

CoWriter 7 Update – September 2015

CoWriter7 – Supporting Pupils with Dyslexia and Writing Difficulties.

Since CoWriter7 the whole site licence has been purchased for Williamwood High School, pupils across all year groups are benefitting from this invaluable support. The S1 and S4 pupils are currently receiving basic training in CoWriter7 with a view to building skills towards independence. This training will continue with S2, S3 and S5 pupils during this academic year as they are given opportunities to learn the basic facilities and can experience success with the support.

Pupils with dyslexia can be more independent with their spelling and writing and can access this support for extended writing tasks in any class, either on the desktop computers or by collecting a new netbook from the Support for Learning Department. They are also being encouraged to use this support in their assessments.

An online demonstration can be viewed here –

<http://www.spectronicsinoz.com/product/cowriter-7-uk-version>

It is important for pupils to build on their skills both in school and at home. They need to practise using Cowriter alongside Ivona and Digital Exam Papers so that they are fully supported, independent and confident in these softwares which they are entitled to use in class and in assessments.

It is extremely important for pupils to bring their own headphones to school at all times so that they can access both Ivona and CoWriter in class and benefit from the audio support when appropriate.

CoWriter can be purchased for home use by contacting [www.educationscotland.gov.uk](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk) and speaking with Jonathan Cairney, Customer Services Team Leader - telephone 0141 282 5000

The new S1 pupils are especially enthusiastic about how helpful CoWriter7 is and are keen to carry their own headphones and pen drives with them around the school so that they can be independent with their writing work in all subjects.

*“It’s really handy if you’ve got anything like dyslexia or learning difficulties because you don’t have to ask the teacher how to spell certain words, all you have to do is look at CoWriter. It makes me feel more independent and it is like I don’t have dyslexia anymore because it makes me type faster. I don’t need to stop for any hiccups. The good vocabulary which is in your head is not trapped there anymore, so you’ll get better grades!” Jonny S2*