



## MOWBRAY

Education Trust

**Sector:** Education

**Services:** WiFi troubleshooting surveys

### Highlights:

- The Mowbray Education Trust consists of seven schools and over 400 staff.
- Four schools within the Trust were struggling with insufficient wireless coverage and this was affecting connectivity to digital learning material.
- The Trust selected Redway Networks to conduct professional on-site WiFi troubleshooting surveys at each school and recommend remedial works to improve wireless performance.
- Redway Networks used its 'gold standard' on-site survey methodology which involved a WiFi expert using Ekahau's heat-mapping software to analyse each network.
- A WiFi report was presented to the Trust outlining the corrective work involved with additional access points to improve connectivity and fix the coverage gaps.
- Mowbray Education Trust was delighted with the service it received from Redway Networks and now all four schools have robust wireless networks with much faster WiFi.

## Mowbray Education Trust

### Mowbray Education Trust benefits from WiFi fault-finding surveys from Redway Networks.

The Mowbray Education Trust has improved the wireless performance at four of its schools following a series of professional on-site WiFi troubleshooting surveys from Redway Networks.

The Mowbray Education Trust consists of seven schools and has over 400 staff who work collaboratively to ensure all the schools thrive. With the growing importance of digital learning and the addition of more educational technology and devices, the Trust's schools require a robust Internet connection.

Four schools within the Trust - John Ferneley College secondary, Brownlow Primary, Sherard Primary and the Grove Primary, were all suffering with insufficient wireless performance which needed improving.

The Trust contacted Redway Networks as it was impressed with Redway's wireless credentials and expertise in the education sector and instructed them to conduct four WiFi surveys.

Redway Networks' engineer then visited each of the school sites and carried out a professional on-site WiFi troubleshooting survey using Ekahau's heat-mapping software.



## WiFi gaps in the classrooms

Bobby Wallace, Group IT Services Manager at Mowbray Education Trust says: "Our schools' wireless networks were originally designed using simulation software and as we added more devices, we found that the WiFi wasn't providing enough coverage in the classrooms and students were spending a quarter of the lesson time trying to login to the WiFi and this needed rectifying. We decided to find an education wireless vendor who could conduct professional WiFi surveys and find out how we could improve WiFi capacity. Having previously used simulation software to design our original networks, I decided to opt for on-site surveys as I felt the fault-finding would be more comprehensive in a live environment."

## Gold Standard approach

Redway Networks used its 'gold standard' on-site WiFi survey methodology, which involved one of its highly qualified WiFi engineers visiting each school and using Ekahau's high-definition wireless heat-mapping software to analyse the networks and identify the coverage and performance issues. The survey findings were then presented to the Trust in an easy-to understand WiFi report.

## John Ferneley College

John Ferneley College was the first school to be surveyed as it is the largest school in the Trust with 1100 students and its poor WiFi coverage was buckling under capacity requirements.

Redway Networks' engineer evaluated the network for radio frequency signal strength, channels and access points and identified several 'red' issues which meant the WiFi was not meeting requirements. Bobby says: "The WiFi survey was seamless and once the report was finalised, Redway Network's engineer explained the various visualisations one by one and made recommendations to fix the coverage gaps and improve the WiFi performance. Redway recommended upgrading fifteen of the school's Aruba access points with newer, more powerful 535s which are WiFi 6 so improve channel utilisation and provide much better wireless efficiency."

## Brownlow Primary, Sherard Primary and the Grove Primary

Bobby says: "Following the survey and remedial works at John Ferneley, we used this as a blue-print to roll out to Brownlow Primary School, Sherard Primary School and the Grove Primary School, who were all experiencing similar WiFi issues". Bobby continues: "Since the wireless remedial works were done, all four schools now have more reliable wireless network connectivity with better coverage and much faster WiFi which has improved the student experience."

## Outstanding service from Redway

Bobby concludes: "The service we received from Redway Networks was brilliant... faultless...and easy from top to bottom. All I can say is that they really got the job done."

**"Having previously used simulation software to design our original networks, I decided to opt for on-site surveys as I felt the fault-finding would be more comprehensive in a live environment."**

**Bobby Wallace**, Group IT Services Manager, Mowbray Education Trust



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