Over the last couple of years, we have introduced a digital resource as part of our course for pupils in S1-S3. This includes on-line homework, self-study and revision resources for French and German, called “ActiveLearn”.

All pupils have been allocated a User Name and Password, and by the beginning of September new S1 should have had introductory sessions in class and support available at lunch-times where needed.

We feel that minor initial technical problems have now been resolved and will be using ActiveLearn to monitor homework and allow pupils and their parents / carers the opportunity to track progress from home. This will become part of the regular “Reporting Plus” process, but this information is available at any time when pupils are logged into their account.

The benefits over paper-based booklets are as follows:

- Pupils can be allocated specific and differentiated tasks with immediate access, allowing us to respond to their individual needs more readily.
- Listening practice and vocabulary learning – with audio to help with pronunciation - form part of each set of tasks.
- Communication is two-way: pupils can leave comments on how they feel about the tasks, and their teacher can leave feedback and advice individually.
- Teaching staff can monitor all progress on-line – even if a pupil has been absent – and set tasks for pupils who are unable to be in school for longer periods.
- Pupils always have access to vocabulary and notes through the “Learning Aids” provided for each activity. In addition, PDF-format vocabulary and grammar notes are available in the shared area of the school’s website, via Portico.
To sign in to “ActiveLearn”, pupils log on at www.pearsonactivelearn.com with their User Name and Password.

A very small number of pupils may have limited access to the Internet or no access at home. We would encourage them to make use of the computing suites in school at lunch-times or in the library (school or public), since these resources offer a much wider range of tasks than a booklet can offer. Teaching staff will set “Tasks”, usually over a period of a week, to allow all pupils the opportunity to complete them. If pupils have difficulty in completing the tasks in the time allocated – for example, as a result of limited access, absence or technical problems – we can extend the due date. Please inform the class teacher in advance if this is required, as non-completion of the on-line tasks will result in the standard school text being sent for homework not being attempted.

If, however, your child is unable to complete the on-line tasks, we can provide paper-based written tasks instead: please send a request in writing to your child’s teacher, or by e-mail via the Office, if you prefer.

We hope that pupils and parents / carers will find this resource of benefit in tracking progress and welcome any comments. Please contact us if you have any queries or concerns.

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