

## Our Success Story

Dramatic connectivity improvement  
with Ruckus Smart Wifi

“ We have been with NCI for many years and can't fault them. I highly recommend them to other schools. Their service is always brilliant and efficient. If there is an issue they're always quick to sort it. When Ruckus Wireless was put into our school the first major difference was logging onto the laptops!

Before Ruckus, when a class used the 16 laptops from the trolley for their lesson it was a total nightmare, sometimes taking the whole lesson just logging on!

That all changed once we had Ruckus Wireless installed! Dramatic Improvement!  
We could actually teach ICT lessons! ”

**Maggie Simpson,  
ICT Technician**



### ▶ Profile

St Columb Minor Academy is a large, rural, primary school in the centre of St Columb Minor on the eastern outskirts of Newquay, Cornwall. The 'Blue School' as it is more commonly known, educates over 530 pupils, employs 85 staff and caters for over 500 community users. It has been recognised as 'Good' by OFSTED and awarded the ICT Mark by Naace.

### ▶ Summary

St Columb Minor turned to ICT specialists, NCI Technologies as accredited partners of Ruckus Smart WiFi to deliver an advanced solution second to none for its 530 students, 19 teachers and 66 other staff members to keep up with today and tomorrow's education demands.



“As a governor, it has been great to witness first hand the improvement in ICT connectivity across the school site and the benefits for teaching and learning have been embraced by the staff and the pupils in every area of school life. As a parent, it has been encouraging to see the seemingly instinctive technical expertise that young people have, being satisfied and stretched as they utilise and benefit from good ICT provision across the curriculum.

**Millie Millington,  
Parent Governor**

## ▶ The Problem

With today's growing demands for WiFi in schools, St Columb Minor faced a challenge to maintain its local popularity and reputation as a leader in education.

The school previously had in place Netgear access points where users struggled to maintain WiFi connectivity. This in turn limited the adoption of further digital technologies to progress teaching and learning. Staff also experienced WiFi 'deadspots' which inhibited the effective use of technologies during lessons and across the campus, whilst IT Technicians found WiFi management too complex and time consuming.

## ▶ The Solution

St Columb Minor Academy turned to Ruckus Wireless and ICT specialist, NCI Technologies with the task of providing strong, stable and secure wireless coverage able to support more than 100 laptops, plus 140 mobile devices including iPad mini's for pupils and teaching staff in a small area at once. Since the 'Blue School' was rolling out more and more tablet devices and laptops to pupils and staff, they needed a proactive company with responsive technical support.

As an accredited Ruckus Wireless Big Dog Partner, NCI Technologies performed a full site survey and spectrum analysis to detect interference and specified a ceiling mounted system with equipment list consisting of over 12 of the Zoneflex 7363 mid-range units with Ruckus' new BeamFlex+ Technology. The team also installed a gigabit Ethernet connection to power the network and enable the faster speed of around 700 MB. A feature-rich ZoneDirector controller was also installed to simply manage and coordinate the quantity of access points and support the multiple VLAN's. Coupled with NCI's professional installation and technical support, the solution provided was second to none.



## ▶ The Outcome

Since the successful installation by NCI Technologies over 600 users have benefitted from Ruckus Wireless' lightning speeds and killer coverage. St Columb Minor Academy has future-proofed its wireless network by using Ruckus, meaning staff, visitors and students now enjoy a reliable, campus-wide WiFi network.

## The Technologies



12 x Zoneflex 7363  
mid-range units

Zone Director 1100

Ethernet connection



## About NCI Technologies

NCI was founded in February 2004, by Directors Andy Trish, Chris Penrose and John Andrew, with a vision to provide great IT support to the local community. Over the last decade, the company has grown considerably and is now a 30 strong team of passionate and dedicated professionals delivering IT solutions to businesses and schools across the UK.

NCI continually strive to improve their services and increase customer satisfaction. Years of experience working closely with small and medium sized businesses and schools have led NCI to develop products and services that empower their customers to progress and lead the way.



The Ruckus Wireless  
Access Point Zoneflex  
7363 with Beamflex+

## NCI Technologies providing IT Support and Solutions for Schools

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