

A photograph of a hand pointing at a large, black, multi-touch display. The display shows a reproduction of Michelangelo's famous fresco, "The Creation of Adam". The hand is positioned as if interacting with the screen. The display is mounted on a wall.

Pear Tree Specialist School turned to Virtue Technologies when they were looking to replace their old whiteboards and projectors

Background

Pear Tree Specialist school in Kirkham, Preston, is a school for young people with special educational needs and has around 80 pupils aged 2-19. The School wanted to replace their old whiteboards and projectors, as they didn't like worrying about filters needing to be cleaned or bulbs needing to be replaced. They had very specific requirements to accommodate the needs of their students, so it was vital for Virtue Technologies to work closely with the school to meet these exact requirements whilst causing minimal disruption to pupils.

Speaking about the installation of the school's new CTOUCH Displays, Tom Simpkins, a Teacher at Pear Tree Specialist School says, "the CTOUCH screens have opened up the curriculum to all students across our 2-19 age range of young people with special educational needs." When asked about the school's specific requirements Tom said "Virtue worked closely to meet our exact requirements - setting the boards away from the wall and installing the high-low risers have allowed wheelchairs to fit underneath the board, whereas previously the students in wheelchairs could never access the whiteboard directly. Due to the multi-touch design of the boards, children are now learning to work together at the same time giving opportunities to build on the social skills necessary for life after school whilst engaging in this new technology. Pupils can now work on activities together which has increased the teaching time, whereas in the past we'd have one pupil working on the board whilst the other waits for their turn. Teachers are now also able to teach using the CTOUCH screen without the need to turn off the lights or shut the blinds because of the bright anti-glare

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Tom Simpkins, Teacher, Pear Tree Specialist School

screens. Both students and teachers alike can now use the touch screen with confidence, whereas previously they had to bend out of the way of shadows!"

In relation to the installation of the CTOUCH Displays, Tom said "the Installation of the screens was faster than I ever imagined and timetabled to cause minimal disruption to pupils. Old whiteboards and projectors were removed and new screens put in place with speed and efficiency. We now no longer need to worry about filters needing to be cleaned or bulbs needing to be replaced and with a 5 year on-site hot swap warranty we can relax knowing that if ever there was an issue, it would be solved without delay or disruption to teaching." To conclude, Tom said "From quote, to installation and the free training afterwards the service has been exceptional!"