



**Resilience  
Multi Academy  
Trust**



Build Trust-wide Communication

# Resilience MAT Transforms Collaboration with Cloud Design Box



## Resilience Multi Academy Trust

**1933**

FOUNDED

**4,529**

STUDENTS

**500**

STAFF

Resilience Multi Academy Trust has its roots in the 1930s. Rothwell Grammar School was founded in 1933 to educate children from the small Leeds town and its surrounding areas. The Trust now has six schools, 4,539 students on roll and employs almost 500 staff.

With five secondary schools, one of which is a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) and another being a University Technical College (UTC Leeds), the Trust has successfully transformed a number of academies across Yorkshire, improving whole school performance for their students thanks to their pioneering approach.

Resilience Multi Academy Trust is committed to doing things differently – creating schools that students want to attend, and where teachers want to work.

### Choosing Cloud Design Box

The Trust has been using Cloud Design Box (CDB) since mid-2023, but as they offer outreach services to other schools, they were aware of how powerful it could be and benefits and value it could offer to the Trust as a whole.

Mark Newman, Director for ICT & Data at the Trust, had been aware of Cloud Design Box for about five years and was always impressed with the solution and how it could help transform their schools:

*“Cloud Design Box is the icing on the cake, the bit that adds a huge amount of value to the underlying Microsoft systems”*

However, the MAT appreciated that these systems had to be understood before rolling Cloud Design Box out across the Trust.

## Nothing else quite like it in education

The central IT team at Resilience MAT wanted staff to use SharePoint and move data and learning resources from locally deployed storage into the cloud and then use Cloud Design Box as the 'wrapper' that makes it work well for everyone.

Mr Newman said: *"I don't think there is another solution on the market that does what Cloud Design Box does. I haven't seen another product that is specifically focused on education, what schools need, and that adds value to the underlying Microsoft stack."*

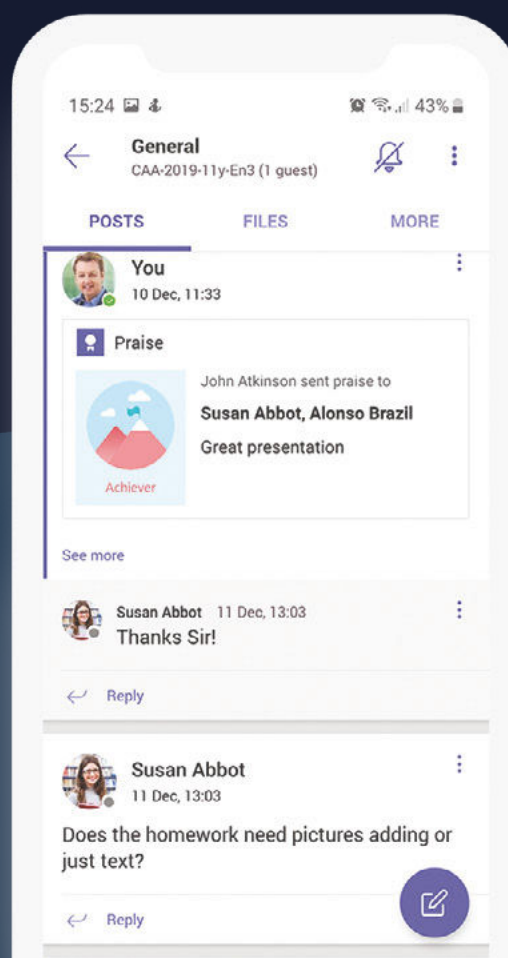
From a technical perspective, the roll-out was very straightforward. The Trust's central IT team had already linked the schools into one Microsoft tenancy. They then created several templates, across a number of individual SharePoint sites, and whilst they all had the same look and feel, each school could have their own branding.

Every member of staff attended training webinars that were run by Cloud Design Box and the MAT had its own training 'sandbox'. Around six different webinars were hosted and these are still available online, should anyone need a 'refresher', or if a new member of staff comes on board.

Mark continued: *"It's also very useful that many of the 'how to' training videos provided by Cloud Design Box focus specifically on assistance with the Microsoft platform. They provided videos on the effective use of assignments and the effective use of SharePoint. The videos are also available in 'bite-sized chunks'. These have been, and continue to be, an extremely useful training tool. They have helped those who might be struggling, with easy, step-by-step guidance."*



**Mark Newman**  
Director for ICT & Data



## Tailoring a business tool for an education setting

*"Cloud Design Box makes Microsoft Teams and SharePoint an educationally focused package. Without CDB, Microsoft 365 is primarily a business tool for a wide range of uses" says Mark, "Cloud Design Box brings everything together and sets it up to be much more user-friendly in an education environment."*

Mark is also very complimentary about the team at Cloud Design Box: *"They've all been really supportive, and a special mention must go to James Emmett, who was brilliant in helping us build the kind of look and feel we wanted. Everyone in the team really understands education."*

Most of all, the Trust has noticed a dramatic transformation and improvement in their ability to communicate across the organisation as well as the simplicity of sharing resources:

*"We could have attempted to achieve the same result with SharePoint and Teams, but it would have taken much longer. CDB made everything so straightforward which has hugely aided engagement with the platform."*

### We'd love to hear from you

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+44 (0)1482 688890

#### Email

[info@clouddesignbox.co.uk](mailto:info@clouddesignbox.co.uk)

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