

Gareth Williams – West Kirby Residential School and Specialist SEN College (SEBD), Merseyside, Wirral.



Q1 - How has Classroom Monitor helped your staff?

It is quite early yet to be able to make a full assessment and WKRS has certainly not used its full potential – but staff feedback has shown that:

The web-based system allows staff to easily make updates wherever they are – previous systems we had did not allow this. Being web-based we are assured – and convinced – that as the National Curriculum is amended so will the statements in the ‘boxes’ for subjects change in-line. That curriculum areas are assessed at ‘p’ level NC and APP. Classroom Monitor uses the ‘traffic-light’ or ‘RAG’ system similar to that which is used in school to denote ‘covered but not yet understood’, ‘partly understood’ and ‘Mastered’ - when updating individual pupils assessments it is quickly clear which are subject sub-areas to be included on planning systems. Pupils and staff can easily see how near pupils are to achievement of their targets. Teachers have been impressed by how quickly and helpfully staff from Classroom Monitor are able to respond when issues arise. Staff have appreciated how subject areas can be modified to different needs and / or given different headings - i.e. Food Technology D&T and Resistant Material D&T. and Art & Design / Photography

Q2 - How has Classroom Monitor helped you as Senior Management?

I like the weekly feedback I have received giving information which has been provided on request re which staff and when staff are logging-on and inputting.

I have told staff to update assessment each term – quite easy to get an overview of where pupils are re their annual targets.

Q3 - When you have needed help with Classroom Monitor how helpful has the technical support been?

I – and other staff - have found technical support to be both prompt and – importantly – not too ‘tecky-nerdy’ in their discussions re problems.

Q4 - Would you recommend Classroom Monitor to other schools? And what is the one thing that you would recommend above everything else?

Yes, because teaching staff have over a long period of time – at my instigation - and in order to meet statutory, stakeholder and school needs, devised and bought into various systems to monitor pupil progress. Classroom Monitor currently seems the most adaptable, user-friendly, width and level encompassing of the systems we’ve used.

Q5 - What has the reaction been from other parties to Classroom Monitor? Eg Ofsted/Parents/Advisors/Governors etc

We have made reference to Classroom Monitor on our SEF – but have not yet been visited by Ofsted whilst using the system.