

BePart Trust - Phase One

Stabilising an Inherited School Network for Teaching and Learning



The
BePART
Trust

(•_•) netprotocol



Client

Multi-Academy
Trust

Sector

Education

Locations

Wirral, Merseyside

Core Services

Extreme Wireless (ENS) +
Network Infrastructure +
Cloud IQ + Ongoing
Advisory & Support

Overview

BePart Trust is a Multi-Academy Trust in Wirral, running Birkenhead Sixth Form College (a 16–18 provider, currently ranked among the top three sixth form colleges in the UK) and The Birkenhead Park School (a 11–16 secondary school).

The Trust operates in one of the most deprived areas of the UK and plays a direct role in improving student outcomes.

After acquiring The Birkenhead Park School, the Trust inherited a network that was holding student learning back. It partnered with Netprotocol to stabilise and modernise the environment and to build a platform it could grow on.

The Challenge

The inherited network was complex, hard to manage and no longer fit for a modern school. It carried 70+ VLANs, legacy hardware, poor wireless and no failover.

The day-to-day impact was immediate:

- Up to 200 IT support tickets a week
- Frequent disruption to lessons
- Inconsistent connectivity for staff and students

At the same time, demand kept rising with more devices, more cloud platforms and a need for reliable wireless in every classroom.

The Solution

Netprotocol delivered a phased transformation, starting with the school's wireless and network infrastructure on Extreme Networks technology:

- Extreme Wireless with ENS – subscription-based wireless with predictable annual costs
- A standardised Extreme architecture replacing fragmented legacy kit
- Full PoE deployment to remove single points of failure

- Cloud IQ for centralised visibility across access points, switches and devices

- Simplified, secure guest onboarding

The aim was not a more elaborate network, it was less friction in the school day. The rollout standardised the network, designed in resilience and gave the IT team a single, clear view of it.

That gave the team the ability to manage the environment themselves, cut operational overhead and stop the constant firefighting.

BePart Trust - Phase One

Stabilising an Inherited School Network for Teaching and Learning



The Feedback

"The network is built to be best in class, so I know it's just going to work. That gives me real peace of mind."

My team isn't firefighting, teachers can teach and students can learn without disruption.

If we've made even a small difference to student outcomes, that's what really matters."

"Netprotocol is the best relationship I've ever had with a supplier."

John Paul Szkudlapski
Director of IT,
BePart Trust

The Role of Netprotocol

As the Trust's technology partner, Netprotocol provided both strategic guidance and hands-on delivery throughout. That work covered:

- Long-term infrastructure roadmap planning
- Commercial structuring through ENS
- Direct access to Extreme specialists
- Ongoing infrastructure and performance advice
- Supporting the IT team to own the environment internally

This gave the Trust the confidence to run the network day-to-day, with specialist support on hand when it was needed.

Results



Seamless access for staff and students in lessons and exams



From up to 200 tickets a week to minimal levels, with faster resolution



Stable performance across 3,500+ concurrent devices



"Set and forget" stability through Cloud IQ



Single points of failure removed across the network