

Success Story

Transforming Financial Management with Sage Intacct for Education

“Sapientia Education Trust received a strong and consistent delivery from ION for our Sage Intacct solution.”

Steven Dewing,

Chief Financial Officer, Sapientia Education Trust

Sapientia Education Trust (SET), established in 2016, brings together like-minded schools in Norfolk and Suffolk to deliver world-class education. With over 5,500 pupils, 1,300 staff, and 16 schools, SET is committed to supporting both students and staff.

As SET expanded, so did the complexity of its financial management. The Trust recognised that its previous system, Sage 200c for Education, could not easily provide consolidated accounts or inter-company reporting—features essential for a growing multi-academy trust.

Many tasks, including VAT reporting and purchasing workflows, were managed outside the finance system, leading to inefficiencies and manual processes.



Partnering with ION

To address these challenges, Sapientia Education Trust partnered with Sage specialist ION to implement Sage Intacct for Education.

ION possess vast expertise in implementing financial management solutions for the education sector. Their mission is to enable education providers to achieve financial sustainability through technology, innovation, and data-driven insights.

The collaboration was hands-on and supportive, with ION guiding SET through every stage, from understanding their unique requirements to delivering tailored training and support.

Sage

Company
Sapientia Education Trust

Location
Norfolk & Suffolk, UK

Industry
Education

Sage Products
Sage Intacct for Education



About Sapientia Education Trust
Sapientia Education Trust operates 16 schools, delivering high-quality education to thousands of pupils across Norfolk and Suffolk. SET provides outstanding learning environments and supporting the development of both students and staff.



ION
ION helps schools, colleges, and Multi-Academy Trusts achieve financial sustainability with Sage Intacct cloud accounting solutions, streamlining processes and improving financial visibility.



“The Financial Reports produced from this solution are among the best we have seen and are of excellent quality, we now produce our board report at the click of a button.”

Steven Dewing,
Chief Financial Officer, Sapientia Education Trust

Transforming Sapientia Education Trust

Since adopting Sage Intacct for Education, SET has experienced a transformation in financial management.

ION:

- **Efficiency at every step:** Automated workflows have freed up valuable time, allowing the finance team to focus on strategic priorities.
- **Clarity and confidence:** Real-time reporting empowers leaders to make informed decisions, backed by accurate, up-to-date insights.
- **Seamless integration:** The Trust’s systems now work in harmony, with data flowing smoothly and securely, eliminating manual entry and reducing errors.
- **Scalability:** Adding new schools now takes minutes instead of a full day, removing costly professional services fees and supporting SET’s growth.
- **Automated consolidation:** Month-end close is now significantly faster, with consolidated entities and insightful financial reporting delivered at the click of a button.
- **Improved supplier payment performance:** Payment performance improved by 33% compared to the previous system.
- **Comprehensive approval policies:** Flexible purchasing workflows prevent overspend and reduce processing errors, resulting in cost savings.



“The solution provided us with tangible benefits to our business which included a vast improvement in our supplier payment performance.”

Steven Dewing,
Chief Financial Officer, Sapienia Education Trust

Overcoming challenges

Transitioning to a new financial management system is never without its challenges.

For Sapienia Education Trust, the expertise and support of ION were crucial in ensuring a smooth migration of financial data and a successful configuration tailored to the Trust's needs.

Scaling for the future

With Sage Intacct for Education in place, Sapienia Education Trust is ready for growth and success.

The Trust now enjoys a more integrated and efficient financial ecosystem, empowering the finance team to focus on strategic priorities and support SET's mission of delivering outstanding education.

Sapienia Education Trust's experience with Sage Intacct for Education highlights how the right technology can help schools simplify financial management and support their ongoing commitment to delivering quality education.



Sage

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