Croydon College to catalyse and enhance reporting with Advanced's management software

Submitted by: Advanced Computer Software Group Limited

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Croydon College has gone live with a new student and management information system (MIS) from Advanced as part of an integrated suite of software to provide enhanced reporting and centralised data. The College went live with ProSolution earlier this year and will be fully integrated with existing software by the start of the 2016/17 academic year.

Croydon College offers a range of vocational and academic qualifications, apprenticeships and courses to 5,000 students every year. Based on one site the College has 500 employees and includes a Higher Education (HE) campus which delivers courses in conjunction with the University of Sussex, as well as a dedicated School of Art.

Advanced was chosen from a shortlist of three providers due to the solution's cost-effectiveness and the ability to seamlessly integrate with other Advanced software.
The College also uses ProAchieve, for analysing student retention and success, ProMonitor, for student monitoring, ProObserve, for lesson observations, and ProPortal, to give students access to their records.

The MIS acts as a central repository for college data including applications, enrolments, timetables and registers, enabling MIS staff to create reports at any level to support informed decision-making. The solution also supports the continued growth of the College's HE provision by enabling HE and further education information to be stored in the same place for the first time.

Richer functionality also enables staff more space to record all the Additional Learning Support (ALS) information they need, such as exam support and the needs of blind or deaf students.

Lesley Fooks, Director of MIS, Croydon College, says, "ProSolution has really streamlined the reporting process, enabling our MIS team to access data and generate reports whenever they need to. Previously they would not have been able to do this themselves, so it's really made their lives easier.

"We also anticipate further efficiencies as we integrate all the Advanced solutions over the coming months. With all our information in one place we can simply and quickly analyse data to effectively manage the College to give our learners the best outcome possible."

ProMonitor went live in 2014 and is used by all staff for an end-to-end view of each student's activities, including attendance and comments about academic and extra-curricular performance. This enables teachers and managers to easily track students against their Individual Learning Plan (ILP). Students can also access the system and update their record, empowering them to take ownership of their learning.

ProAchieve has been in place for more than a decade and is used by Department Heads to monitor achievement and retention rates at any level – student, course or college – to ensure the college is reaching its targets. ProObserve was implemented 18 months ago to replace spreadsheets with an online,

standardised way of managing lesson observations.

Fooks adds, "Implementing integrated systems from one supplier is a simple way to deliver the efficiencies that all colleges are seeking. Utilising this focused technology and working with specialist partners like Advanced enables us to monitor and track students' activity and deliver the quality education they deserve."

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Notes to Editors

About Advanced

Advanced is the third largest provider of software and IT Services to the UK market.

Through our enterprise and market focused solutions we positively impact millions of people's lives through continually investing in our people, partnerships and own technologies to stay focused on our markets', customers' and their stakeholders' needs.

We enable our customers to drive efficiencies, savings and growth opportunities through focused, right-first-time software solutions that evolve with the changing needs of their business and the markets they operate in.
True partnership is the defining thing that makes us different from the competition.

We pride ourselves on delivering focused software solutions for public sector, enterprise commercial and health & care organisations that simplify complex business challenges and deliver immediate value.

Advanced is a Sunday Times Top Track 250 Company 2015 and was ranked in the Deloitte UK Fast 50 which recognises the 50 fastest growing technology companies in the UK and a winner of the Tech Company of the Year in PwC's UK Tech Awards in 2014.

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