



**St Peter in Eastgate Church of England Infant School** is based in Lincoln.

The school falls under the remit of the Lincolnshire County Council but it has a high degree of independence from the local authority and doesn't buy back its financial services.



Access Education Finance saves me a huge amount of time and I feel empowered to carry out my role successfully and confidently.

**Louise Gardiner**



Before implementing Access Education Finance, Louise Gardiner, School Business Manager at St Peter in Eastgate Church of England Infant School had been relying on SAP and Business1On provided by Serco.

Here, Louise gives her thoughts on the Access software.

The system we had from Serco was ineffective, we were unable to report properly on budget spend and for each transaction you had to follow a different process. This made certain transactions difficult to carry out, especially if they weren't processed regularly as you'd have forgotten the exact process.

**The formatting of the Access software is much more user friendly.**

Every screen and transaction is principally the same, with the same layout, familiar icons and places on screen to enter the information. This builds trust and confidence using the system and it's easy to search for individual transactions.

Now, I can see all my budgets separately and as a collective. I can print off an array of different reports such as by ledger code, or by budget holder ensuring all key stakeholders can access the relevant information in an easy to understand format. I can also set up my own codes, suppliers and customers; something that used to take weeks through our old system.

Being able to quickly set up anything from ledger codes, to suppliers is fantastic. I love the income and expenditure report as it provides me with information that the local authority requires me to submit quarterly. The ease of use and the familiar layout of each page is fantastic.

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Previously, I struggled to effectively manage costs because I couldn't gain full visibility of our budgets. I was concerned that this would impact pupils and teachers as we couldn't confidently provide accurate totals on budget spend.

Day to day, the system saves me a huge amount of time and I feel empowered to carry out my role successfully and confidently. I can also login from home, meaning that during the Easter break I can crack on with year end transactions and I can carry out our VAT return in August.

The support team at Access were incredibly helpful throughout the implementation period and were always on hand to help unravel any problems!



### **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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