



GRAMMAR SCHOOL AM KOTHEN

unTill Air replaces pen and paper



Grammar school "Am Kothen" INTRO

For over two hundred years, "Am Kothen" School in Wuppertal has been supporting young people on their educational journeys. Established in 1823 the grammar school is now among the city's oldest educational institution. Since 1971, it has been known as "Am Kothen", a name derived from the Kothener Wald forest in the Barmen district.

With around 870 pupils and 80 teachers, "Am Kothen" offers a wide range of educational opportunities. A standout feature is the German English bilingual track, which begins in Year 5 and fosters the development of intercultural skills.







As a certified European school, "Am Kothen" maintains an extensive network of international partner-ships and exchange programmes that provide pupils with valuable insights into other cultures and education systems. Partner schools are located in China, France, Great Britain, Italy, Poland and other countries.

Another focus is on the arts. Pupils with special talents in music and art are encouraged and supported in their creative development.

After five years of renovation, the school building was officially reopened in September 2022, offering now a wider range of opportunities for modern learning and school culture.



PROJECT Approach



Since autumn 2024, "Am Kothen" School has run its own break-time kiosk. To this end, 20 pupils and two teachers have formed an entrepreneurial team with a supervisory board, an executive board, and departments such as marketing, accounting, and purchasing.

The kiosk logo was also designed in-house by the pupils and pairs a graphic element with the tagline 'Break paradise – short break, big enjoyment'.

To decide on what to sell, all pupils at the school were asked to submit a wish list. After reviewing their wishes, the team settles on a selection of sandwiches, bars and drinks.

Every morning, dedicated parents prepare the sandwiches, while the pupils handle purchasing and sales. Depending on the break, there are 20- or 50-minute shifts.









Until now, sales were recorded using a tally sheet, but now that practice has ended. Following discussions with pupils and parents, and in light of the connection to MS POS, the idea arose to use a modern, simple and intuitive POS system to record transactions digitally. This is ideal for the solution unTill Air, the new mobile POS system from unTill. The user-friendly app is available for both Apple and Android devices and can easily be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play Store. Once users have a stable internet connection, they can jump right in. Welcome to the digital world – goodbye pen and paperwork!







IMPLEMENTATION Solution

During the initial on-site appointment, the students gained hands-on experience with the unTill Air POS system. Our product manager demonstrated how it is used in everyday situations and provided an overview of its key functions. The session provided a clear demonstration of the key features, including the intuitive user interface, mobile use via the app, automatic updates, regular data backups and location-independent access.

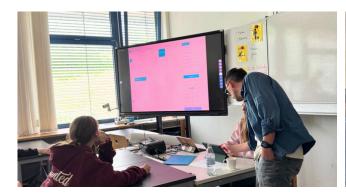
It was also detailed how sales statistics, efficient inventory management and the flexible integration of new payment methods make unTill Air an avant-garde solution for the smooth organisation of modern kiosk operations in everyday school life. During the follow-up site visit, the technical requirements were also verified, particularly Wi-Fi coverage and power availability.





EA subsequent on-site session at the school configured unTill Air for live operation, with participation from students and teachers. The aim was to give all participants an in-depth understanding of the system and prepare them for the test phase ahead of the official launch. Our product manager guided them through the functions step by step, providing a clear explanation on a whiteboard and providing live demonstrations. After each presentation, the pupils had the opportunity to try out the system for themselves, for example by creating departments, entering items or carrying out the cancellation process. They then had the opportunity to apply and consolidate what they had learned in simulated sales talks.

This interactive training created not only a solid understanding of the application, but also confidence in using the system – two crucial prerequisites for a successful start in the digital POS world with/of unTill Air.







As is sometimes the case with pilot projects, a few adjustments had to be made during the preparation phase.



However, thanks to close collaboration with the unTill Air development team, pragmatic solutions were swiftly applied, ensuring that everything was ready for the big day.















The final system setup and commissioning took place the day before the start of the new school term after the summer holidays. Our team was on site to install the hardware and carry out a trial run with the pupils. This allowed everyone to test the workflows in a realistic setting, albeit with 'pretend' merchandise. There was a short grace period during the first three days of term, but regular sales began at the start of the second week.

To get things off to a good start, we accompanied the students during the first break to make sure everything went smoothly, and we were on hand to provide support at all times in the weeks that followed.



Schools are not usually our main target when it comes to providing POS systems designed for the catering industry. However, in this case, we were immediately impressed by the students' ideas and quickly decided to support this special pilot project in the long term, fully backing the commitment of the students and teachers. We were particularly impressed by everyone's dedication and by the clear message that school can be much more than just preparing for the exams.

Because the project is close to our hearts, and to encourage the pupils' initiative, we provided the 'Pausenparadies' team with all the necessary hardware, software licences and other equipment free of charge.

At a glance

- Project period approx. 2 months, excluding holiday periods
- POS system mobile APP unTill Air
- 1 tablet
- 1 cash drawer
- 1 printer (not currently in use; receipts are displayed on your smartphone)

"Above all else, it was the commitment and enthusiasm of the pupils that convinced me about the project. After presenting the concept of a pupil-run kiosk to them, they came up with lots of ideas and plans. My role in this project is to steam-line and structure these ideas.

Right from the outset, implementing an electronic cash register system was at the top of the pupils' vision board. And thanks to its intuitive operation and comprehensive service, the unTill Air Team from MS POS makes it 'child's play' for our pupils interacting with an electronic cash register system".

Jonas Gosebrink, Subject teacher for English and Biology, and member of the kiosk management team.



AND how can we help you?

Contact us!
We are happy to advise you.



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