



Kennet School

Leading the Kennet School Academies Trust

A charitable company limited by guarantee No. 7543874

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Kennet School Case Study

Kennet School is an academy of around 1800 students across years 7-13, located in Thatcham, Berkshire. On taking over the role of timetable two years ago, I had no prior experience of writing a school timetable and so had much to learn in this area.

We contracted Edval to assist us in generating our school timetable, and to help us make some efficiency savings in our staffing.

My experience working collaboratively with Edval was very positive and there were a number of notable successes in the resultant timetable as follows:

- We have been able to reduce our annual staffing bill by around £300k through tighter and more efficient timetabling.
- We have previously run many KS5 classes outside our school day due to timetabling constraints. Since using Edval we have virtually eliminated the need for classes to run after school.
- By allowing more flexibility throughout the process than traditional timetabling, Edval has enabled us to match departmental requirements more closely and to 'tailor' timetables based on HoD requests and emerging needs (e.g. maternity cover and changing part time requirements).
- Part time hours and tight staffing often require KS3 classes to be split between two teachers. Edval enabled us to manage splits more effectively, sometimes eliminating them, to provide more stable learning experiences for pupils.

Over the last two years of writing the timetable at Kennet I have been very impressed with both the Edval software and the support we have received. It is a tough task to improve the quality of a timetable whilst making significant financial savings, but the consultants who worked with our school helped to deliver incredible results. In future years, we aim to maintain our current staffing level and so the financial savings made will be annual.

We appreciate Edval's assistance on this project. I can certainly recommend them to other schools who seek to achieve these sorts of positive outcomes.

Chris Ellison

Deputy Head

Kennet School

