



**Marsh Hill primary**, based in the West Midlands is a maintained voluntary aided school. It has a mission to provide a caring, respectful, tolerant environment in which all individuals are enabled to fulfil their full potential through a creative and enjoyable curriculum.



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**Sharon Wells**



Before implementing the Access Education Finance and Budgeting software, **Sharon Wells**, School Business Manager at Marsh Hill Primary School, struggled to easily produce meaningful reports and was reliant on an outdated and unintuitive system.

**Here, Sharon discusses how the Access software has improved many of their day-to-day processes.**

Before implementing the Access Finance and Budgeting software we were using a finance management information system called Facility CMIS. I found this system to be unnecessarily complicated, taking several clicks to produce different reports - time that really can add up over the course of a month.

Thankfully, we had planned to introduce the Access software before lockdown was announced and despite having to undertake the implementation training from home, the majority of us could continue working as normal from home. Without this we'd have been playing a serious game of catch-up over the autumn term getting all the reports, files and records back in order.

With our new system we can produce easily-accessible reports and budget projections for our governors and other key stakeholders, giving them the ability to thoroughly analyse and challenge the school appropriately. The system has also removed the need to produce hard copy orders, therefore reducing our paper consumption, helping us move towards our aim of becoming paperless and, of course, saving money.

Invoices and delivery notes received from suppliers can be scanned and saved electronically which saves a huge amount of time, time that can be spent on strategic projects. The new software has also given performance development opportunities.



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The scenario planning feature of the Access Budgeting software has been invaluable - especially during lockdown, as it was important to monitor any increased expenditure for Covid-19 and be able to report this information to the governing board.

As my team and the other budget holders develop their knowledge of the system, I'm confident that the impact on the pupils will become more evident. The time staff spend placing orders for resources will be reduced, giving them more time to focus on the pupils and ensuring the resources bought are having a direct and positive impact.



#### About Access Education:

For over a decade, schools, academies, multi-academy trusts and local authorities have benefited from our extensive knowledge and understanding of the sector. The Access Education software suite provides efficiency and engagement across your whole educational establishment. From finance and curriculum-based planning, through to HR, payroll, recruitment and screening, hosting and facilities management, all your school's software is brought together in one place on Access Workspace. And if you need any help, our team of Education experts are on hand to provide tailored support and training during implementation and beyond.

Over 9,000 schools and academies across England and Wales – that's one in three – choose Access Education to transform the way they work, giving them the freedom to provide outstanding education.



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