increased confidence in how we use it, due to the training given by Primary IT Support. As a result, ICT is used every single day throughout the school."

"When I weighed up the benefits of Ranger's fully-comprehensive technical-support against the time and money we usually spend fixing technical problems, I realised that the cost of Ranger Primary software gave added-value."

To find out more about how Ranger Software could benefit your school:

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