



Department for Children and Young People

For the attention of Head Teachers of Secondary and Special Schools and the PRU, member of staff with strategic responsibility for ICT and ICT Subject Leader

CC  
LSES Secondary Team, Martin Dear, Steve Baxter, Harry Langston, Andreas Burt

Date: 10 November 2008  
Your Ref:  
Our Ref: JB/aet  
Path: W:\SCHOOLS\2-CTS\SECONDARY\B300-3-450-08JB.DOC  
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Dear Colleague

### South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) Resources

The purpose of this letter is to update you on information and resources being made available from the SWGfL.

#### SW-ITched On Newsletter

I have attached a copy of the Summer 08 SW-ITched On newsletter which I have just received and which contains information on the following:

- Flashmeeting – a video conferencing tool for use by individuals or small groups
- Merlin update – update on the Merlin online platform
- E-safety – feedback from the Byron independent review on the risks to children from exposure to material on the internet
- Filtering update – including information on the new filter lists for Social Networking sites which can be enabled or not
- Autumn dates for your diary

We recommend that colleagues register online to receive updates automatically by visiting [http://www.swgfl.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/maillinglist.asp](http://www.swgfl.org.uk/news_and_events/maillinglist.asp).

#### Making the Most of ULearn

ULearn is the extended product developed from Infomapper which provides high quality Ordnance Survey mapping along with detailed aerial photography for the South West Grid for Learning area. It also provides historical mapping for the South West. I have enclosed a flyer providing information about this facility which is provided free as part of your subscription to the SWGfL. To begin to take advantage of this resource please visit <http://www.ulearn.infomapper.com> and click on register – 14 day free trial button. As a member of SWGfL you be automatically given a full licence.

**Therese Gillespie, Director for Children and Young People, South Gloucestershire Council, Bowling Hill, Chipping Sodbury, South Gloucestershire BS37 6JX Tel: (01454) 868008 Fax: (01454) 863263**



2004-2005  
Supporting Social Care Workers



2007-2008  
Healthy Schools



2007-2008  
School Improvement



2008-2009  
Care Matters:  
Improving the Outcomes  
for Children in Care



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



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## National Education Network Catalogue

I have enclosed a copy of the new National Education Network catalogue. This outlines of all the free resources that are being provided by the various grids for learning which make up the National Education Network. There are many resources available including:

- The Gallery – searchable site containing images, audio files and video clips which have been moderated so provide a safe place for pupils to search for copyright cleared media. Pupils can also upload their own resources.
- ArtisanCam – video and interactive activities providing an insight into the lives of artists and provided by CLEO
- E-engageLive – offers students the opportunity to explore issues such as bullying, drug education, e-safety and personal safety through scenario based online activities. Professionals are available live online to help the pupils with their discussion and decision making.
- Myths and Legends – provides the opportunity for learners to read, listen to, watch and create stories using text, images, sound and video
- Special Education Needs – interactive multimedia resources created by Special School teachers to support their pupils aimed at KS3 pupils
- DIDA Delivered – extensive, stimulating and high quality resources that support the delivery of the Diploma in Digital Applications (DiDA) complimented by use of video, animations, interactive activities and tutorials
- Functional Skills: Mathematics and ICT – skills embedded into a practical context combined with high quality graphics and interactivity
- Cookit! – simple way for pupils and teachers to share recipes and ideas for healthy eating provided by E2BN

We hope you will take advantage of these free high quality resources and suggest you give teachers the opportunity to look at some of these and link relevant resources in to their teaching to support their professional development.

### JISC Collections for Schools

This is a new Becta funded initiative which enables schools to benefit from the lowest prices for access to a choice of high quality online resources, specially chosen to support the needs of teachers and learners. Negotiated deals for services was an issue raised at the Secondary ICT and Learning group meeting and this initiative will support that with up to 75% savings on a range of resources. These include Education Image Gallery, The Guardian and Observer Digital Archive, Oxford Language Dictionaries Online, Oxford Reference Online and The Times Digital Archive. The enclosed catalogue provides further information on the whole range of products available through this initiative.

I hope you find this information useful and will disseminate it to all relevant staff so that you can get the full benefits from your membership of the SWGfL.

Yours sincerely



Jo Briscoombe  
**ICT Strategy Adviser**

Enclosures: SW-ITched On Newsletter, Making the Most of ULearn, The National Education Network, JISC Collections for Schools