

Your monthly Textbook



Welcome to your Easter edition of the IRIS Textbook newsletter.

Firstly, I am incredibly proud to share that IRIS Education recently won not just one, but two 'Company of the Year' awards. [The Bett Awards](#) and [The National MAT Awards](#) celebrate outstanding achievement in the education sector, and it's thanks to the continued support from our customers that we took the trophies home. We are determined to support the sector to improve educational outcomes every day, and I'm inspired by the positive impact that we are having on schools and MATs.

Your April newsletter is full of useful resources, from webinars dedicated to safeguarding and streamlining processes, to a podcast on making savings via centralisation.

Read on to discover all the latest.

All the best,

Simon Freeman
Education Managing Director | IRIS Education

IRIS Education shines at Bett 2023



We attended Bett 2023 at the ExCeL London last month, to showcase what our innovative EdTech has to offer.

It was great to see the stand buzzing, as visitors enjoyed complimentary coffee, insights from our education experts, and even a photo op with Pudsey Bear!

Across three days, we had countless conversations, 40+ employees on stand,

15 Pudsey Bear appearances and took 190+ photographs in our Photo Booth!

The cherry on the cake? One amazing award. IRIS Education was named '[Company of the Year \(£12m+\)](#)' at the Bett Awards 2023— an evening dedicated to celebrating the 'inspiring creativity and innovation that can be found throughout technology for education'.

[Find out more online](#)

Monthly Roundup



Navigating online searches for a safer recruitment process

Keen to learn more about introducing online searches to boost safeguarding in line with recent updates to Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance?

Catch our webinar with law firm Browne Jacobson anytime for:

- The dos and don'ts of online checks
- The 'how' and 'why' behind performing checks
- Best practice in interpreting the data you source to keep children safe and avoid employment law challenges
- A chance to see [Social Media Check](#) in action

[View now](#)



Matthew Burton on parent engagement best practice

If you're interested in improving parent engagement to boost student achievement, this webinar's for you.

See headteacher Matthew Burton, who rose to fame on Channel 4's Educating Yorkshire, explore how schools can harness data to improve parental engagement and boost student achievement.

Catch up on-demand as Matthew and Simon Freeman explore:

- The challenges of parental engagement
- How a strong parent engagement strategy can help tackle pupil absence and safeguarding worries
- How technology can bridge the communication gap between parents and teachers

[View now](#)



Centralise to save – listen now

Like the idea of centralising your data but unsure where to start or if it'll actually deliver a return on investment?

In this new podcast, our very own education market specialist, Tom Kershaw, and J&G Marshall Ltd's managing director and member of MATA's advisory board, Jeff Marshall talk all things centralisation. From how it can be used by trusts to make budgets stretch further, to the functions best suited to a centralised model, as well as the common pitfalls to avoid along the way.

[Listen now](#) for tangible advice and guidance.

[Listen now](#)



Financials Roundtable – get the low down

The financial pressure on trusts is unprecedented, with multiple factors from increasing costs, recruitment and staffing difficulties, and Covid combining to make remaining in the black more challenging than ever.

And while the financial position of trusts appears to be ok for now, the future looks very uncertain. Check out our recent roundtable discussion (MAT financial sustainability in challenging times) for expert opinion on the strategic action education leaders should prioritise to ensure trusts thrive in the months and years ahead.

[View now](#)

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