

Happy New Year and a big welcome back to school from all of us at IRIS Education.

We hope you enjoyed your winter break and got to safely spend time with your loved ones. 2021 was an unforgettable year, and we would like to thank our customers, new and old, for your continued support.

Over the winter break, we were able to reflect on another action-packed month to round off 2021. In December, IRIS Education formed an extended partnership with Computeam, sat on a panel of experts for discussions on blended learning and welcomed new colleagues and solutions from our Dataplan payroll and Every HR acquisitions, to name a few.

We have now entered a brand-new year, and IRIS Education is engaging in lots of exciting activities to kick off a successful start to 2022 for the education sector.

So, what's going on this month? From hosting our very own virtual conference, making improvements to the IRIS Education customer experience, and helping schools to prepare for their next Parents' Evening, we've got all of the latest news for you.

Read on to find out more about educational news and our plans for 2022; the perfect time to grow.

All the best,

Simon Freeman | Managing Director
IRIS Education

Were you planning to attend BETT this month?



Join the IRIS Time to Build a Smarter School Conference instead!

IRIS Education is pleased to announce that we will be hosting our very own virtual conference from **19th – 21st January**, and we would like to invite your school or trust to attend one, any, or all, of three sessions throughout the week!

Our education experts will be discussing key educational themes across three sessions, including staff wellbeing, training and absences, budgeting for the academic year, hybrid working, and which building blocks are required to build a smarter school.

We are so excited to welcome you to join our conference this month.
Register your attendance at any of our sessions here:

[REGISTER HERE](#)



The education sector: Better connected

Time and time again we are seeing the provision of cloud-based software transforming industries and sectors, by connecting the dots of information that would otherwise have remained unknown, and the education sector is no different. Cloud technologies are bringing innovations in digital capabilities to large multi-academy trusts right through to teaching staff and students themselves.

So, how far can cloud-native software can go to achieve growth across schools and trusts? Elona Mortimer-Zhika, CEO of IRIS Software Group, explores the power of technology for schools and trusts in her new blog.

[READ MORE](#)



Blended learning: What role will it play in the future?

The adoption of blended learning techniques that have often been applied in universities has extended to schools amidst the COVID pandemic, and this will mean a change for the future of teaching.

Lucy Newman, from IRIS Education, explores the factors that may have an impact on the types of teaching used in the future across different institution types within the education sector in this informative blog.

[Learn more](#)



Are you hosting Parents' Evening this term?

Spring Term has arrived, and thoughts may have turned to your next Parents' Evening. With COVID restrictions currently in place, organising your Parents' Evening comes with added limitations that may require virtual appointments. Have you considered enlisting the help of an online booking system?

Find out how an online booking system with added video functionality may be your Parents' Evening saviour this term. What's more, your first use of our video component will be completely free to use at your next Parents' Evening.



Time to build a smarter school...

When surveyed on school management processes, one in five schools disclosed that they suffered from lack of time, which, in turn, withdraws teachers from spending time doing what they love. But... it's time to empower schools to improve outcomes, time to reduce your workload, time to build success, and time to improve teacher satisfaction.

To find out more about how IRIS Education is helping the education sector grow with savings of **up to 50%** on all software this Spring Term, [speak to a member of our team today](#).

Is 2022 the year of a new MIS? IRIS Ed:gen, our next generation, cloud-based MIS is included in our Time to Grow scheme. The switch may be easier than you think. Find out more about changing to IRIS Ed:gen by catching up with our on-demand webinars below.

SWITCHING MIS

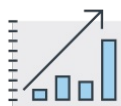
Dates for your diary



Wednesday 19th – Friday 21st January 2022

BETT may have been postponed, but the needs of your school haven't stopped. Don't miss out on our series of expert talks throughout the week, where we'll be discussing the building blocks required to build a smarter school in 2022.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Thursday 31st March 2022

The IRIS Education Time to Grow Scheme expires

Is 2022 your time to switch MIS, financial management software, or parental engagement software? IRIS Education is offering savings of up to 50% on all software solutions until 31st March 2022, and the transition may be easier than you think. Find out more about how you can save up to 50% on making your school a smarter school today.

[REGISTER HERE](#) | [TIME TO GROW](#)



Support available at the click of a button

Over the last three months we have been acting on customer feedback to improve your Community Portal. IRIS Education's new customer service community, Service Cloud, allows customers to raise support tickets and get regular updates on their progress. Customers can now use our live chat services to interact with the IRIS support team and access Knowledge Base articles to make sure that you're getting the most out of your investment in IRIS products and services. We have also updated the language used across our portal to be more user-friendly.

Visit the [IRIS Community Help and Information](#) portal and select your product to search for answers, browse topics and get the information you need to get your job done.

To request access to Service Cloud, [click here](#).

[VISIT PORTAL](#)



Is COVID causing staff absence at your school or trust?

Amidst the continual spread of Coronavirus, former teachers have been called upon to return to the classroom and cover staff absences, and many schools are scrambling to cover classes.

Teacher Booker is offering its Talent Pools platform completely free for a limited time to help relieve the pressure that many are facing across the education sector. Reduce your dependency on agency staff and increase continuity for your learners with access to your own dedicated pool of supply teachers and support staff.

Get in touch with our partners at Teacher Booker to fix supply teaching in 2022.



Planning for April 2022 budget

The new April tax year will see changes to legislation and compliance that will impact your payroll, pension contributions and, ultimately, your school budget.

Changes to contribution rates for LGPS pensions, increases to statutory payments such as maternity and paternity, and backdated pay increases to support staff are just some of the changes that will have an impact on your school finances from April.

Dataplan Education, part of the IRIS Education family, has pulled together a list of the key changes you need to be aware of as April 2022 approaches.

[Read more](#)

[Get in touch](#)

We will be keeping you up to date with the IRIS Textbook monthly. If you think that your colleagues might benefit from receiving our newsletter, they can opt in to receive our updates via the form at the footer of [this page](#). Alternatively, if you would like to opt out of receiving our newsletter, [please do so here](#).

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