

Schools Organisation Forum

Connect2 – Asset Management Planning System

Background

Evolution, the previous asset management planning system has been replaced by Connect2. A number of schools had previously used Evolution to inform Devon County Council of changes to their suitability data and keyholder contact information.

Current situation.

At the start of the Autumn Term 2010, all schools were given access to Connect2. This enabled them to access (via a secure internet connection) the following information for their own individual school:

- Asbestos registers
- Condition reports
- Contact information - including emergency key holders
- Premises room use and area information used for capacity calculations
- Floor plans
- Suitability assessments
- Visit records
- Other documents relevant to the site. E.g. Risk assessments

Support

The project is being managed and implemented by NPS South West on behalf of DCC .NPS have supplied all schools with a unique password and ID. Guidance and support/helpdesk information for using Connect2 has also been sent to schools.

Benefits

Connect2 brings a considerable number of benefits, the key ones relating to schools include:

- Web based system which allows access from any computer with internet access without any software installation issues or the requirement of individual licenses
- Simple to use intuitive system requiring limited training
- Incorporates standard education features such as suitability and net capacity calculations
- Access can be made to a school's own site specific data securely across the web
- Plans, photographs, copies of test reports, certificates etc can be attached to sites and easily viewed
- Project information and orders for maintenance works on individual school sites managed by NPS can be viewed and the status of orders tracked
- Email reminders can automatically be set up for key tasks

- Includes a site 'log book' that allows the management of health and safety data
- Interactive system which allows schools to request changes to out of date information

Summary

The Connect2 project is being managed in 2 phases. Phase 1 was completed at the end of August and involved the migration of corporate property data including schools asset management data from Evolution to Connect2.

Phase 2 of the project is currently in progress and includes the addition of several additional functions including health and safety audits and equipment/servicing inspection details. Once completed, Connect2 will incorporate all asset, project and ordering information in one system.

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