



Institute of Education

Business Need

To support and enable mobile data for staff and visiting academics, the Institute of Education decided to implement a wireless network. To help ensure the initiative was a success, the Institute retained 4C to validate the technical proposals and provide specialist expertise on the procurement.

Key Challenges

- Large campus in central London
- Variety of end user devices
- Need to separate internal traffic from that generated by guests
- Security, reliability, flexibility and scalability
- Easy to use authentication process

Recommended Solution

Following a comprehensive review of the business requirements it was agreed that the technical solution should comprise:

- An 802.11a solution for staff
- An 802.11b/g solution for guests
- Bespoke authentication system
- 160 base stations
- Power over Ethernet switches to power the base stations (1 per Wiring Centre)
- A new VLAN for mobile data

Results

Following a restricted OJEU tender process, the Institute purchased a Nortel solution from Applinet. This has provided the Institute with a campus wide wireless network to support and enable mobile data for staff and visiting academics.

As a consequence, productivity has increased by providing constant access to:

- The world wide web
- Email
- Back office applications

Future developments may include access by post graduate students.

4C Involvement

4C has assisted the Institute over a 12-month period to help deliver the project from inception to completion. Key deliverables included:

- A technical validation of the Institute's vision
- A technical specification
- Mentoring support for the Institute's Computer Manager

Client's View

"4C's assistance with the tender and acquisition process was invaluable as was their independent guidance on evaluating the content and implications of the technical proposals"

David Snewin
Computer Manager