

BePart Trust - Phase Two

Building a Fully Integrated Extreme Network Across the Trust



Client

Multi-Academy
Trust

Sector

Education

Locations

Wirral, Merseyside

Core Services

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

Overview

After stabilising its school network, BePart Trust moved to the next phase: a single, standardised Extreme Networks environment across both sites – Birkenhead Sixth Form College (currently ranked among the top three sixth form colleges in the UK) and The Birkenhead Park School.

Working with Netprotocol, the Trust set out to build one resilient, future-ready platform. As of August 2026, it runs as a fully integrated Extreme wired and wireless environment across both sites that is standardised, easier to manage and built to scale.

The Challenge

The first phase stabilised the school but the college still ran a mix of legacy platforms & ageing switching infrastructure.

The Trust needed to:

- Replace the college core quickly
- Standardise infrastructure across both sites
- Improve visibility and management
- Increase resilience and failover capability
- Support growing device density and bandwidth

It also had to happen with minimal disruption to teaching, exams and day-to-day college operations.

The Solution

Netprotocol delivered a phased migration to a fully integrated Extreme Networks environment:

- Rapid replacement of the college core, creating a high-capacity, resilient foundation
- Full Extreme switching rollout, standardising infrastructure across both sites
- Cloud IQ across the estate for single-pane-of-glass visibility and management

- Edge capacity increased from -20Gb to -80Gb to support high-density use
- Full PoE architecture across edge cabinets to simplify failover
- A phased switch replacement programme worked around live operational and exam schedules

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The Approach

The goal was a fully standardised Extreme ecosystem, one that was resilient, scalable and simple to manage.

The rollout removed inconsistency between the two sites, gave the IT team more visibility and control, and cut day-to-day management overhead, combining high performance with enterprise-grade resilience.

"Reliable, resilient IT is essential to everything we do, enabling real-time monitoring, informed decisions and the smooth daily running of our institutions. When we took over Birkenhead Park School we lacked that foundation, but under our Director of IT, John Paul Szkudlanski, we now have a stable, future-ready system delivered first-rate, on time and on budget. We're grateful to Netprotocol and Extreme Networks, whose expertise has created an IT environment that meets today's demands while supporting future growth."

Mike Kilbride MBE,
Principal, 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.

Why Extreme Networks

The Trust chose Extreme to build one high-performance platform across both sites:

- Extreme Switching
- Extreme Wireless (ENS)
- Cloud IQ
- PPSK secure wireless access

Results



One aligned Extreme wired & wireless environment across the Trust



Stable support for 3,500+ connected devices



Edge capacity up from ~20Gb to ~80Gb



Lower management overhead & faster deployment processes



No single points of failure, full Cloud IQ visibility