

Online courses for Scotland's schools and colleges

# Support for Blended Learning

<u>Meta-studies</u> have demonstrated that blended learning, in which online education resources are used to enhance and compliment face-to-face teaching, can deliver greater levels of student achievement than either face-to-face or online learning alone. However, for success, teachers need access to a library of varied and stimulating activities that are suitable for learners to work on at home and, equally importantly, need to be able to track the progress of each learner easily.

For in-home learning, SCHOLAR provides both interactive online resources *and* offline activity sheets. In this guide we answer the six questions most frequently asked by teachers using online resources to support inhome learning.

## How do I find a range of types of engaging activities, that my learners will be able to use at home?

SCHOLAR provides online materials to support 41 SQA National Qualifications courses. Please check our list of <u>Available Courses</u>. If the course(s) you teach are listed, you will find online course materials packed with activities for your learners to work on including: video clips, listening tasks, animations, simulations, dragand-drop exercises, matching and ordering tasks, practice exam questions etc.

#### How do I keep track of the work done by my learners?

Using data supplied by SEEMiS, or directly by your school, we have already created class lists for your National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher learners. Our 'Reports' feature lets you review the progress of each of the learners in your classes. You can use the 'Progress' tab to see detailed information on how each learner is progressing through the course materials, or the 'Trend' tab, to see your learners' patterns of working. It will show you when your learners have been using SCHOLAR, and will let you see, at a glance, how much work they have done each day. (Find out more with our video "Viewing Learners' Progress".)

#### Can I set work on SCHOLAR using Google Classroom, MS Teams or Firefly?

You can easily set work for your classes using these platforms. Using the reporting system in SCHOLAR, you will be able to see how your learners are progressing with the work and view their marks in our automatically marked assessments. (Find out more about setting work using our <u>Google Classroom</u>, <u>MS</u> <u>Teams</u> or <u>Firefly</u> videos.)

## How will I know how well each learner understands the work I have set?

Assessment for Learning is at the heart of the design of SCHOLAR, and formative assessments are embedded throughout our courses. The 'Scores' tab in our 'Reports' feature will let you see how each learner has been getting on in these assessments. At a glance, you will be able to see which tests have been attempted by each learner, and how they have scored. A handy heat-map for each of your classes provides an overview of areas of strength, and pinpoints questions where learners have struggled. (Find out more with our video "Viewing Learners' Marks and Answers".)

#### Is there an easy way to mark my learners' work?

When working at home, one of the things learners miss most is the reassurance and feedback from their teacher that, in the classroom, is provided regularly throughout a lesson. Without timely feedback, learners can begin to doubt their work and lose momentum. For this reason, almost all activities on SCHOLAR offer instant feedback to learners: providing the reassurance they need to know that they are on the right track; or to correct misconceptions the instant they arise.

While most formative assessment tasks are marked automatically by our system, it is still important for learners to develop the skills necessary to answer questions requiring an extended response. It is not always appropriate for these extended answers to be marked automatically by our system. SCHOLAR will automatically alert you whenever any of the learners in your classes has attempted a question that needs to be marked manually. You will be able to view their answer on screen and assign a mark that will be relayed back to the learner. (Find out more with our video "Viewing Learners' Marks and Answers".)

### I have learners who can't access the internet from home. Can I get paper versions of the online activities?

You can download our Study Guides, PDF files providing paper-based versions of our course materials and exercises, that you can print for your learners.

Commercially printed and bound copies are available from SCHOLAR Books.



#### Do learners need a password or login details to access SCHOLAR?

Data provided by your school has been used to set up class lists for your S4-S6 learners and may have been supplied to enrol your S3 pupils.

#### **Using Glow**

Learners can use the SCHOLAR tile in Glow to access their account.

Learners enrolled on any SCHOLAR course accessing SCHOLAR through Glow <u>do not</u> need a separate SCHOLAR username and password.

The video "<u>SCHOLAR access through Glow</u>" demonstrates this quick, simple method for accessing SCHOLAR.

#### Accessing SCHOLAR directly

Learners can log in to SCHOLAR from our website (https://scholar.hw.ac.uk).

Learners logging in directly to SCHOLAR will be asked to enter a username and password.

Class teachers, principal teachers and the school SCHOLAR contact can all access learners' usernames and passwords using the 'Password Admin' tab available at the top of their screen when logged in to SCHOLAR.

If your S3 learners have not yet been enrolled for a SCHOLAR course, they can access National 5 materials using the username **ges3nat5** and password **bird70pear**. (There is a <u>video guide for S3 learners</u> <u>available.</u>) Unfortunately, until they have been enrolled in one of your classes, you will not be able to view their progress.