

A colourful lesson in how to control costs



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Joanne Sladden,
School Business manager

The Client

Scargill Infant school has around 270 pupils on roll, and is located in Rainham, Essex. It’s officially an “outstanding” school that sets out to “educate, enable and empower”.

Scargill is also part of the Hornchurch Academy Trust, made up of three sites that are dedicated to working in a collaborative manner to help pupils and the communities in which they are situated.

In the case of Scargill, the school had a number of photocopiers on site, and some desktop printers, but change was needed in order to become more efficient - and use more colour.

The Background

Like many schools still, paper plays an important role in communication, both internally with staff and pupils, and externally, with parents and stakeholders. From assessments and worksheets, to newsletters and posters, print not only helps the school to display work, it helps children learn, particularly when colour is used.

But the standard photocopiers it was using were unreliable and only printed in black and white. When colour was needed, a desktop laser printer proved useful, but expensive, and was, therefore, not often used.

The school was recommended RISO, and so school business manager Joanne Sladden investigated how a RISO printer would help the school to operate.

RISO knows that SBMs are busy people, so a dedicated demonstration vehicle was dispatched at a convenient time and Joanne was able to see for herself just how it could help her, and the school. It proved to be an ideal solution and, shortly afterwards, a RISO ComColor 7150, which can print at speeds of 120 ppm, was installed at the school.

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The Benefits

Joanne Sladden, School Business Manager says: “We were restricted on using colour because of the costs, and it was difficult to manage what people printed, as there was no software or process in place to fulfil this task. In addition, there would be paper piling up on the printer that people had forgotten to pick up. In fact, the costs were rocketing.

With the RISO, we can now monitor usage, even down to the individual which has significantly impacted on reducing waste. As an SBM, it is of the utmost importance to look for opportunities to save money wherever we can as school budgets are so stretched.

The demonstration van is a great idea because you can see how the printer works without having to leave the school site.

We are now able to print more using colour, which benefits the children as it brings worksheets to life. We also know that we will be making a significant saving of at least £4,500 over the next three years.

I found RISO’s staff extremely efficient to deal with from start to finish, from the sales team to the engineers who installed the printer, along with the excellent after sales team. On the basis of my experience I would happily recommend RISO to anyone.”



Before RISO

Printing was uncontrolled and costs were spiralling. Old photocopiers were simply not up to the task, had high running costs and needed to be replaced.

After RISO

Scargill Infant School can now monitor what is printed and by whom. This control along with the low running costs of the RISO help to manage critical budgets and reduce wastage. More colour can be used as it is now affordable, with worksheets being made brighter and more engaging for children.



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