

# Trafford College Brings Learning to a New Level with Xirrus Wi-Fi Access Points

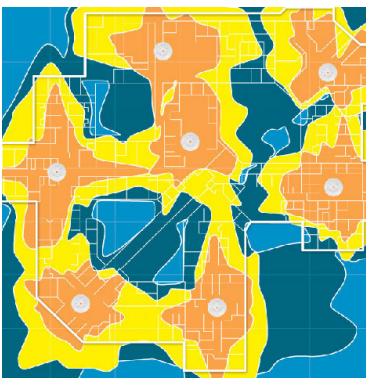


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STEVE PRATTEN,  
ICT TEAM LEADER,  
TRAFFORD COLLEGE



**Trafford College**



## Overview

**WITH OVER 10,000 STUDENTS** across four sites, Trafford College has placed itself firmly on the map as one of the leading providers of education and training in Greater Manchester. They offer responsive provision that meets the needs of young people, adults and employees alike. Trafford College is proud to have been recognized as ‘outstanding’ by Ofsted and to hold Beacon status, awarded only to the top eight percent of colleges nationally on the basis of their student results. The College has also been awarded National Skills Academy status for excellence in Retail, Sport & Active Leisure, Environmental Technologies and Hospitality.

Trafford College recently launched their new facility at Altrincham, a £25 million project consisting of a specialist A Level Centre, a contemporary new library, state-of-the-art classrooms and a three-story modern atrium. It was essential to Trafford College that this modern facility also offered the latest in advanced technologies. The first step in achieving this goal was installing Xirrus high-performance Wi-Fi access points (AP) to provide high-bandwidth access for students and staff while maximizing their technology investment.

## Improving Mobile Teaching Aids With Reliable Wireless

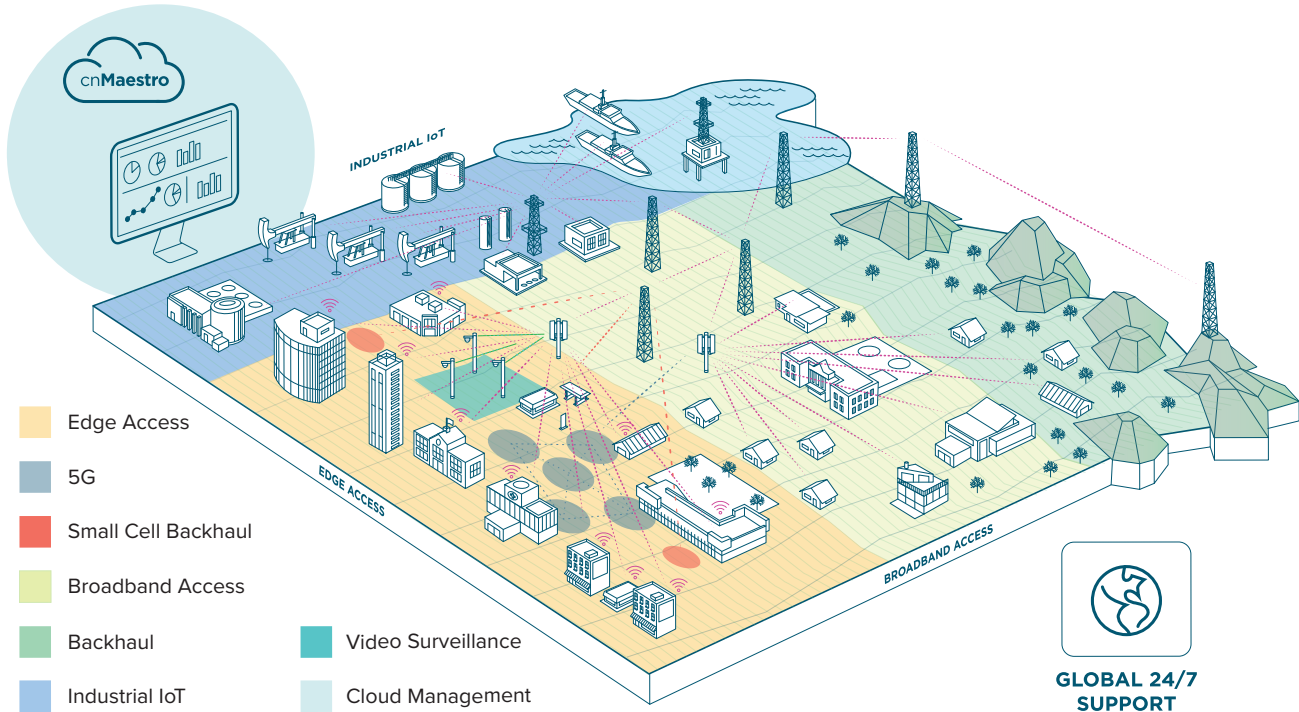
**TRAFFORD COLLEGE REQUIRED A RELIABLE WIRELESS NETWORK** that could provide sufficient bandwidth to support not only the mobile teaching aids implemented by the school but also the devices brought into the classrooms by the students. Steve Pratten, ICT Team Leader at Trafford College explains the school’s decision to deploy Xirrus Wi-Fi APs: “We needed a solution that would be able to cope with the rising number of smartphones used by our students together with the many mobile classrooms that are in use throughout the new building. Xirrus [Wi-Fi] proved to be that solution – since the system was deployed we have received positive feedback and no complaints.”

By choosing Xirrus Wi-Fi solutions, Trafford was able to cover the new facility and the refectory using fewer devices, cable runs and switch ports, resulting in a significantly reduced implementation cost. Additionally, having a stable wireless network has enabled Trafford College to increase the number of mobile teaching aids used in the classroom and has allowed the teachers to administer exams online with complete confidence in the security and reliability of the network.

“I would highly recommend Xirrus [Wi-Fi] to others,” Pratten continued. “The product is very easy to manage, support requests are dealt with swiftly and, above all, we now have a Wi-Fi solution the college can be proud of.”

## Advantages of Xirrus Wi-Fi

**WITH THE EXPLOSION OF SMARTPHONES AND TABLETS**, mobility has become pervasive. People expect to connect wirelessly. Organizations depend on high-bandwidth to send and receive voice, video and data, from any device to any one. Xirrus Wi-Fi APs draw from cellular tower design principles to provide wired-like reliability, increased user density and capacity plus superior security. They perform under the most demanding conditions and have lower infrastructure requirements. When integrated with business and IT objectives, they help you do more than ever before.



*Cambium Networks' Gigabit wireless solutions enable municipal, enterprise and service provider operators to tailor connectivity to meet exact requirements and grow as needs evolve.*

Cambium Networks applies the “best practices” of wired networking to wireless infrastructures by distributing the intelligence to the edge and outfitting Wi-Fi APs with dense multi-state radios in the same manner as a wired switch. Xirrus Wi-Fi APs work as part of a strategic IT infrastructure advantage that fuels organizations.