

Case Study

# Leigh Academies Trust

#### Connecting a Growing Trust with Resilient, Secure Broadband

As Multi-Academy Trusts expand, ensuring a seamless and standardised IT infrastructure across all schools becomes increasingly challenging. Reliable, high-speed connectivity is essential for effective teaching, learning, and administration. Leigh Academies Trust, a large and growing Trust, recognised the need for a broadband provider that could deliver consistency, security, and resilience across its estate.

#### **About Leigh Academies Trust**

Leigh Academies Trust consists of 33 schools, serving over 25,000 students and employing 4,500 staff members. As part of its commitment to providing a high-quality education, the Trust sought a broadband provider capable of delivering a robust and future-proofed connectivity solution to meet its growing needs.

"We no longer have the downtime issues we used to face, our connections are now resilient. It's a reliable service at a competitive price point,"

Steve Maycock, Deputy Director (IT Systems) Leigh Academies Trust



#### The SPAs SPAs Multiple Award WINNER

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# The Challenge

Leigh Academies Trust previously worked with multiple Internet service providers, leading to inconsistent service quality across different schools. "Many of our connections were unstable, and we had a lot of issues with speed and downtime," says Steve Maycock, Deputy Director of IT Systems at Leigh Academies Trust. "We wanted to standardise all our schools under one provider to improve reliability and ensure resilience, especially at our larger schools."

Another key requirement was DDoS protection. "We had previously experienced DDoS attacks, and it was difficult to find a provider that offered protection as standard," explains Steve. "This was a priority for us, and Schools Broadband was the only real choice."

## The Solution

To address these challenges, Leigh Academies Trust opted for Schools Broadband's dedicated Internet access (DIA) and advanced DDoS protection services. "We chose Schools Broadband because they could provide reliable connectivity across all our sites and ensure our larger schools had resilient backup lines from different carriers," says Steve. "This way, if our main line ever had an outage, we had a failover in place to keep things running smoothly."

### The Results

Since partnering with Schools Broadband, the Trust has experienced significant improvements in service quality and reliability. "We no longer have the downtime issues we used to face, and our connections are now resilient," says Steve. "Knowing we have DDoS protection as standard also gives us peace of mind."

Steve also praises the pre-sales experience. "The presales service was brilliant. Our account manager has been fantastic in supporting us through the migrations," he explains. "We now have 29 of our 33 schools connected with Schools Broadband, with another four scheduled to move over in the next 12 months."

## **Recommended for Reliability**

Steve regularly recommends Schools Broadband to colleagues in other Trusts. "Even though we've had challenges at times, as you do with anything, the positives have always outweighed them – it's a reliable service at a competitive price point," he says. "We've worked with a lot of suppliers over the years, and even though we don't take some of Schools Broadband's wraparound services, I still recommend them to others who need those additional services to stay KCSiE and DfE compliant."

With its focus on reliability, cost-effectiveness, and security, Schools Broadband has become an integral part of Leigh Academies Trust's digital infrastructure, supporting its commitment to providing high-quality education across all its schools.

## How Schools Broadband Supports Multi-Academy Trusts

As MATs continue to grow, centralised IT management and efficiency become even more critical. Schools Broadband specialises in delivering tailored broadband solutions designed for Trust-wide deployment. Our services offer:

High-performance connectivity across all academies

Resilient infrastructure with built-in DDoS protection

Cost-effective solutions that scale to your Trust's needs

Expert account management and dedicated support

Schools Broadband is committed to providing cuttingedge, cost-effective broadband solutions tailored to the needs of Multi-Academy Trusts. To discover how we can help your Trust improve connectivity, security, and compliance, get in touch today:

#### 01133 222 333 info@schoolsbroadband.co.uk www.schoolsbroadband.co.uk



Find out more. Call or email: 01133 222 333 info@schoolsbroadband.co.uk

