



Sidney Stringer Academy

Registration is so easy now, especially for our PE departments

Sidney Stringer, based in Coventry first opened as a school in 1973 as the first urban community school in England. Its mission as a community school was to serve the whole population of the community, not just the children. Sidney Stringer has gone from strength to strength and were awarded Academy status in September 2010 then subsequently moved into their new state-of-the-art £28M building in June 2011.

Academies are free, government-funded, local schools that provide a first-class education for young people of all abilities. They are established by sponsors working with partners from the local community. Sidney Stringer are sponsored by Coventry City Council, City College, Coventry University and Jaguar Land Rover Cars.

Sidney Stringer Academy caters for 1,250 students aged 11-19 including a large sixth form. Their mission is to create a vibrant, happy and successful academy which delivers the very highest of standards of education and nurtures each student's talents and skills along with playing a central role in meeting the needs of their local community.

All the evidence they have points to the fact that their students make significantly more academic progress in their time with us than could reasonably be expected of them. Their results are amongst the very best in the country in terms of the progress that students make and they are proud of their students and their achievement.

Following on from using a hard-wired e-registration system that proved unreliable, Sidney Stringer embarked on finding a mobile solution. Mouchel, their ICT Managed Service Provider suggested Groupcall Emerge as a perfect solution.

Following a successful pilot of Emerge in the Academy over a 2 month period and used by 5 members of staff, a site licence was purchased.



Diane Lovejoy, ICT Systems Manager at the Academy explains how Emerge has proved successful:

“We decided to choose Groupcall as we could use our existing devices rather than purchasing new equipment for our staff and the solution was just what we were looking for. The installation process was seamless with remote training given when required, although the product is so easy to use, we more or less self-taught our staff and didn’t need very much training at all.

Emerge really came into its own for our PE department who are waiting for their new sports hall to be built. They are currently in temporary accommodation and at the other end of the site. Using Emerge on the iPods has enabled our PE staff to take their registers off-site in the morning and yet still update our MIS when they come on-site later in the day when they come back within Wi-Fi range of the Academy.

We are now using Emerge on 125 various devices, including a mixture of iPod touches, iPhones and iPads and the feedback from all staff using Emerge is that it is used well and it works!

Emerge is considerably cheaper than the hard-wired solution that we had in each room that was originally planned for our new building. Taking registration is just so much quicker and easier now and Emerge has proved invaluable in the use of a fire evacuation, bomb threat and off-site registration, especially for our PE classes.

Diane concludes: **“Emerge is very versatile in that it runs quite happily on a cross section of devices, i.e. Apple and Android devices. As long as the wireless is good, the devices will automatically connect to the network. Information about students can be accessed easily and quickly.”**

For further information on Groupcall’s range of products, please contact us by calling: 020 8502 7344, email: info@groupcall.com or visit: www.groupcall.com/emerge