



Kilbreda College is a Kildare Education Ministries Catholic School for girls in the Bridgidine Tradition, located in Melbourne's South East.

The school caters for 800 Year 7-12 students.

**“When the team said they could complete the entire project with minimal impact we were skeptical, however, Step Fwd IT delivered exactly as they said. I was pleased with their approach to reuse some of our existing equipment too, helping minimise additional capital expenses”**

James Tian, Business Manager

View more of our case studies at [stepfwdit.com.au](http://stepfwdit.com.au)

Or find out how we could help your business by calling **03 9020 8616**

### ICT Infrastructure Refresh

Step Fwd IT provides managed services at Kilbreda College in the form of an IT Manager and critical infrastructure management and monitoring.

#### The Problem

When Step Fwd IT were engaged by Kilbreda, there were several risks discovered with their ageing critical server infrastructure:

- Configuration of infrastructure meant that server operations were only optimal when all equipment was operational – failure of any component had direct impact on all servers.
- The backup “solution” was not capable of backing up all servers, leaving critical systems and data at risk.
- Restoration of critical server such as the file server, could take up to 4 days to complete, if at all.
- A large portion of the critical infrastructure equipment was approaching or had already reached the end of warranty date.

#### Step Fwd IT Solution

Proposed a 3 node (Server) solution leveraging the latest hyper-converged technology including Microsoft Storage Spaces direct. Hyper-Converged technology allows greater redundancy, performance and scalability by eliminating the need for a dedicated storage device by converging each server's internal storage to work as one.

#### How it has helped

These changes have provided the following benefits;

- Reduced costs, complexity and increased I/O performance through centralisation and consolidation of storage.
- Reduced risk by removing the reliance on a dedicated storage device.
- Increased availability and redundancy by sharing storage and computer across 3 nodes that can tolerate the failure of any 2 nodes at a single time.
- Improved scalability – Disks and Memory can be added to each node to increase storage and performance or a new node can be added to the cluster.

The project was successfully implemented over a school holiday period with minimal downtime at the College.

#### Bonus

Step Fwd IT were able to re-purpose parts of the old infrastructure to form part of the College's backup solution, reducing the cost of addressing and implementing a full backup solution. Kilbreda, with both infrastructure refresh and backup solutions in place, now have a true disaster recovery plan that allows all servers and data to be restored simply within seconds and minutes rather than days and weeks.

