Schools

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Make learning personal

How are you making Next Generation Learning personal?



Becta leading next generation learning

Personalising learning through technology helps schools:

- give learners the choice to learn at a pace, place and time to suit their needs
- improve the range of teaching opportunities
- extend the choices available to learners
- offer a wide range of engaging learning experiences
- enable learners to tackle a wider range of subjects, in greater depth
- support learners to create their own learning pathway.

What making learning personal really means

To achieve the best educational outcomes, teaching and learning need to be tailored to each learner.

When using technology for learning, schools need to increase the number of learners with the skills and capability to access and make effective, safe, discriminating use of technology.

You need to work alongside local authorities, other school improvement partners and industry suppliers to find more inspiring and interactive opportunities for learners. The Government wants every school to be making effective use of learning platforms by 2010. Part of this goal is for every learner to have access to a safe and secure personal online learning space.

Using a personal online learning space, your learners can:

- share a range of resources and tools for a range of topics
- develop and manage digital content
- create their own individual areas and store safe and secure e-portfolios of their work
- collaborate with and motivate other pupils to engage with technology
- take ownership of their learning.

Make learning personal:

www.becta.org.uk/makelearningpersonal

Becta's role in helping schools make learning personal

Leadership

Becta is responsible for implementing the Government's technology strategy which works towards personalising learning for all pupils.

Co-ordination

We are co-ordinating the development of a national digital infrastructure, working closely with local authorities, regional broadband consortia (RBCs), educationalists, developers and suppliers.

Becta is working to promote a common vision for the transformation of education through personalising learning. Our continuing engagement with learners and schools aims to develop a mature understanding of how technology tools such as learning platforms can realise better outcomes for learners.



Standards

We have defined the Learning Platform Services Framework, setting clear functional requirements and specifications, and establishing common standards to ensure that you have cost-effective access to the right tools, products and services.

Guidance

We create practical guidance for schools on issues such as procurement and e-safety. We're working closely with teaching professionals to develop guidance for teachers that allows them to make best use of technologies and tools.

Support learners to make effective, safe and discriminating use of technology

Find the right learning platform

Personalising learning requires the development of learning paths that best suit particular aptitudes, underpinned by a commitment to help all students achieve their potential. Central to this is the development of learning platforms which integrate learning and school management systems.

Learning platforms:

- can enable students to work at their own pace, when and where they can be most productive
- help teachers to work more closely with all students' abilities and interests

- can enable learners and teachers to share and store resources, which can be accessed from within and outside the school
- can simplify the co-ordination and sharing of information with other schools
- streamline administration, saving time and reducing costs.

Learning platforms:

www.becta.org.uk/schools/learningplatforms

Plan to make learning personal

To realise the benefits of technology to support personalising learning, you need to look closely at your school's current capabilities and create a development plan. You can use Becta's self-review framework to help you assess the suitability of technology to meet your needs and provide value for money.

Becta has developed functional and technical specifications for learning platforms. You can explore your learning platform procurement options with your local authority through our Learning Platforms Services Framework, which offers a list of approved suppliers to provide best-value learning platforms for schools.

To help schools and local authorities develop their vision by understanding how a learning platform can support teaching, learning, administration and management Becta has created the learning platform functionality matrix. This online tool provides a means to help senior leaders identify key actions to help refine and deliver their school development plans.

Self-review framework:

www.becta.org.uk/selfreview

Purchasing for schools:

www.becta.org.uk/schools/purchasing

Make learning personal – top tips

Decide what outcomes you want for learning, teaching and management in your school.

Talk to your local authority or schools network about its plans for learning platforms, and assess how these may support your needs.

Consult schools that have already successfully implemented elements of a learning platform.

Use Becta's self-review framework to evaluate your current vision and use of ICT, and plan for development.

Engage with the senior management team, teachers, governors, parents and learners to develop a revised vision for teaching and learning with ICT.

Make sure your planning for personalising learning includes ways to build the confidence and capabilities of all school staff.

Define your requirements and plan effective use of your learning platform by using Becta's learning platform functionality matrix, and explore your procurement options under Becta's Learning Platform Services Framework

Purchase ICT in partnership, as part of a consortium or in conjunction with your local authority, and from suppliers who comply with Becta's functional and technical specifications.

Manage the change process by taking advantage of the support available from the National College for School Leadership.

Monitor your progress and celebrate your success.

Make learning personal:



What is Next Generation Learning?

We know that technology offers enormous opportunities for education. In fact, research shows that learners with access to technology for learning have a far greater chance of achieving their potential.

The Next Generation Learning campaign is aimed at parents or carers, employers and learners. It is intended to raise their awareness of the benefits of the use of technology in education and to drive greater demand for it.

The campaign currently focuses on:

- greater engagement by parents or carers with schools and at home
- effective use of technology in schools and colleges
- ensuring children are safe online.





Be prepared for more demand for Next Generation Learning



Improve your school

Develop and follow a strategy that uses technology to achieve better outcomes for learners www.becta.org.uk/ improveyourschool

Plan sustainable success

Balance the economic, social and environmental aspects of technology for learning www.becta.org.uk/ plansustainablesuccess

Achieve best value

Secure quality, fit-for-purpose technology, with the right support, at the right price www.becta.org.uk/achievebestvalue

Safeguard learners online

Protect, educate and empower everyone to keep safe and secure online www.becta.org.uk/ safeguardlearnersonline

Inspire parental engagement

Enable parents to access and use technology for a positive impact on their children's learning www.becta.org.uk/inspireparentalengagement

Make learning personal

Support learners to make effective, discriminating use of technology that meets their needs www.becta.org.uk/makelearningpersonal

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