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The Access Education software is 10x better than what we were using before.

Tim Marsh

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**Tim Marsh** is the Business Director at Every Child Matters Academy Trust, a Yorkshire MAT made up of eight primary schools.

### How has Access Education's software benefitted your trust?

As we've grown the software has easily helped us to review, monitor and report all elements of trust budgeting.

We academised as three schools, before becoming five and then eight in July 2020. This means 'number crunching' has to be accurate and timely – our staff appreciate a quick turnaround on any budget or costing enquiries. We were previously using Excel sheets so it has saved us a lot of time as it's easy to bring other schools onboard and provide a single, consolidated and professional-looking report.

This ability to forward plan is incredibly helpful.

This also applies to calculating additional salaries as we already know what is feasible for both full-time and potential support staff.

### Are there any particular features you find most useful?

As I've mentioned the salary calculator is hugely useful in helping us make decisions around both teaching and support staff. We can simulate different scenarios and the potential impact of these – from the cost to recruit teams on different grades, versus the savings we make if we have to lose staff.

It's a massive help when the individual school business managers have questions or want to work with their respective headteacher on future planning.

We're also benefitting from being able to change between establishments within one login – it's a huge timesaver.

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It's exceptionally easy to produce management accounts and it is easy to follow with a clear 'narrative'. I have received a lot of positive feedback from governors and trustees!

Tim Marsh

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The ability to duplicate orders and invoices, as well as the functionality to search by name, information or number, really helps the team to efficiently complete tasks.

The fact the software is cloud-based has been a significant bonus during the periods of homeworking due to Covid – we can access the software anytime and from anywhere.

### What other benefits have you seen thanks to the software?

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As a result of the Covid-19 lockdown and the move to remote working, we quickly realised we could still efficiently use the (Access Education) software during Zoom calls. This has given us plenty of food for thought for the future and how we may be able to streamline meeting time, especially as we're a multi-location trust. We will explore this.

Tim Marsh

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As we await guidance and permission to claim from the DfE's exceptional funding pot, my team have easily been able to detail our extra expenditure because of Covid-19. When the time comes to claim, it should be quick and easy to do so.

### What are the benefits of the Access Education for your staff?

As a number of staff have their own budget lines, they can easily and directly manage, and be conscious of their own spending.

#### 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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