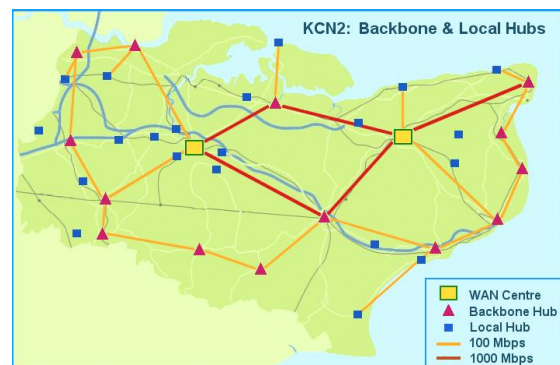


2008 News:

- Free 10 Mbps connection!
- Cisco 2800 router upgrade
- Higher bandwidth options subsidised
- New Websense servers
- 97% of Kent schools connected
- District Councils connect to KCN

Kent Public Service Network

In 2009, schools will join with District Councils, The KCC corporate network, Medway Council, Police and Fire & Rescue to form a Kent Public Service Network (KPSN) which will grow to ten times the capacity of KCN.



What does KCN offer to Secondary Schools in 2008?

KCN has developed rapidly, in both central and school-based services. Centrally we have four new Nokia firewall appliances with ten-times the throughput, new IronPort mail relays and two geographically diverse 2.5 Gbps SuperJANET connections. Secondary and middle schools are receiving new Cisco routers which have a built-in firewall and new Websense filtering servers. 20 Mbps connections are half last year's price, despite inflation.

School Contributions for Secondary and Middle Schools from April 2008

The table below shows the annual school contribution levels against bandwidth options, which extend to 100 Mbps. Secondary schools which connect local primary schools by hosting wireless links have already been upgraded to a 100 Mbps connection. The capital cost of upgrading a fibre-optic connection to 100 Mbps is a KCC investment, in other words free to the school! Where charges apply, a 3% inflation increase has been included.

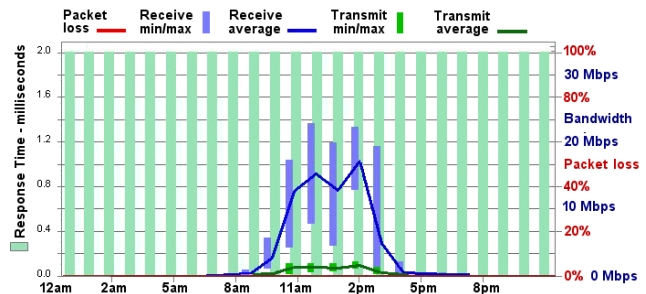
Connection Bandwidth	10 Mbps (10 Mbps fibre)	20 Mbps (100 Mbps fibre)	30 Mbps (100 Mbps fibre)	40 Mbps (100 Mbps fibre)	Cluster host Additional BW
Secondary	free	£5k	£9k	£13k	5 Mbps
Middle	free	£5k	£9k	£13k	5 Mbps

Last year we welcomed six new secondary schools to KCN plus Sutton Valence, KCN's fourth independent school. Including primary and special, 97% of KCC schools are now connected by KCN. KCN also now connects 9 District Councils plus Kent Police and Fire & Rescue, which further spreads the cost of the central services.

KCN Performance

The investment in an industry-standard network has paid off in reliability, robustness and speed. None of the backbone links are ever at full capacity:

- Over 2007, the average availability for all fibre circuits was 99.96%.
- KCN also has a satellite trailer to provide basic connectivity in case of a long outage.
- The dual SuperJANET Internet connections have provided 100% service since the switch over in October 2006. With 2.5 Gbps capacity they have plenty of capacity for growth.
- Typically, network latency measures less than 2 ms from school router to the Internet interface. The chart shows the Sandwich to Maidstone latency. The school's nearest Internet feed at Canterbury is 3 hops nearer.
- The IronPort email relays have reduced spam to a manageable low level.



What should KCN do next?

e-Safety: we know that some pupils outside school have access to on-line material that may be racist, illegal, personally dangerous or may set up unhealthy attitudes. Within school, we cannot rely on filtering systems alone to prevent unsuitable activity; indeed the common text message bypasses it entirely. A combination of strategies is required:

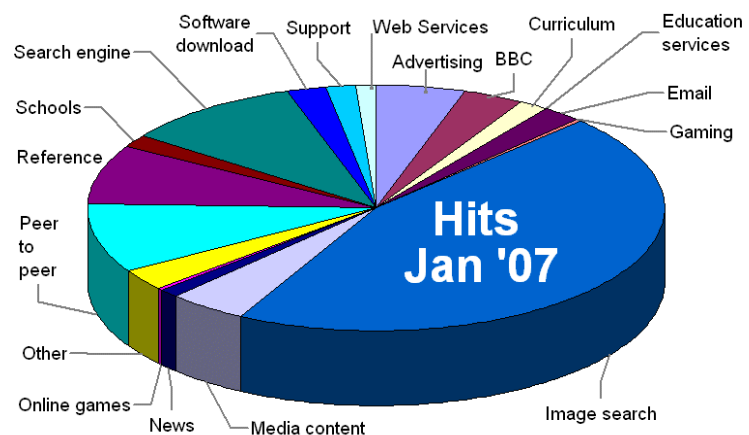
- Ensure that the school e-safety policy is current: www.kenttrustweb.org.uk?esafety
- Use the Think-U-Know programme to raise pupils' awareness of the dangers.
- Embed e-safety in the curriculum: Becta's "Signposts to Safety" for KS 3 & 4 <http://publications.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?resID=32424&page=1835>
- Configure filtering appropriately – attend the KCN Websense training.

Improve Curriculum Use

The pie chart shows the number of hits on various types of web resources for January 2007.

A wide variety of use can be seen with relatively few areas of doubt, such as advertising, some games and the peer-to-peer category which includes YouTube.

How do we recognise and encourage effective use?



Further information:

The KCN SLA, KCN Design and 2007 Report: www.eiskent.co.uk (broadband pages)

Becta e-safety publications may be downloaded from: <http://publications.becta.org.uk>

Child Exploitation and Online Protection centre (CEOP): www.ceop.gov.uk

DCSF policy information: www.teachernet.gov.uk