

Locker Connect

Powerful user management you control



Connect your MIS with Microsoft 365, Teams, Google Classroom and Active Directory



For Schools, Academy Trusts and Colleges



BETT 2023 Stand SB41





An Ever Changing Technical Challenge

The use of online learning has become increasingly important, which brings with it a number of technical challenges. You need to be able to ensure that every student and every member of staff gets reliable, up to date access and can easily be placed in groups for online sessions.

This needs to be able to be modified at short notice and managed without placing an unsustainable load onto the IT team. Whether you manage IT centrally or locally, Locker Connect makes this possible.

From creating or removing users, providing them with access to applications, putting them in distribution groups, even distributing timetables, Connect draws data from your Management Information System and uses it to set up your Microsoft and Google environment.

Connect is a product, used by all customers, making the installation and support easier, quicker and more effective. Each installation can be configured to the specific requirements of your school. You are in complete control and can make instant changes to the configuration at any time, to meet the dynamic demands of your school environment.

Connect enables the automatic sync of user and class data to Microsoft Teams directly from your MIS, without the need for School Data Sync "SDS". If you are struggling to effectively create and manage the SDS CSV files, then please consider the benefits of our fully automated solution.

These Features Come As Standard

Active Directory Users



Create Active Directory users from the data in your MIS for new students and staff.

User Creation



Automatically create or disable users in Microsoft 365 and Google, based on your MIS data.

Granular Licensing



Microsoft 365 requires you assign licences for apps. Connect allows you to decide who gets what.

Distribution Lists



Staff lists, year groups, subjects, classes and more can be set up as email distribution lists.



Teams/Google Classroom



Connect can sync your class structures in Teams and Google and archive the previous years.

Timetables



Don't print timetables. Connect pushes them straight to Outlook and Google calendars.

Paxton Net2



Automatic creation of users to help ensure your access control is secure and up to date.

Apple School Manager



Manage your iPADS, with our automated ASM population and management tool.

Technical Partners

















How Connect Supports Multi-Academy Trusts

Flexibility

Within a Trust, Academies often use different systems. It might be the MIS differs, or some schools use Microsoft 365 while others are using Google. Bringing these systems into line can make sense, but it is often not at the top of the to-do list. Connect can work with whatever mix of systems the Trust has, growing and adapting as you do.

Efficiency

The ability to manage consistent processes across a Trust improves confidence in the outcomes, but also allows scarce IT resources to support several Academies knowing that the tasks are managed in the same way. Running as an application you control locally or via our cloud system, Connect can work for your Trust in the way you need.

Visibility

Connect keeps your users, distribution lists and class groups synchronised daily. The cloud version of Connect allows a central IT team to manage all the Academies. This enables you to support the Academies quickly, make any changes centrally and avoid any interruptions to teaching and learning.

Server or Serverless?

The client server model has traditionally been at the forefront of school IT system design for over 20 years. For Academy Trusts, this approach to IT can prove to be inflexible, expensive and inefficient. Serverless IT could be the long term solution to these problems. With the adoption of the cloud, Locker's centrally managed cloud version of Connect can form a key part of your Trust's serverless IT jigsaw.

The journey to serverless IT is not one that will be completed overnight. Most Trusts have a mixture of server based and serverless schools, as they work through a standardisation evolution. This scenario is ideal for Locker's locally installed version of Connect, which also comes with a Trust portal, allowing central monitoring of the individual schools.

Apple School Manager

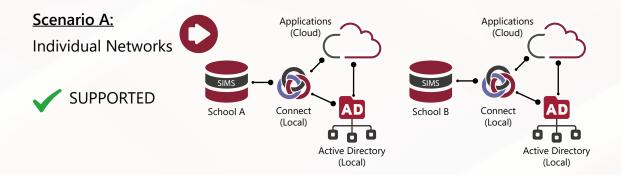
Apple iPads are becoming an important teaching and learning tool. The challenge that faces the IT team is how to effectively manage these expensive pieces of equipment.

Fortunately, Apple provides a means to do this through their Apple School Manager System. Unfortunately, this system relies on the IT team creating and uploading a set of CSV files from the schools MIS data. This is not a one-off process and has to be updated every time a new pupil or teacher joins, or a timetable change is made.

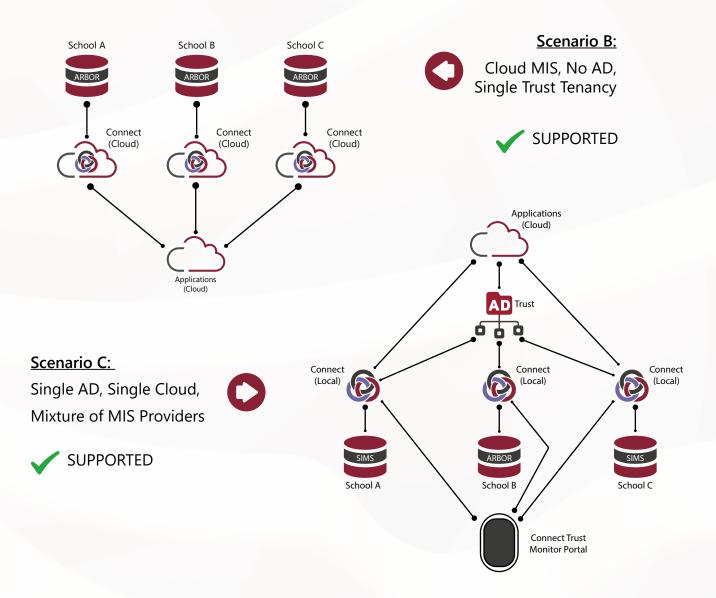
Connect can 'free you from Excel' with its automated ASM population tool.



Will it work for us?







"Connect allows us to us to automatically provision and deprovision users securely linked to our MIS across the Trust, saving time and user errors in the process."

What our Customers say



Andrew Freeman ICT Services Manager Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust



The Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust is the largest Trust in the North East consisting currently of 47 schools (5 secondaries and 42 primaries). These schools are currently using both a mixture of Bromcom and SIMS.net and hosted G Suite and Microsoft 365 tenancies.

Locker has enabled us to reduce the administration required whilst helping to onboard and offboard both staff and pupils. Through the use of the schools MIS being the 'single source of truth' we have been able to ensure that when a member of staff leaves, their access is revoked on all school systems to satisfy data protection requirements.

Locker has fully supported us from the original onboarding to any day-to-day support requirements for each of our schools – generally with a first time response and fix.

We are delighted with the product and would wholeheartedly recommend Locker to both single schools and Multi-Academy Trusts.



Jason Worlock National Head of IT Service E-ACT

We rolled out Locker Connect across all our 28 schools who operate separate networks to manage and sync user accounts and class teams in our single Microsoft 365 Tenancy.

The team at Locker were amazing and supported us through our bespoke setup. The team went above and beyond what we expected.

Having Connect installed means hours of saved time creating and managing new user accounts and Teams each year and gives us peace of mind knowing that accounts are automatically disabled when staff and students leave.

Case Study:



The Lighthouse Schools Partnership is a 26 School Trust in Bristol providing education to children and young people from Nursery to Sixth Form. A not-for-profit charity with the key aim of 'advancing education for public benefit'. The Trust includes both community and Church of England schools and also three Teaching Schools so that the professional development of staff is a top priority.



The problem

When the UK went into lockdown and our schools closed, we had to develop an online learning platform very quickly and, in turn, implement Microsoft Teams from scratch. There was no quick way to create online virtual classrooms.

Solution

We approached Locker, and they quickly deployed their system and talked us through extracting the physical class information from our MIS into our new virtual classrooms, for both primary phase and all teaching class groups across our three secondary schools.

Once implemented, it enabled us to replicate the physical classes as students moved within the MIS, and this was replicated in our physical classes.

The Locker solution enabled us to maintain those virtual classrooms, and the benefit is that we don't have to dual key. We were so pleased that we rolled this out to all 26 of our schools.

Outcome

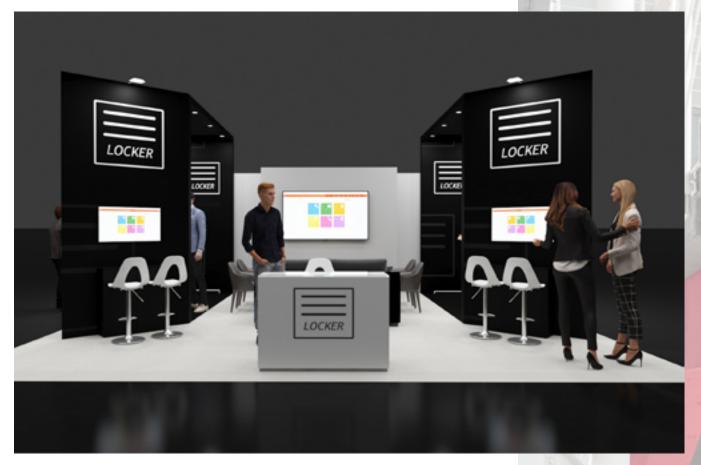
As a Trust, we have worked with Locker to further enhance our organisation. We now use Locker to automate guest access to the central trust domain, which means staff can access teaching and learning material and collaborate without us having to manage users for 20 domains.

Locker Connect has revolutionised how we operate and far exceeded our expectations. Implementation was quick, and it has been a huge leap forward in enabling students and teachers to connect via home learning.

Tim Monelle, Head of Trust Services

Come and meet us at BETT 2023

ExCeL, London | 29-31 March 2023



Find us on Stand SB41 in the South Hall

Please come and see us for a chat, a demonstration or arrange a meeting via Connect@Bett.

More Information

To find out more and arrange a demonstration of Connect:

visit locker.co.uk

email info@locker.co.uk

Call 0844 549 9500 / 0113 440 2035

