VenturEd Solutions™

CASE STUDY

John Ruskin Primary School & Language Classes

How using SchoolPod as a SEND-specialist MIS has transformed our day-to-day operations



Introduction

Special Education Needs (SEN) schools face unique challenges in managing student information, tracking attendance, and handling special requirements for their students. These schools require a tailored Management Information System (MIS) that supports both day-to-day operations and long-term educational goals for students with varying needs.

About the school

This case study is based on an inner-city school in Camberwell, South London, with a focus on SEN students. The school has around 500 students, including a language unit specifically catering to children with speech and language impairments. The unit supports mixed-ability classes from reception to Year 6, with three form entry.

John Ruskin Primary School & Language Classes

ABOUT

495 students

Founded in the 1890s

Camberwell, South London

TEAM



Jonathan Verity
School Business Manager

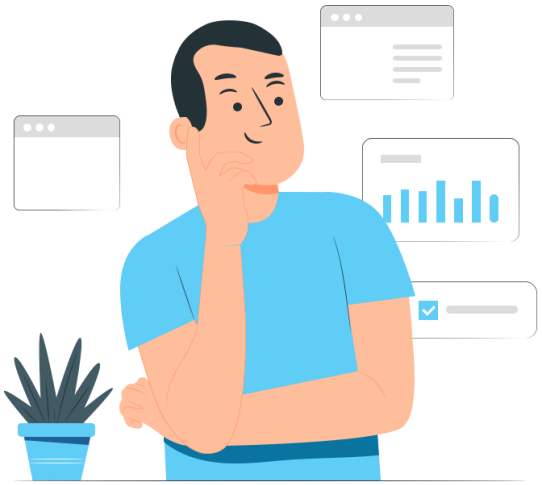
PRODUCTS

SchoolPod

Teachers2Parents

The need to move MIS

Prior to implementing SchoolPod, John Ruskin Primary were using another MIS system, which the school was unhappy with. They faced several challenges:



One-size-doesn't-fit-all reporting

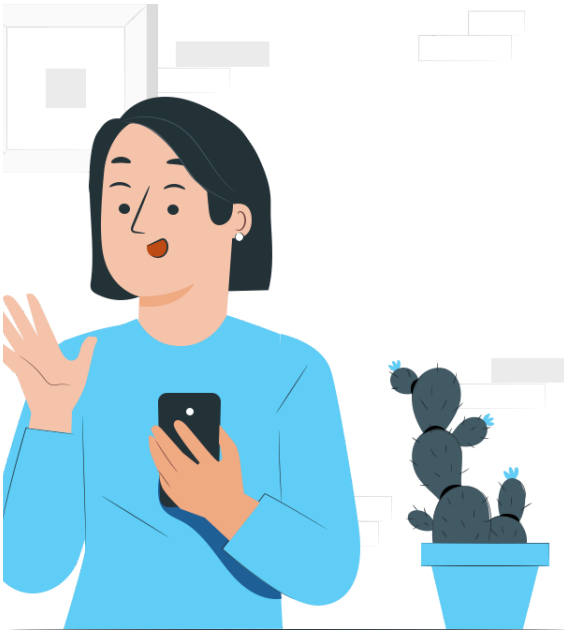
The previous MIS made it difficult to generate customised reports, which was crucial for tracking specific student needs, including attendance, behavioural patterns, and interventions.

Slow and repetitive processes

Many tasks, such as looking up past pupils or managing attendance, required roundabout methods, consuming valuable time.

Unresponsive customer support

The lack of quick and efficient customer support hampered the school's ability to resolve issues promptly.



> ***"It was a relief to come back and use a system that just does what we needed to do, it was such a nice transition back. Everyone's happy."***

The specialist tool for a special school

Enhanced support for SEN tracking

John Ruskin Primary's language unit, which caters to students with speech and language difficulties, benefits greatly from the flexibility and personalisation that SchoolPod offers. The school can track each student's progress and ensure that the necessary interventions are applied based on their specific needs.

SchoolPod's detailed reporting of SEN-specific data, such as individualised education plans and communication needs, ensures that staff can make timely and informed decisions.

Customisable and accessible reporting

SchoolPod stood out with its powerful reporting capabilities, allowing John Ruskin Primary to create custom reports specific to their needs. Whether for safeguarding, attendance, or special student requirements, the reporting feature has become a vital tool.

The ability to customise reports has reduced time spent on gathering data. For instance, finding information on past pupils, which previously involved a cumbersome process, can now be done much more efficiently using custom filters in SchoolPod.

> ***"I think the reporting was was awful in the last MIS. I like that you can use the report writer in SchoolPod to create your own."***

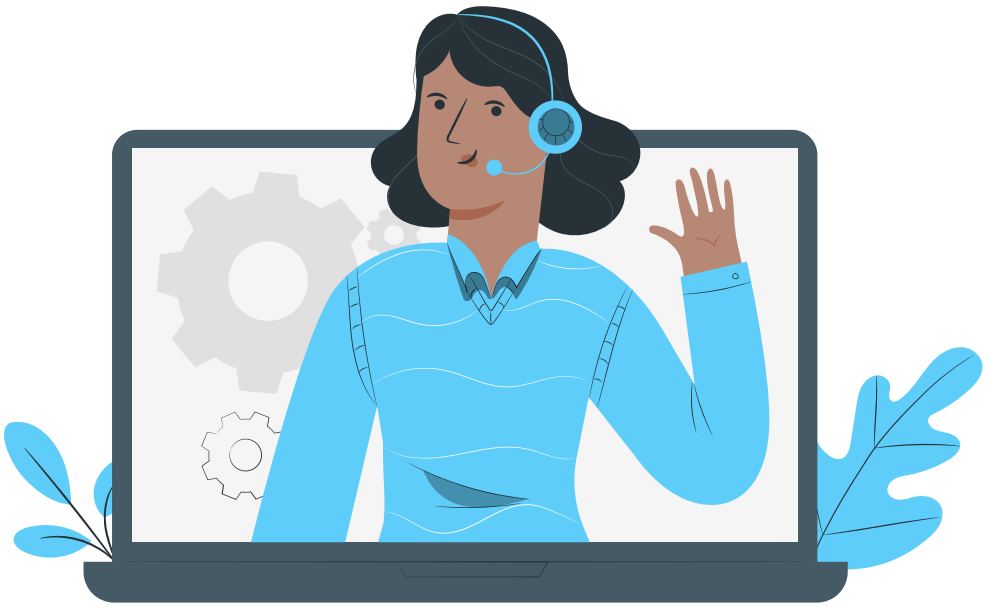
Excellent customer support

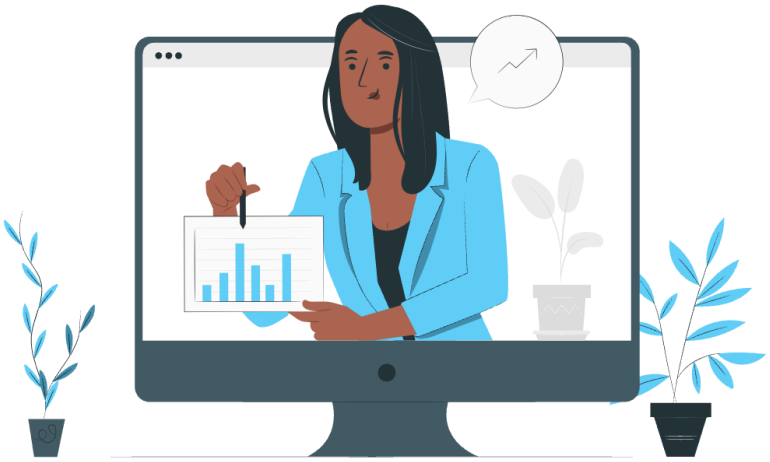
John Ruskin Primary highlighted the excellent customer service provided by SchoolPod. They felt supported, when they needed it most. Whether it was troubleshooting a reporting issue or setting up a new feature, SchoolPod's support team consistently provided quick and clear solutions. This ongoing support has been crucial for maintaining smooth operations, especially for SEN environments that demand timely responses.

> ***"The support you get from customer services is always really good and really quick. If you have got a problem, they come back really quickly with a straightforward answer."***

Ease of use and training

SchoolPod's intuitive interface and easy navigation allow both experienced staff and those less familiar with MIS systems to efficiently use the platform. The school noted how SchoolPod's icons and dashboard make it simple to manage students, staff, and various administrative tasks.





“The overall layout just does what you need to do. It's quite easy to navigate.”

Simplicity in managing attendance

Tracking attendance in SEN schools can be particularly complex due to the varying needs of students. SchoolPod allows for detailed, color-coded attendance records, giving staff an easy overview of each student’s attendance patterns.

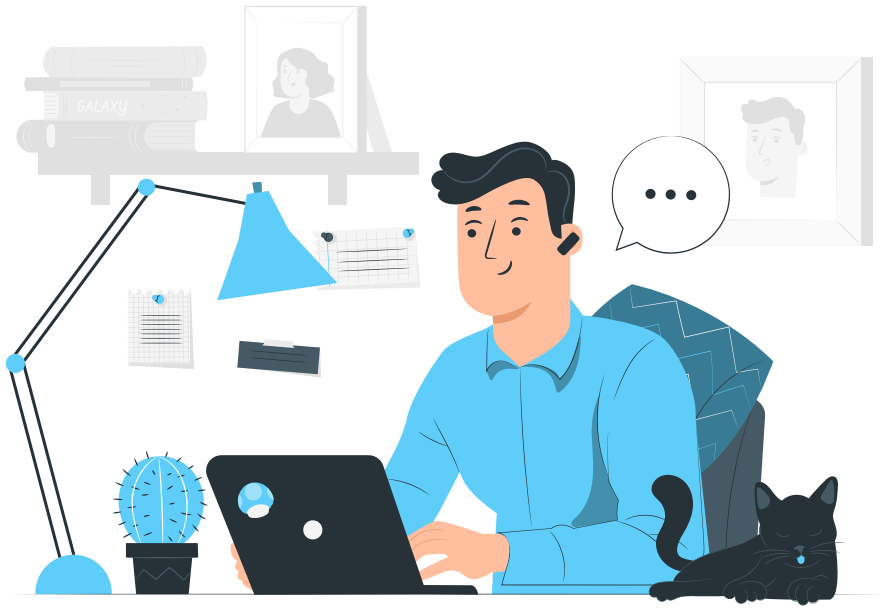
“If there’s a supply teacher in and they can’t use the system, we give them a paper register, which involves printing it, taking it upstairs, ticking it off, and bringing it back down to input into the system. This takes 15 to 20 minutes. But with SchoolPod, it’s done in two minutes max.”

Custom attendance reports can be generated at the click of a button, saving significant time compared to the previous MIS.

This capability has been invaluable for John Ruskin Primary where tracking students at risk of persistent absence and ensuring that appropriate interventions can be initiated.

> ***"It's quite simple to use. You've got all the icons at the top, student, staff, etc. There isn't a lot of going around the houses. You've got everything you need."***





Conclusion

For SEN schools, managing the specialised needs of their students while maintaining efficient administrative processes can be a significant challenge. SchoolPod addresses these challenges with its intuitive design, customisable reporting, and excellent customer support, making it a perfect fit for SEN environments. The ability to streamline administrative tasks, track complex student data, and ensure quick access to essential reports saves time and has improved the overall management of the school.

With SchoolPod, John Ruskin Primary has found a system that not only meets its current needs but is adaptable enough to grow with its future demands.

> ***"SchoolPod does exactly what we want. You can't ask for more from an MIS."***

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