



THE BIRCHES

Specialist Support Primary School

The Birches Specialist Support Primary School, Manchester

Rob O'Hara, Headteacher and Dani March, Ass. Headteacher

After looking into various solutions, we decided that IRIS Adapt best served our needs. It offered all the tools we would need to monitor and analyse pupil behaviour effectively and at an affordable price.

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We have found IRIS Adapt to be very straightforward to use. We were up and running after the first training session. Staff training was done in-house, and staff have been using the system ever since, with no problems at all. Our teachers have found it quick and easy to use. The use of the drop-down menus, tailored to our school's needs, has made logging behaviour a much easier and more accurate task.

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IRIS Adapt has made a dramatic difference in terms of analysis of behaviour and assessing for functions of behaviour. Previously we used a bound book log incidents. Monitoring was detailed; however, we were just not able to use the data effectively. The old paper process was hugely time consuming and ineffective - we had a lot of data but were unable to do much with it. Using IRIS has significantly reduced the time spent monitoring incidents. Now it takes just minutes to delve into the data and produce graphs and charts for specific children or the whole school. We can produce individual reports for children and identify trigger points, environmental hotspots, times of the day that prove difficult the child and so on. We package up this information and share it with the class teams. This allows them to plan interventions, to review behaviour plans using the data and to assess the impact of the strategies they have in place. We can track pupil progress in a way that is visible to all; class team, parents, governors, and Ofsted.

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The support from Adaptsoft is great. There is always someone available to talk to and to listen to your ideas and suggestions. We have been able to make changes to the system at no inconvenience or extra cost to us. The Adapt team came back to us once we were up and running to check that we were getting the best out of the service.

Before getting IRIS Adapt, we struggled to show behaviour data in a clear and succinct way or to produce graphs and charts to show progress or to identify problem areas. We were unable to link the

data we had collected in our logbooks to interventions. The job was simply too huge for one person to trawl through bound logbooks and collate the data. IRIS has made the management of incidents easier and the analysis and tracking of data is so simple now. It is enabling us to make significant improvements in behaviour and safety.

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IRIS Adapt Special is an excellent product that should be best practise in all schools.

About the Birches

The Birches is a 164 place school that supports pupils with diagnosis of ASC, SLD and PMLD and is maintained by Manchester LA. Facilities include a hydrotherapy pool, a range of outdoor play areas, a sensory garden, two multisensory rooms and two soft play areas. As well as teaching staff the school offers an onsite School Nurse, Physio team, Speech and Language Team, Sleep counselling team, Outreach programme and Occupational Therapy and sensory integration. All pupils have an individual Pupil Personal Plan to support their learning which is supported by the curriculum. The school has been accredited by the National Autistic Society as the first maintained school in Manchester to gain Autism Accreditation.