

Case Study

# Fettes College



Fettes College is based in Edinburgh, with around 670 students aged from 7 to 18 years old.



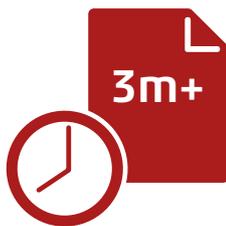
firefly

The positive enthusiasm for Firefly from all groups in the school is tremendous.

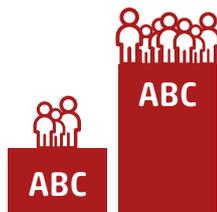
Yvonne Mitchell, Director of Digital Strategy  
Fettes College, UK



100% adoption by teachers and students



In the first 7 months, teachers created nearly 4,500 pages, which were viewed over 3.2 million times



In the first term with Firefly there was an 8.7% increase in average grades across all years

## **Before Firefly, what challenges were they facing?**

Fettes did have a learning platform before Firefly, but it was unpopular with staff and pupils as it was too static. It required a fair amount of tech proficiency and was generally slow and cumbersome to update or learn to use. Their students didn't like the interface either.

Fettes strives to help students learn in ways that work for them, meaning lesson plans are not fixed, and preps are not a predetermined set of assignments. They needed to make a change that would support these dynamic aims. Firefly was the ideal fit.

## **How has Firefly helped?**

Teachers and students are able to create and share rich resources, creating the ideal conditions for the flipped classroom. But what really stood out for Fettes was the task setting. Its flexibility allows teachers to constantly update and redefine activities to be relevant to a given group at anytime.

The ease of use of Firefly meant staff were empowered by the new functionality, such as being able to embed a video simply by copying and pasting a URL. Firefly's intuitive nature meant staff were happy to explore on their own and have since taken it in a wide variety of directions. In turn, the school's project lead didn't have to lead the roll out in a rigid fashion, meaning fellow teachers didn't feel as though new tech was being imposed upon them.

## **Why did they choose Firefly?**

From the first online demo, the project lead knew it would be popular with staff and pupils. They were reassured by the extremely high user satisfaction rates in the recent Independent Schools' Bursars' Report.

Fettes spoke to other Firefly schools, and received very positive feedback. It is also vendor or device neutral – hugely important in Fettes' BYOD environment and they were keen not to be excluded from a potential increase in their use of iPads.

Fettes feel that Firefly's support team continue to be second to none, easily accessible to classroom teachers and IT staff.

## **How did they find rolling out Firefly to the whole school?**

Extremely easy! Requests from staff and pupils led the direction in which Firefly grew so it reflects their preferences. Pupils have commented that they have never been so on top of prep, school notices and making changes to events.

## **What are their plans going forward with Firefly?**

They acknowledge they are just at the beginning and that there are many other areas they could develop. There's particular enthusiasm to start blogs and personal sections for students.

## What do students at Fettes College think?

Firefly is really helpful for organisation as it allows me to structure my work with deadlines in place and I can see my timetable. The best thing about it is having it on my phone.



Much easier to have everything in one place!



For me, Firefly is a great way of keeping on track of my workload in what is such a busy environment.

Very useful! Helps me keep on top of my tasks, plan when prep needs to be done and schedule when to do it.

Firefly is extremely efficient and is flawlessly fast. It helps me a lot in school time to stay organised.



Firefly: A super useful centre of information!



Firefly makes it easier to organise my work and it is easy to find material that my teachers recommend for revision purposes.

Firefly is immensely useful for keeping track of prep and timetables in the day to day bustle of busy school life.





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