

FROM LEGACY SYSTEMS TO REAL-TIME DECISIONS ACROSS A 20-SCHOOL TRUST



AT A GLANCE

A multi academy trust with 20 schools worked with Thorne Widgey to move away from slow, expensive legacy systems.

Using Xero for bookkeeping and Joiin for consolidation and reporting, the trust now brings all school data into one clear view. Reporting is faster, central oversight is stronger and year end is far more manageable.

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There’s no way we could go into 20 schools and run 20 reports. We just don’t have the time to do that. Joiin just made it possible.

– Thorn Widgey

CHALLENGE

The trust was using legacy finance systems built for local authorities rather than schools. Reporting was slow, costly and difficult to keep consistent across 20 entities. Without the right tools, year end would have required 20 separate logins and 20 reports, creating pressure and risk for the finance team.

SOLUTION

Working with Thorne Widgey, the trust moved to a best of breed finance stack including Xero, ApprovalMax, XfE, Crezco and Joiin. Joiin now brings all school trial balances into one place and produces consolidated reports instantly.

With clear oversight of the central fund and simple year end workflows, the trust has a setup that is modern, efficient and easy for finance teams to maintain.



SHARABLE REPORT PACKS



LIVE DASHBOARDS



JOIIN INTELLIGENCE AI

BENEFITS

01

Faster, reliable consolidation

Consolidated figures are produced in seconds, removing the need to log into 20 systems, giving schools a smoother close.

02

Lower costs and less manual work

Replacing legacy licences has reduced spend and taken away the heavy spreadsheet workload, freeing the team to focus on analysis.

03

Stronger visibility across the group

Clean trial balances and clearer cross-school data give leaders confidence in Xero supporting a multi school structure.