

Xero for Education



Thorne Widgery
**Passport to successful,
simpler accounting**



Plot your course and let Thorne Widgery be the pilot to your academy's success...

As well-respected academy accountants, we recognise that conversion can sometimes feel like a journey into uncharted territory.

Or maybe you are a MAT in need of a helping hand to ensure your expansion plans really take off?

Let your financial management soar into the CLOUD with our Xero for Education accounting software created especially for academies.

Thorne Widgery – your passport to academy success!

THORNE WIDGERY
Business Advisors
& Chartered Accountants




You can rely on Thorne Widgery and its innovative services to get your academy's plans off the ground and reach new heights...

- ✓ Support for your school pre and post-conversion
- ✓ Experts in Academy Cloud Accounting and School Administration systems
- ✓ EXCLUSIVE Financial Management software developed for academies in partnership with Xero
- ✓ Tailored to the needs of School Business Managers, Head Teachers, Accounting Officers, Auditors and Governors

**Years experience
within the team
auditing schools**

63

A young girl with dark hair in pigtails, wearing a white shirt, blue jumper dress, and a pink backpack, is running happily on a paved path outdoors. The background is a soft-focus green landscape.

We also work with other accountancy practices specialising in Academy Schools. One such accountancy firm is leading Lincolnshire based Academy Specialists, Forrester Boyd – they act for 100+ schools that are either an Academy or part of a MAT.

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Having worked with TW and their Academy software, it's clear they have consulted with business managers and head teachers when developing Xero for academies. It's easy to use, the training and support has been excellent and whilst the needs of the school are at the heart of the software it's also been designed to make the annual audit as smooth as possible for the school and auditor alike. Our experience and that of our academy clients has been very positive.

Kevin Hopper, Partner
Forrester-Boyd Chartered Accountants
Leading Academy Specialists

Good with numbers, Great with people
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What our academy clients have to say...



Xero gives me what I want... the power to drill down and report in whatever way I want. We have three schools on board and no-one is flapping from a finance point of view – so that's got to be a positive!"

Peter Rickard,
Lead Head of the Severn Bridges MAT



This was the first time we have undergone an audit having had Xero in place for a full year. The audit was – dare I say it – easy! Having Xero in place made the whole process much easier and a lot less hassle."

Rachel Lovell, Academy Business Manager,
Stretton Sugwas Church of England Academy



Being able to scan in documents and in particular emails which I save as PDFs is a really useful function. When I have paid an invoice and have this confirmed by the bank I scan this in too, which means the audit trail is all taken care of."

Rachel Etterley, School Business Manager,
Radbrook Primary School



We were really pleased with the installation – I was able to start working through a backlog of purchase orders the same day that it was installed. Everything was done behind the scenes and last year's information was imported onto Xero so I could access the previous year's records easily... I'd give the installation 10 out of 10"

Jayne Kaye, School Business Manager
The Cambridge Park Academy, Grimsby



As the Head I need quality information to make informed decisions – if I am the 'pilot' then Xero is my financial 'cockpit,' from where I control the school's operations."

Andrew Teale, Head Teacher St Paul's Primary School
Head Teacher, St Paul's Primary School



Compared to our previous system, Xero is clearer and easier to use, the screen layout is a lot more user friendly, the dashboard means everything is accessible and support is a lot easier to access."

Emma Stackhouse, School Business Manager,
Holmer C of E Academy

Cloud accounting with Xero and Thorne Widgery brings a number of benefits including...

- Compliant with EFA legislation
- Straightforward fund and GAG accounting
- Pay-Scale budgeting and forecasting
- Bank feeds direct from your bank
- Powerful, accurate reporting
- Secure multi-user access
- Increased efficiency
- Backed up and secure at all times
- Regular automatic updates
- Quick and easy to correct posting errors
- Cost-effective
- Fully supported
- Reliable
- Beautifully SIMPLE to use
- MAT consolidation plus Individual school reporting
- Unlimited secure Document storage
- Less intrusive audit
- Saves time, money and space - no need for paper files
- Portal access - granular access
- Schemes of delegation
- Approval limits
- Integrated workflow
- Multi step workflows

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“Everything is so much easier than our old system, in particular reporting. It has the capacity to allow us to go completely paperless. It’s also very intuitive and easy to navigate through.

Xero saves us time. The loading of information, bills, purchase orders etc. is quick and simple. We just scan it in and it’s there – there’s no longer loads of paperwork to file. Retrieving documents is very simple too. I wouldn’t go back to my old software now - our experience with Xero has been very good.”

Shirley Hirons Office Manager,
Burghill Community Academy

“

I now update the school's assets and depreciation every month. Previously I only did this twice a year as I had to do it on a manual spreadsheet –running this using Xero, as soon as the invoices come in, means I am more in control and have a truer reflection of the estate.

What is really good is the fact that I have been able to continue working on Xero without any rollovers which with the old system would not have been possible. In the past I would have had to wait until the end of year balance and the journals. With Xero I just carry on as normal – it doesn't become this huge event and I don't have to stop work because the audit is taking place.

The audit process itself was a lot less effort – certainly in terms of the amount of time the auditors needed to spend on-site. While they were here I just carried on working and their work did not interfere with my ability to use the system.

Xero has also made it easier for me if I need to ask for anything from our auditors – it has further cemented what was already a solid business relationship.

This was our first year of undertaking a full audit having used Xero. Compared with last year when we were using the old software I would say the audit experience has gone from 7 out of 10 to 10 out of 10 – I cannot imagine how the experience can get any better!

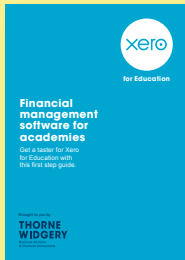
- **So easy to use**
- **So user-friendly**
- **I wouldn't want to work anywhere that used a different software package – that's how much I love Xero!**

Jayne Kaye – School Business Manager,
The Cambridge Park Academy, Grimsby

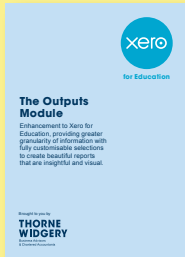
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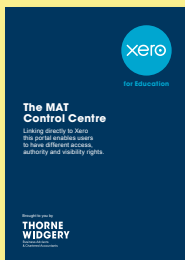
Get a taster for Xero with our selection of step guides...



Financial management software for academies
Get a taster for Xero for Education with this first step guide.



The Outputs Module
Enhancement to Xero for Education, providing greater granularity of information with fully customisable selections to create beautiful reports that are insightful and visual.



The MAT Control Centre
Linking directly to Xero this portal enables users to have different access, authority and visibility rights.



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