



Executive Summary

Industry

- Education

Environment

- Over 28,000 students
- 2,900 staff
- Extensive campus including 85 buildings and a sports stadium

Technology Needs

- Robust, reliable network infrastructure for connectivity across multiple locations
- Latest Wi-Fi 6 technology to deliver powerful user experience
- Remote access from anywhere, roaming capabilities to staff and simplified delivery of services for technical team
- Increased network capacity, security and compliance

Solutions Components

- Extreme Management Center™
- Extreme Fabric Connect™
- ExtremeSwitching™
- ExtremeWireless™

Results

- Modernised and improved student experience
- Real-time control and automation of network traffic
- Access to the fastest and most prolific wireless service available through Wi-Fi 6
- Scalable, cost-efficient, future-proofed network infrastructure
- Reduced burden on IT team



Leeds Beckett University Modernises Campus Infrastructure with Extreme Networks

Leeds Beckett is a leading public university based in Leeds, in the North of England, with a population of over 28,000 students and 2,900 staff from almost 100 countries. Its vision is to be recognised as an outstanding, accessible, and globally engaged university with a commitment to student success, innovation and enterprise.

To deliver against its vision and strengthen its position as an anchor university in Yorkshire and the North, Leeds Beckett is making impressive strides to digitally transform. An investment of £200 million for campus developments over the next five years, including an extensive network overhaul, has been planned to drive new operational efficiencies and improve student engagement, retention and attainment.

The university has an extensive campus of 85 buildings and a sports stadium, with 4 miles between its primary campus and subsidiary campus buildings. With the volume of connected devices increasing exponentially and student expectations for instant, reliable, Wi-Fi access higher than ever, Leeds Beckett wanted a comprehensive infrastructure featuring the latest Wi-Fi 6 technology that could scale in line with changing capacity demands and pre-empt the future needs of its student body. The solution needed to deliver reliable, remote access from anywhere on campus and bolster performance, all while optimising security and compliance. It partnered with Extreme Networks to help revamp its network infrastructure with innovative Wi-Fi 6 at its core, in order to modernise the student-experience, enable next-generation learning, and exceed the future expectations of its biggest stakeholders.

"We have worked with Leeds Beckett to develop a network that we believe every educational institution should strive for. By putting the student experience first, and building an infrastructure to support that, the university now has a robust, flexible and resilient network that meets the needs of its campus, staff, visitors and students. Taking a forward-thinking approach to underpin its operations with leading-edge technology is testament to the university's commitment to supporting innovation and enterprise from within."

**John Morrison, SVP EMEA and APJC,
Extreme Networks**

A Strong Foundation for Driving Improved Student Experience

Leeds Beckett is a modern professional university with ambition. Keeping pace and empowering digital transformation, whilst delivering strong TCO and ROI, was a primary goal for its revamped network infrastructure.

The university enlisted the support of Extreme Networks and partner Fournet to design an advanced network underpinned by Extreme Elements™ and next-generation Wi-Fi 6. Including Extreme Management Center™ software, Extreme Fabric Connect™ technology and ExtremeWireless and ExtremeSwitching products, alongside Legacy Avaya WAPs, the tailored solution met the immediate on-site need for scalable bandwidth and increased network capacity, whilst also laying the foundations for realising greater performance, operational efficiency and user experience.

Enabling real-time automated control of the network, the Extreme Management Centre enables routine and previously manual tasks to be offloaded from IT staff via automation. Likewise, Extended Edge Switching allows for Leeds Beckett to collapse multiple network layers into a single logical services architecture and create a single, centralised point of control. These two solutions alone have not only created a scalable and cost-efficient network capable of accelerating day-to-day operational efficiency and reducing costs, but have empowered IT staff to spend less time fire-fighting network issues in order to focus their time on value-add initiatives to improve the student experience.

Designed to take the complexity out of networking, Extreme's Fabric Connect empowers Leeds Beckett with a single, next-generation technology to help optimise system availability, incorporate system and service resilience, and enhance network visibility. This makes it possible to sustain a far more robust and resilient network than competitive alternatives, which can also be quickly and easily scaled with the addition of new services as Leeds Beckett continues its expansion.

"Our network infrastructure forms the backbone of our operations and the lifeblood to our University. But like many education establishments, the pressure and demands on it are increasing significantly. Thanks to our new scalable and cost-efficient solution, we are not only realising new levels of reliability and improved performance today, but empowering ourselves for success tomorrow. In Extreme Networks we found a true partner that can help us realise our vision of using technology to deliver improved student engagement, retention and attainment."

**Dr. Basem El-Haddadeh, Director IT Services,
Leeds Beckett University**

Since the first-phase of roll out, Leeds Beckett has realised immediate benefits from being able to stretch the fabric to the edge and across campuses. By allowing roaming capabilities for staff it has made their jobs easier and simplified the delivery of services for their technical team, whilst students have been empowered with improved connectivity through Wi-Fi 6 and a user experience they expect from a modern learning environment. Future plans are already in place to optimise the solution for locationing services and in-depth analytics to measure performance and student experience.



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