

## **Case study for Blue256 website**

Hethersett High School & Science College is a community comprehensive school for 11 to 16 year olds, serving the primary schools of Cringleford, Hethersett, Little Melton and Mulbarton.

The project brief was to significantly cut disaster recovery times, increase network fault tolerance on their Windows servers and to improve overall network performance.

Blue256 used VMWare Vsphere4 infrastructure products to virtualize all of the school's servers onto a new Storage Area Network-based platform, which consisted of two Dell R610 servers with dual processors and 16GB RAM, and one Dell AX4-5i iSCSI DPE Dual SP with 4.5TB disk space.

Blue256 achieved 100 per cent server consolidation on schedule and the results are a 95 per cent reduction in server disaster recovery time, maximised application availability and CPU utilization has been significantly increased.

By virtualizing their servers in this way, the school will suffer less downtime as a result of hardware failure and maintenance and will also benefit from reduced long-term hardware costs as there is spare capacity for additional servers in the future.

The school's ICT Systems Manager, Mike Groom, said, "Previously if a server failed it could have taken us days to carry out a recovery. Thanks to VMWare technology this has been reduced to just a few minutes. It's also eliminated our rack space problems!"

He continued, "Schools are ever more reliant on their IT systems performing at an excellent level of stability and VMWare is part of Hethersett High's focus on achieving that stability."