The Spring Term is coming to a close, and it continues to be the perfect Time to Grow with IRIS Education. The last few weeks have been filled with activities to help you kick-start your growth towards building a smarter school and optimising your student outcomes. This month, we have hosted several webinars on key topics to support you in acting on issues such as a **decline in parental engagement**, the **impact of long-term lockdowns on children's mental health**, and the **successes that a data-driven strategy can bring to your school or trust** this year. Each webinar encouraged important discussions on how we can improve education outcomes for all. Watch them today.

We were proud to be the headline sponsor of this year's National MAT Conference and also attended the National Conference for Virtual Schools. Both of these events offered a great chance for trust leaders and local authorities from around the country to network, and we hope you enjoyed the events if you attended.

Read on to find out what's going on in the world of education this month, how schools and MATs may be changing this year, how you can enter Bookmark Reading Charity's story writing competition, and how you can register for our upcoming webinars.

We hope you enjoy a well-deserved break over the Easter holidays. In the meantime, IRIS Education is on hand to support you in making every day a smarter school day.

All the best,

Simon Freeman | Managing Director
IRIS Education

Reimagining EdTech: Why should you embrace the cloud?

The pandemic exacerbated the admin burden on teachers and senior leadership teams (SLTs) who had to make critical decisions at break-neck speed with little notice. The reality of rapid decision-making at scale highlighted just how poor existing systems were, with 70% of school IT systems still running on desktop management information systems (MIS), locked away in the school office.

Teachers have been battling clunky legacy IT systems for too long. It's time to

put real-time intelligence into the hands of educators, and thankfully, technology already exists to bring real-time MIS data together into a connected cloud system. But what does this look like? Winston Poyton explores the education sector's transition to cloud-based MIS software in his new blog.

READ ON

IRIS Reach

Parents have unlimited access to real-time information about their child available at their fingertips through the MyEd Parent App. App usage makes previously out-of-reach information instantly available to parents, including but not limited to academic achievements, attendance data, behaviour updates, lesson and exam timetables, exam results, and school reports! Are you using this functionality?

FIND OUT MORE

IRIS Financials

Our expenses module within IRIS Financials streamlines your expense management via a quick and easy automation process, freeing up time and resource that was previously wasted managing hard copies of receipts, while enabling far better accuracy. Are you using this module?

SEE MORE

Shape our products

We are proud to manage an IRIS Education customer forum, exclusively for users of our education solutions. Our customers are at the heart of everything that we do, and we want to ensure that you get a chance to input into our product development. As your partner in school management, we want to hear from you. Do you want to be part of our product user group?

REGISTER INTEREST

Are you a strategic budgeter?

Without a well-planned budget, schools and trusts will struggle to

How are schools and MATs changing in 2022?

Over the last couple of years,

make and stick to any long-term financial decisions. Want to find out how to make your budgets work for you? You'll need to become a strategic budgeter. How? We have the answers.

While some schools are tackling their budget plans for 2022/23, others may be reflecting on their budget allocation this year. With a great deal to account for, academic budgets can anguish even the most seasoned staff in education. So, how can you ensure your budget works for you? Our smarter budgeting guide takes you through key 2022 trends and provides a step-by-step guide to becoming a more strategic academic budgeter.

DOWNLOAD GUIDE

schools and MATs have faced a seemingly never-ending barrage of disruption, resulting in education technology (EdTech) becoming a lifeline for many. The huge transition to EdTech that we have witnessed since 2020 has helped to facilitate hybrid learning amidst the 'new normal', but these technologies must continue to develop, and schools and MATs must now grow alongside them.

After a period of such rapid change, can we expect the same from 2022? Our very own Bob Yorke explores the EdTech changes that he expects to see this year in his new blog.

READ ON

"For the children who need us, we're changing their story."

At the beginning of this month, we celebrated World Book Day. To mark the occasion, we are proud to be supporting Bookmark Reading Charity with their latest story writing competition.

Your involvement is simple. Ask your pupils or classes, or get your whole school involved, to write a 250 – 500-word story based on Bookmark's theme of **Adventure** and submit your stories on behalf of your pupils to info@bookmarkreading.org by 21st April 2022. The Bookmark team will then choose their favourites and reward your school, class, or pupil by 20th May 2022. T&Cs apply.
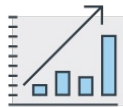
What's on offer for the winning entries?

- Winning school: A book for your library and stationery packs
- Winning class: A stationery pack
- Winning pupil: A journal pen

SUBMIT STORIES

Dates for your diary

31st March 2022 | IRIS Time to Grow ends
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 IRIS 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.

TIME TO GROW

*T&Cs apply. We have the right to withdraw this offer.

1st April 2022 | Don't be a fool when it comes to recruitment
Is it time to review your school or trust's recruitment process? Every HR invites you to their webinar on Friday 1st April at 10AM to explore their latest product updates and how the all-new Recruitment Module will help to streamline education recruitment.

REGISTER NOW

Did you catch our webinar with Imagine Health?

Last month brought us Children's Mental Health Awareness Week, and after two years of disrupted education, it's never been more important to prioritise children's mental well-being. As schools try to get as close to normal teaching as possible and ensure that their students feel safe, happy, and supported, schools should be aware of the many influences on a child's mental well-being and its impact on their school life.

So, what are these influences? Catch up with our webinar, now available on-demand, where IRIS Education's Rikki Harrison is joined by Imagine Health's Chief Medical Officer and Medical Director, Ian Gargan, to discuss the steps that schools and educators can take to improve pupil well-being. The session includes vital discussions around physical and mental well-being issues for young people and gives attendees key takeaways to help them improve overall well-being in school. Don't miss out!

CATCH UP NOW

Are you embracing the capabilities of EdTech?

For schools and MATs, the past few years have accelerated challenges they were already facing, brought about by digitalisation and the ever-changing financial environment. EdTech has penetrated school life, so much so that many schools have realised it has the potential to create a better teaching and learning experience for teachers and students.

Schools and trusts who are at the forefront of these developments are leading the way for their peers and reaping the rewards. So how can you ensure you don't get left behind? Download our smarter schools e-book today.

DOWNLOAD E-BOOK

A spotlight on Every by IRIS

Do you struggle to keep track of applicants during your recruitment process? Or are you finding that you are managing vacancy applications via various outdated systems? The Every HR Recruitment Module is here, and our latest release includes the filling of the recruitment sandwich: the applicant portal.

If it's time to streamline your school or trust recruitment process, join Every HR on Friday 1st April at 10AM for our 'Don't Be a Fool When it Comes to Recruitment!' webinar. We will be discussing the latest features of our holistic, end-to-end HR system designed exclusively for the education sector, including information on the new vacancy and application form builder, as well as the applicant registration and submission portal. Save your seat below:

SAVE YOUR SEAT

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.

WEBINARS | BLOG | CONTACT US