

St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

Phase: Primary

NoR: 227

Local Authority: Walsall

Unique Challenge:

Reducing the amount of
texts being used

Objective

To improve school to parent
communication

To go cashless

Solution

A cost-effective option with
seamless SIMS integration

A system recommended by other
schools

Outcomes

Parents have more flexibility

Very little cash in school

Snow day communication is no
longer a concern

What goals were you hoping to achieve when you decided that an engagement system would be a good fit for your school?

When we selected the system we were looking to make improvements to communication with our parents, through email and texting.

Secondly, we were looking to make our school cashless and as we were already using them for communication selecting Schoolcomms made sense.

Why did St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School decide to use Schoolcomms to reach these goals?

The reasons we chose Schoolcomms came down to cost and recommendations from other schools already using them.

Also, its integration with SIMS was a major positive of the standalone system.

Were there any advantages to using Schoolcomms that you hadn't considered when originally looking?

We hadn't realised the emails were free, and also texting through the App. We also received a free incentive bundle which was very welcome.

Taking the payments and clubs side of the product has transformed the way parents and school interact.

Looking to **simplify your
school operations?**

Get in touch

Schoolcomms

What has parent and staff reaction been to School Gateway?

Our parents and staff have reacted really positively. It has been well received by everyone.

The customer service desk are brilliant, our parents and staff are always helped quickly and efficiently.

What challenges were you concerned about and how did you overcome them?

Initially the texting was being over used, we had a learning curve on what was appropriate to be sent.

Also, we limited what we used the payments and clubs systems for, as we were worried how parents would feel about it, but now we keep finding ways to use it more and more as it is so useful for both administration time and being cashless.

What has been the impact of adopting Schoolcomms?

Communication to our parents is much quicker - snow days are no longer a worry as we can communicate with our parents quickly if we need to close the school. Although our initial installation was for texting and emails communication only, we are now using the payments and the clubs options too. This has allowed the school to become practically cashless.

Using the clubs options for our After-School Club has taken a huge amount of administration time out of our school office and allows parents the flexibility to be able to book and pay online. We are very happy with the products we are using and thoroughly recommend them to others as they're effective, economical and reliable.



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