



Akhter's Interactive LED Screens Solution

Forest Academy

Forest Academy is a two-form entry school in Croydon, London. The children come from economically and socially challenging backgrounds and there is a high percentage of EAL (English as an Additional Language) children. The staff at Forest Academy are dedicated to providing a stimulating, exciting environment where every student feels valued and safe. All children should be able to reach their full potential.



Requirement

Forest Academy already had touchscreen interactive whiteboards and iPads. The Academy was looking for a digital teaching software suitable for its pupils' abilities. They needed it to be accessible to different types of users from any location.

Solution

Akhter found the right software package for Forest Academy, which could be tailored to any learner's level. It also had a shared class login so pupils could access learning content outside of class with the support of teaching assistants, learning support assistants or a parent/guardian at home.

Result

Pupils can now interact with follow any lesson individually while in class as the bespoke software package links the interactive whiteboard with the iPads. Every child gets the right level of challenge from the available exercises. They can practice their times tables and explore spelling and diction at their own time and pace. The exercises are interactive and engaging so learning stays fun. The software tools allow each child to make their own notes on the screen or watch linked video content to help with their understanding.

The switch to Prowise Learn

Brian Byrne, Year 4 teacher at Forest Academy, heard about Prowise Learn for the first time during BETT 2019. They already had Prowise touchscreens and were curious about the software packages that Prowise had to offer. "I was impressed by the adaptive Learning in Prowise Learn, which is the key. The pupils love the exercises and it's used first thing in the morning. It's actually used at any other time during the day when possible. We have a set of twelve iPads between 22 pupils in my class, so there is a healthy competition for them every morning!"

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Combination of Presenter and Prowise Learn

In addition, Forest Academy uses Prowise Learn and Prowise Presenter (the free instruction/whiteboarding software of Prowise) on iPads so pupils can follow any lesson individually. There is differentiation on separate pages of a lesson so they can go to differentiated exercises.

“For Prowise Presenter we use a shared class login so that pupils can access the lesson content outside of the class with support from a TA, LSA or a parent/guardian at home. Our support staff can access the same content as the teacher, even if they're out of the classroom. We find that this helps with the Learning outcomes of pupils who have challenging behaviors.”

More confidence before tests

“There is now a requirement for all pupils in year four to pass their Times Tables test. This is statutory for all schools as of this year. They have to do an online assessment and having practiced on Prowise Learn; it gives them confidence as it's a similar format. However, the test itself doesn't give feedback like Prowise Learn, which makes it perfect as a practice. The support from the Prowise team has been appreciated.”

Why Prowise?

Forest Academy chose Prowise because of the quality of the touchscreens and the web-based software, Prowise Presenter. The software can be accessed from anywhere which completes the loop between the parents/pupils and teachers. “We find that it backs up the methodology in class so that parents are aware of our teaching methods. If children don't understand a concept, they can then practice it at home”, says Brian.

“Besides, the training has been bespoke and pitched at the appropriate level we needed. The staggered approach has catered for the different needs of the teachers - I have ended up running internal training for TAs so everyone is on the same page.”

About Akhter Computers Ltd

Akhter have been supplying goods and services to the NHS, Education & Defense Sectors since 1979. Akhter has developed a range of flexible managed IT Support Services to help you meet compliance, support delivery of business objectives, mitigate risks, reduce costs and improve performance while protecting your existing assets, long term IT resource and people investments. All our services are continuously monitored and controlled using industry best practice, via accreditation to ISO9001:2015 Quality Assurance & through ISO27001:2013 IT Security.

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