



## Bury Grammar School

Sarah McMahon, Kindergarten and Wrap Around Care Manager

### Tell us a little about your school...

We are proud to be one of the top performing schools in the country, renowned for building the character of our students and preparing them successfully for their future lives out in the wider world. Education begins at three years of age at Bury Grammar School. We enjoy a variety of facilities and buildings for our pupils, each unique and suited to the children's needs. Ranging across Kindergarten, Infants, Junior Boys and Junior Girls, each part of the school is welcoming, spacious and well equipped for each age range.

### What were the main challenges you faced with the observations process before you used ReallySchool?

In previous years, we have used paper journals, which proved to be incredibly time consuming, and presentation was not consistent. The pupil profiles on ReallySchool are accurate and professional.

### What were your (and other staff's) first impressions of ReallySchool?

We use ReallySchool within our EYFS department across a large nursery and two Reception classes. The EYFS staff have each said that ReallySchool has a very clear layout and is simple to use. The videos on the website also give some useful tips. We were impressed to see we could upload videos and voice clips, which of course is very useful in the EYFS!

### How has using ReallySchool changed your observations?

Having the opportunity to add videos and voice clips to a pupil's profile is definitely a key benefit. This gives us the opportunity to record and share teacher-led activities with parents. In our Reception classes, we use the voice clips to set individual weekly targets for our pupils.



## How has using ReallySchool changed your assessments?

ReallySchool allows us to select a particular pupil and check their learning and progress by showing clear learning gaps. We do this through using the heatmap and also the attainment and percentage option when generating a class report. This of course leads into our future planning. ReallySchool has the EYFS Framework built into it, including the Characteristics of Effective Learning, enabling teachers to link pupils' learning effortlessly and effectively.

## What, if any, is your experience of using ReallySchool with parents?

Parents enjoy receiving regular updates from school and also enjoy adding their comments. Often parents will respond to the targets we send via ReallySchool. Receiving regular updates continues to promote our positive relationships between home and school.

## Has ReallySchool meant that you have been able to track your students' progress remotely?

Yes, as ReallySchool is compatible with most devices, staff can access their class profiles from home or on their mobile device. Over recent months, parents sent in evidence of their child's learning and the class teachers uploaded these remotely.

## Would you recommend ReallySchool to others? If so, why?

I would definitely recommend ReallySchool to any schools looking into online journals. It is a supportive tool for pupils, staff and parents. It tracks progress and learning effectively and has everything you need to create a superb pupil profile.

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