Digital Tools to support learning at Balfron High

Over recent years there has been an increasing number of digital tools available to support learning in Scottish schools. At Balfron HS we are particularly keen to make digital resources available to learners, and to support parents to be as involved as possible. The purpose of this document is to describe the available resources.

This letter has been sent to all parents, so please note carefully which resources apply to specific year-groups only. The full letter is also available as a 'clickable' PDF on the new school website:

https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/balfronhighschool/

Please use the PDF to click on the web-links to get further information on each resource.

Summary

Depending on year-group, pupils have access to and can use:

1. Glow
2. Office365
3. SCHOLAR
4. Show My Homework
5. BrainPOP
6. Twig & TigTag
7. Texthelp - Read Write GOLD
8. Edmodo
9. Linguascope and Languageskills
10. www.citethisforme.com

Detailed information on some of these tools (1-5 above) is included in the following pages.

Further information on Linguascope and Languageskills can be obtained from Mrs Convery in Modern Languages. Further information on Texthelp - Read Write GOLD can be obtained from Mrs Slavin. Further information on www.citethisforme.com can be obtained from Mrs O'Donnell in the Library. Further information on the use of Edmodo can be obtained from Mr Hamilton in Science.
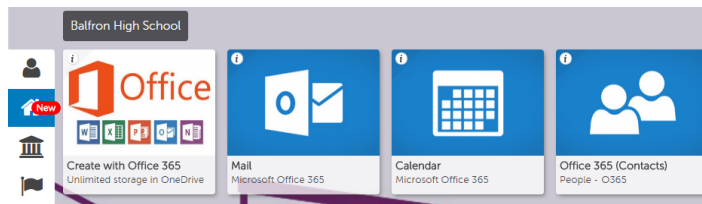
Glow

[What is Glow?](#)

Glow is neither an app, nor a website. Glow is a set of digital tools, procured and provided by Scottish Government on behalf of Education Scotland. Every teacher and learner has a Glow username/password that gives them access to the Glow Launchpad. The Glow Launchpad (see above) is like a portal that provides a personalised, secure, authenticated access to a number of educational resources, including:

1. A fully featured Office 365 tenancy, with online versions of Word, Excel, Powerpoint as well as fully functioning downloads of Office 2016 and unlimited OneDrive webspace.
2. Access to an educational email address ***user@glow.sch.uk***
3. Access to 'already paid-for' premium resources, such as Twig, TigTag, BrainPOP, BrainPOP Jr etc – all without the need for a username/password.
4. Access to Show My Homework with no need to sign in – the Glow credentials are automatically used to log in to SMHW.
5. Access to SCHOLAR with single sign in – Once the SCHOLAR credentials have been used once, they are remembered every time the user logs in through the Glow Launchpad.
6. Access to Online Safety sites – eg CEOP: Think You Know?
7. Access to specific school sharepoint sites – to download, upload and share learning materials

   ✓ For further information on GLOW and the National Digital Learning & Teaching Strategy, please click [here](#)

Office 365

A key part of the Glow Launchpad tools offering is a fully featured Office 365 suite, including all of the tools and applications shown below:
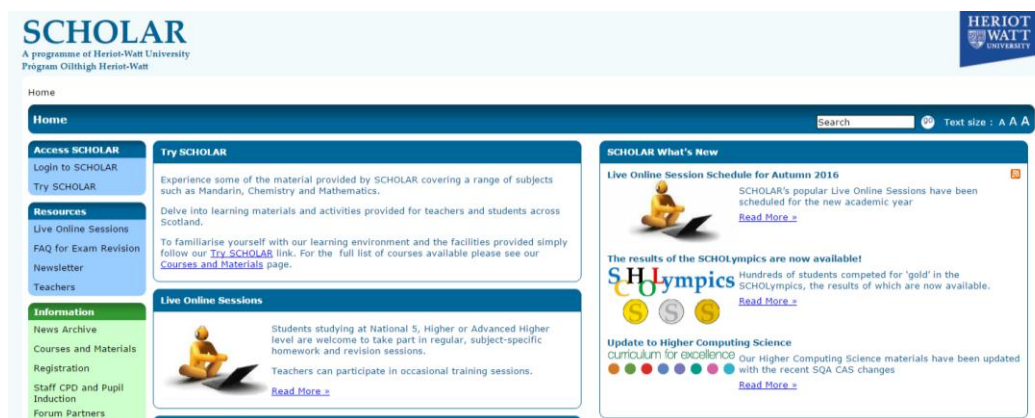

Every pupil has a OneDrive account with unlimited web storage space and the option to download multiple copies of Office 2016 onto desktop, laptop, tablet and phone.

Look for this tile on the Glow Launchpad….

Office 365

SCHOLAR

[What is SCHOLAR?](#)

SCHOLAR is available only to Senior Phase Pupils (S4-S6)

SCHOLAR is provided by Heriot Watt University, and the subscription paid by Balfron High School through a Local Authority agreement. SCHOLAR provides online teaching, assessment and revision materials for most Higher & Advanced Higher courses, and a few National 5 courses.

- ➢ Click here for an overview of the courses/levels available.
- ➢ Click here for a preview of actual course content.
- ➢ Click here for a parent information PDF document.

- ✓ SCHOLAR Pupils are automatically subscribed to any courses that they are studying. They require a username/password. *A SCHOLAR card with their log-in details is attached/included with this letter.*

- ✓ Pupils can login directly through the SCHOLAR website, but will need to use their username/pw every time they do so. A better solution is to log into the Glow Launchpad first, then use the SCHOLAR Tile on the Launchpad. When the SCHOLAR credentials have been entered once, they are remembered every time the user logs in through the Glow Launchpad.

Show My Homework

Over the last 2 sessions, with support from the Parent Council, we have been piloting the use of Show My Homework.

In 2016/17, SMH has improved significantly and it has also become much easier to access for learners and teachers alike, through use of their Glow (RM Unify) Launchpad.

Parents are also able to access SMH through a unique code, linked to their child. Please see the attached SMH letter for details of your code. Click here for the parent login page.

Apps and Mobile access to SMH

SMH can be accessed on Android and iOS devices.

- ➢ For the Android app, please click here

- ➢ For the Apple iOS app, please click here

- ➢ SMH can be also be accessed using any web browser on any device

- ➢ For pupils and staff, using the Glow Launchpad requires no further authentication – they are already recognised by the system.

- ➢ For parents, click here for the parent login page.

Help using Show My Homework:

- ✓ Help for parents, please click here

- ✓ Help for learners, please click here

- ✓ Help for teachers, please click here

BrainPOP

BrainPOP creates cross-curricular award winning cross-curricular digital content that engages students through animated movies, learning games, interactive quizzes, and supports teachers whilst adding excitement to lessons.

- 700+ topics; 10,000 hours of teaching material
- Animated movies explain concepts from across the curriculum
- English, Maths, Science, Technologies, Humanities, Arts, Health & Wellbeing, Computing and **online-safety**
- Interactive quizzes and high quality educational games
- Lesson ideas, worksheets, and graphic organisers
- Non-fiction research texts
- Vocabulary guides
- Printable activities
- Mapped to the Curriculum for Excellence for primary and secondary schools

Bringing Learning to your fingertips

- ✓ BrainPOP is super simple to use and is already integrated into GLOW. It's also compatible with interactive whiteboards, macs, PC's and **mobile devices**.

BrainPOP Sites

BrainPOP sites that all pupils have access to include:

- ✓ BrainPOP UK
- ✓ BrainPOP Junior
- ✓ BrainPOP Francais
- ✓ BrainPOP Espanol

- ➢ To get free, immediate access to the BrainPOP resources, log in to Glow, then select the Council Launchpad, then select the BrainPOP tile.