

# We-Learn

## St Michael's Church of England Primary, Bedworth

*"We-Learn has already had a huge effect on pupils' learning. It gives our teachers access to high quality resources online, which helps them to put together more interesting and interactive lessons. We have seen a massive response from the children and having different resources available means that we can more easily cater for different learning styles. We definitely see this as a learning project, not an IT project. It fits well with our overall goal of raising standards of educational attainment for our pupils,"* Richard Machin, Deputy Head



### Introduction of We-Learn equipment



Prior to implementing We-Learn the school had made great efforts to ensure that ICT provision met required ratios, but the equipment was aging and needed replacement and some classrooms had only whiteboards not ICT equipment. The decision to install the We-Learn solution both complemented the recently installed brand new curriculum network and resources and allowed St Michael's school to further

develop and maximise the teaching and learning opportunities across the whole school.

### We-Learn in action

We-Learn is being used with Years 5 and 6 for planning, preparation, teaching and learning as well as in the classroom with the pupils. Teachers at the school all have their own personal preferences for resources and as professionals make strategic decisions to select the appropriate resource that will have the greatest impact on raising standards through addressing various learning styles and maintaining a highly motivational approach to the curriculum. St Michael's has found We-Learn rapidly becoming the resource of choice for teachers and has found it highly beneficial in helping staff to motivate pupils.

We-Learn has provided increased availability and use of electronic resources, which has helped to increase numeracy levels by 25% and literacy by 11%.

### About the school

St Michael's is a Church of England Primary School located in Bedworth in Warwickshire. The school caters for 230 pupils aged 4-11, 36% of whom have special needs.

The 20 staff have high levels of ICT awareness and are very enthusiastic about using We-Learn and are using it across the curriculum. The school is well-furnished with ICT equipment, all learning areas have interactive IT facilities and each teacher has a laptop. Years 1-4 have smartboards and projectors, and Year 5-6 classes and the special educational needs support room benefit from We-Learn equipment.

**Pupils' comments:** *I don't usually 'click' with maths but using the equipment helps keep my attention... when I see things written on the screen it helps me to remember them... I like it because it's visible and it's instant... the equipment helps me to listen*



### Considerations

St Michael's is a very ICT-minded school, staff have long been proponents of the benefits of ICT, and the 2002 Ofsted report noted that the pupils' work in ICT was 'good'. The report also commented that the Head leads the school with a clear vision that is firmly based on improving the quality of education provided and raising standards through checking what is working effectively and identifying what needs to improve. The school sees technology as an important tool at its disposal to improve standards and We-Learn is helping St Michael's to move towards its long-term vision of ICT.

### Benefits

- ❑ Teachers can easily access high quality resources
- ❑ Useful teaching tool
- ❑ Staff have improved their ICT knowledge
- ❑ Pupils find We-Learn motivational and engaging
- ❑ More visible and interactive than previously used technology
- ❑ Students can use We-Learn resources, such as maths games, from home
- ❑ Evidence of the positive impact of We-Learn tools on Numeracy and Literacy
- ❑ We-Learn addresses all learning styles – visual, auditory and kinaesthetic
- ❑ The school now has a 'cutting edge' status that is very clear to anyone who visits
- ❑ - In the classroom the interactive learning environment creates a buzz of enthusiasm from pupils and staff
- ❑ Especially successful with SEN pupils

### Tips

- Develop your own primary resources to complement those in Kaleidos
- Use the Tablet PC to encourage participation from children who are reluctant to put their hands up in class
- Ensure teachers are allocated timetable slots to develop their resources and to practice using We-Learn



### Next Steps

The school's overarching goal is to improve the quality of education and raise standards through checking what is working effectively and to identify what needs to improve. Teachers now save their lessons in a shared area on the computer system a week before they use them. This allows the senior management team to monitor the lessons before they're used and to provide feedback and positive criticism to teachers. St Michael's sees this as key to supporting staff who are less confident about their use of ICT and to

help experienced users to expand their horizons. It plans to further use of the We-Learn resource through increased training for teachers and additional development of software.