IMPULSE Nexus portals

A child's educational journey encounters several different agencies along the way. To support this journey, IMPULSE Nexus's portals enable all the relevant people involved to gather, share and communicate information, to contribute to the journey. There are four portals within IMPULSE Nexus; schools, parents, professionals and providers of family services. These portals enable the different agencies to join the dots in each child's education by gaining vital insight that might otherwise be siloed. This is crucial to achieving the ultimate goal of improving outcomes for every child.

- Schools can record achievements and attainments
- Professionals can record their observations and contributions to plans
- Providers can record the input of their services
- Parents can apply, appeal and communicate with agencies supporting their child

This ensures that each contributor to a young person's journey can record and access relevant information whilst helping to provide the seamless sharing of relevant data to enrich the journey.

Bringing these moving parts together into a single view of each child helps to focus on outcomes. By removing manual processes, for example finding out information from other agencies, you can access clear, concise and relevant information on each child in order to make informed and accurate decisions.

A joined-up approach

IMPULSE Nexus is modular by design, allowing flexibility in the way it is deployed. The portals work with the modules within the system, facilitating the gathering and recording of data in a multi-agency scenario from disparate sources. IMPULSE Nexus is an interoperable and highly configurable system, meaning that you can collect data from, and share data with, other systems.
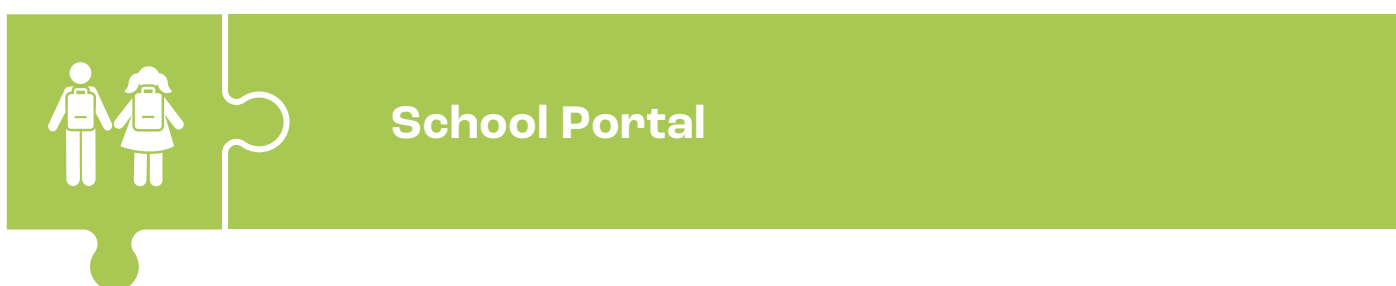
Using as much of the system as you need, you can deploy IMPULSE Nexus as a standalone solution, or alongside existing systems.

impulse|nexus   CACI

Why portals?

The major advantage of deploying the portals in your education services is the ability to record, share and analyse data from different agencies. Schools, parents, professionals and providers can record their own information for their own interests. Not all data recorded by a school will be relevant to a provider, for example, so making relevant data available enables an easier understanding of it.

The portals provide a secure and consistent means of data capture. The information from each portal goes into a central repository which forms the core data within IMPULSE Nexus.

With everyone able to securely access relevant information in a timely fashion, the portals facilitate swift and efficient decision making by all parties.

School Portal

The school portal acts as the central hub through which information on every pupil is recorded and reported on. Everything from admissions to grades, SEND and ALN to free school meal eligibility is recorded in this portal. Having a consistent, robust and reliable thread of information on everyone in the school is vital. The school portal facilitates recording this information, as well as sharing it when the time is right, as and when pupils move schools, so that the next institution in their educational journey has a clear and comprehensive overview of them.

The school portal also helps schools and local authorities in breaking down larger tasks, such as the school admissions process. Having access to real-time information, with pupil records that automatically pull through vital information such as LAC, SEND or siblings, helps in providing auto-allocation of places according to bespoke and specific rules and criteria. This also helps in managing appeals, with a robust evidence trail of decision making.

This real-time access data makes responding to all queries around pupils easy, with a central record being easy to call upon and, where necessary, share with other parties such as parents and professionals.

impulse|nexus   CACI

Professionals Portal

It is vital that relevant professionals involved in a young person's story can easily access and understand what's happening at school. Their recordings, too, are important for schools in having a complete picture of their students. The seamless transition of relevant data is vital.

Where multiple professionals are involved, or where the individuals change, being able to pick up a story and act upon it creates efficiency and ultimately helps to improve outcomes for the young person. Access to a portal helps, since it keeps information in a uniform, linear fashion, with all notes recorded in perpetuity.

The observations of professionals in the identification of elements such as SEN and ALN need to be understood by schools and parents alike. Making this information easily available to all parties helps to drive understanding through the young person's situation.

Parents Portal

As well as keeping up to date with attainments and any relevant observations which have taken place, parents can use the portal to do things such as apply for school places and appeal them. This reduces the manual burden on both parents and schools, since the element of self service is far more efficient.

Communication between parents and professionals can also be facilitated to this end, with letters from schools and the results of observations being made available here.

Keeping parents informed as to their child's progress also provides a stronger link to their education. With all information accessible, they can monitor progress and make observations and appeals where they deem necessary.

impulse|nexus   CACI

Understanding the provision of elements such as free school meals is vital in ensuring a fairer education system for all children and young people. Schools can keep a track of this information and apply for rebates where necessary. This helps to inform the requirements of providers to the school, for example caterers.

Other provisions need to be made for some students, too. School transport needs to be provided and monitored – who is driving, where are they driving and who are they driving? Such information needs to be recorded and fed into the school.

Students with disabilities may also be eligible for special tutoring and the provision of equipment to aid their education, for example laptops. Understanding who needs such provisions and how they will be catered for is vital.

A joined-up journey

By utilising portals, relevant information can be stored at the local level and shared across all other relevant parties. This helps everyone to effectively contribute to the educational journey of each student.

Without the mechanism to record and share data, the process becomes far more manual and time consuming for everyone.