



# Innovative secure data exchange web site for Lincolnshire schools

Lincolnshire County Council has launched a new Data Exchange Web site, based on the Webstructure content management platform from Abacus e-Media, to enable the secure sharing of information and access to guidance for professionals working for Lincolnshire Children. The new site, which was launched in October 2008, enables users to download general guidance on topics such as the School Census, Early Years Census, Contactpoint and School Performance. Users are also able to submit information to the County Council using online forms or via the data upload area.



Prior to the launch of the new web site, Lincolnshire County Council exchanged data with schools through a secure intranet. However, it had become increasingly difficult to securely transfer data and intelligence with the growing number of external partners who also needed access to the information (following the introduction of the Children's Act), such as Health Authorities, Playgroups, Children's Centres and District Councils.

James Thomas, Principal Information Officer, Performance Management, Children's Services Directorate at the County Council: "We realised that we needed an easy to use, secure website which would enable us to exchange data and intelligence within this expanded community. We also wanted to have a site where we could signpost schools and other partners to useful guidance which can be found on other websites – thus establishing this new site as the first point of call for all Lincolnshire Children professionals."



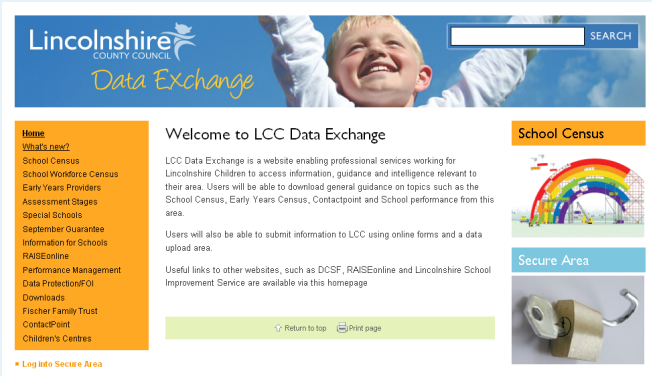
The new site is fundamental to the relationship between the County Council and its 60+ secondary and 270+ primary schools. All guidance and support for activities such as the school census and assessment reporting is made through it.

“*Feedback from schools has been very positive. They really value the easy accessibility of the site. Exchange of intelligence and data with our partners is now much improved: it is controlled, consistent and secure.*”

In the six months since the new site was launched, there has been considerable interest from other directorates and organisations in Lincolnshire who are keen to use the site to publish their own relevant information.

“ We are now using the site to collect feedback on the quality of our services, and have numerous plans for the next stages of development. It has changed the way we think about planning very many aspects of our work. ” James Thomas

For further information on setting up a secure data exchange for your organisation please contact Ralph Swan. [Ralph.swan@abacusemedia.com](mailto:Ralph.swan@abacusemedia.com).



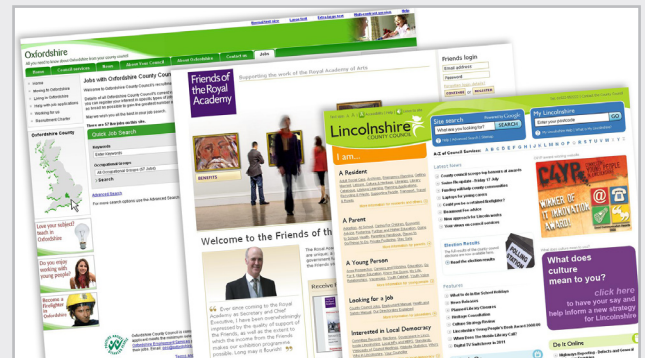
## Our expertise in the public sector

Abacus e-Media has been delivering public sector information systems for more than fifteen years. We focus on web design and development, content management and recruitment management, and have created a portfolio of products and services for our public sector clients.

We can undertake all the work or specific tasks within an overall project – whichever approach best suits the needs of an individual client.

Our award-winning designers and information architects strive to ensure a simple, user-centric experience. Our development team uses the latest web technologies to create sites that are fast, efficient, accessible and usable – and which deliver your strategic objectives.

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Recent work has included the development of transactional-rated websites, the introduction of streamlined and measurably-efficient recruitment services, and an innovative project which successfully reached out to the community in Lincolnshire.