

Bristol Free School

Changing the landscape of education



European Electronique working in partnership with Bristol Free School to change the landscape of education within the community

Background

[European Electronique](#), a leading technology company specialising in ICT solutions for education, was pleased and excited to be chosen to create a new and inspiring learning environment for Bristol Free School (“BFS”).

The BFS is being set up and will be managed by the Bristol Free School Trust. This is a joint venture, set up between Bristol Parents’ Voice and the Russell Education Trust.

The school which is due to open in September 2011 in temporary accommodation, will be comprehensive, inclusive and serve its local community welcoming families of all faiths. The school will admit 150 year 7 pupils each September. ICT will be an integral part of the curriculum and will be developed methodically to enrich and enhance the learning of other subjects.

Part of the solution includes cloud services and curriculum software which can be rented over a period of time, via streaming through the web, providing better value for money and improving management efficiency.

The first year ICT solution will be transferred onto the permanent site during, or at the end of, 2012/13. The total capital allocation from DfE for ICT equipment is £600,000.

Sport will play a key part in the life of the school and will provide a foundation which can help bring the school community together. For BFS, European Electronique is proposing to sponsor the school with a software solution called Dartfish. This product will allow staff and students to capture and study movement, both technical and tactical.



It provides a number of ways in which students can study and learn not just from their own examples but also the examples of others and the examples of elite athletes, providing inspiration and a desire to improve and achieve more. Dartfish, being a visual and hands on product, will engage students and enable them to become involved and collaborate with their peers in the learning process.

Colin Mackinlay, Bristol Free School Trust stated: *“We intend to involve parents in every way possible as we recognise that parental involvement is key to the success of both individual pupils and the school. Parents will be partners, working with the school to ensure the best outcomes for their children.”*

European Electronique not only suggested Dartfish as one of the ways in which to help foster a partnership by supporting BFS in some of its educational aims but also added to this by suggesting sponsorship of a guest speaker to come into the school once a year. A guest speaker will provide extended and extra-curricular events, which can be used to inspire both students and the local community alike. The company has links with a diverse range of bodies and people and have suggested a top industry speaker from within IT or a professor from Oxford University.

Another way in which European Electronique will help provide added value will be in the provision of support. European Electronique have put forward a flexible option and can provide the right level of support for BFS needs together with implementing a support system which will service the wider group of primary schools. This support can go even further by leveraging the purchasing power of the group of schools to drive out purchasing efficiencies and reduce the overall total cost of ownership for ICT, for both hardware and support services.



European Electronique has been the first to bring to market products which are now mainstay solutions within education, such as Meru Wireless technology and server virtualisation.

We very much believe in bringing the correct industry standard solutions to education, ensuring schools are provided with open and not “off the shelf” products, services and solutions.

Yolanta Gill, CEO at European Electronique, comments: *“It is very exciting to be involved in one of the first and biggest free schools to open in England. ICT will play an important role in helping the school achieve its goals and to be a part of the school’s mission in this journey is truly a great adventure. We are currently working with another Free School, who shares similar values with Bristol Free School and we would hope to bring these two like-minded schools together in collaboration for the benefit of both to share ideas and more importantly, experiences.”*





About European Electronique

European Electronique is a leading technology company with 22 years' experience in ICT and a reputation for innovation. The company is a market leader in the education sector while delivering innovative customised solutions to other markets including; Local and Central Government, Emergency Services, Housing and Healthcare.

European Electronique's skills are recognised at national Government level and the company is accredited by Buying Solutions, the national procurement framework for UK public services, an Executive Agency of the Office of Government Commerce in the Treasury; and is an Approved Supplier for the Department for Education's ICT Services Framework Agreement, providing solutions to the education sector.

European Electronique's principal areas of business activity are the provision of:

- ❖ One-stop supply chain solutions (Procurement Services)
- ❖ Infrastructure Services Projects
- ❖ Maintenance and support services, including ITIL and FITS compliant