Aylesbury College seamlessly integrates new MIS to maximise efficiencies and deliver an outstanding academic experience

At Aylesbury College, we needed to simplify our student administration, making it more efficient, so that our staff could spend the maximum amount of time focusing on our learners and their education

At Aylesbury College, our overarching aim is to have a positive impact for our students, our businesses and our communities. We strive to contribute to economic and social growth through being highly responsive and delivering excellence in education and skills. Students are at the heart of all we do. We want to ensure everyone who studies with us has an outstanding experience and through our teaching is equipped to be successful in all areas of working life.

The Challenge

We needed to simplify our student administration, making it more efficient, so that our staff could spend the maximum amount of time focusing on our learners and their education. It was important to improve access to all of our data so that we could streamline our reporting to help us make informed decisions. We also wanted to offer our students a holistic view of their attendance and progress, so they could take a more active role in their education.

We had been successfully using ProAchieve from Advanced for many years to analyse student retention and achievement, and to ensure

we were meeting our targets. We decided we needed to extend this further and implement an integrated student management information system (MIS) that would make it easier for us to centralise, maintain and report on our data. It would also mean we could manage enrolment, registration, timetables and examinations in a more effective and integrated way.

Choosing the MIS Solution

Our Deputy Principal Fiona Morey explains, *"Our internal MIS expert did a thorough review of the different options available on the market, but right from the outset we favoured ProSolution from Advanced. We already had a high opinion of Advanced having previously worked with their other solutions, such as ProMonitor. We see them as a market leader for software solutions within the education sector. The individual products are powerful, and the ability of the suite of solutions to integrate seamlessly with each other to support all areas of monitoring, tracking and reporting within the college is a huge benefit for us and has been very effective and efficient."*

Another important consideration for us was that we were in the early stages of discussing

Client >
Aylesbury College

Sector >
Education

Project >
Implementation of integrated student Management Information System

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Deputy Principal >
Aylesbury College

CASE STUDY

Aylesbury College seamlessly integrates new MIS

a possible merger with Amersham & Wycombe College. We knew they were also using Advanced's software suite and that all of our systems would come together easily and work immediately as one cohesive whole.

The support we received from Advanced throughout the project was excellent, with regular and effective communications. Fiona continues, *"Going live was a big day, and we were delighted that the MIS integrated easily with our Digital Learning Environment (DLE), and there was no disruption to our day-to-day functioning."*

The benefits we have seen

Teachers can now take registration, on a number of different devices including mobile, within five minutes of starting in the morning and then the data is automatically available online, providing transparency for our staff including our performance and achievement coaches. Lesson attendance is a key indicator of student success; everything else just seems to follow on from this. We can take appropriate action immediately for any students who are absent, and it helps us to take particular care of our 'looked after' and 'safeguarded' students.

The solution from Advanced has also empowered our learners. Student engagement has never been more important, and when learners actively participate in their academic environment, it enhances their experience and improves their results. Our students can now see their own attendance data and monitor these figures, encouraging them to keep their attendance high. It foregrounds the importance of being in class for them.

Our new MIS has also revolutionised our ability to take a holistic view of all the components in our study programme, linking the data and giving us a single view of each student. With our new Student Progress Tracker we can, for the first time, tie attendance figures together with learning, student programmes and target grades. We have had a marked improvement in our achievement this summer as a direct result of this.

The integrated solution from Advanced has really streamlined our reporting, providing excellent dashboards for managers and staff. With all of our information in one place, we can easily analyse vital data so we are making informed decisions to ensure our learners get the best possible outcomes.

Going forward

Fiona reflects onthe success of the implementation, *"The project has delivered what we were hoping for. We wanted to integrate all of our systems, and the solutions within the suite now communicate seamlessly with each other. The merger with Amersham & Wycombe College progresses and our amalgamated systems have joined up to maximise the benefits and efficiencies that we were looking to achieve."*

Learner-centeredness is at the heart of everything we do, and we are now agile enough to respond to student information with speed and accuracy. Staff across all college sites have access to crucial data with a real-time view of learner attendance and progress – facilitating a rapid and effective response to any issues identified and a fast dissemination of positive best practices. We want to implement ProMonitor as well, to help gauge the success of our students further, and then this will be the last piece of the jigsaw.

Fiona concludes, *"I would recommend ProSolution, it is simple, powerful and has a huge impact on the efficiency of our organisation. Advanced offers focused technology and specialism within the education sector, and their solutions help us to monitor and analyse students' activity, retention and achievement so that we can continue to evolve and deliver an outstanding academic experience."*

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