

ReallySchool product review

By Mark Anderson (ICT Evangelist)

What is ReallySchool?

ReallySchool is an app and portal for Early Years and Primary practitioners to help them record, assess and share EYFS and Primary school pupils' learning and development. Simple to use, ReallySchool (developed by the superb NetSupport Group) was designed from the ground up with teachers along its entire journey with one simple goal: to help EYFS and Primary teachers do their jobs more efficiently. Its flexible tools allow them to track progress, identify learning gaps, boost parental engagement and support the continuation of learning at home.

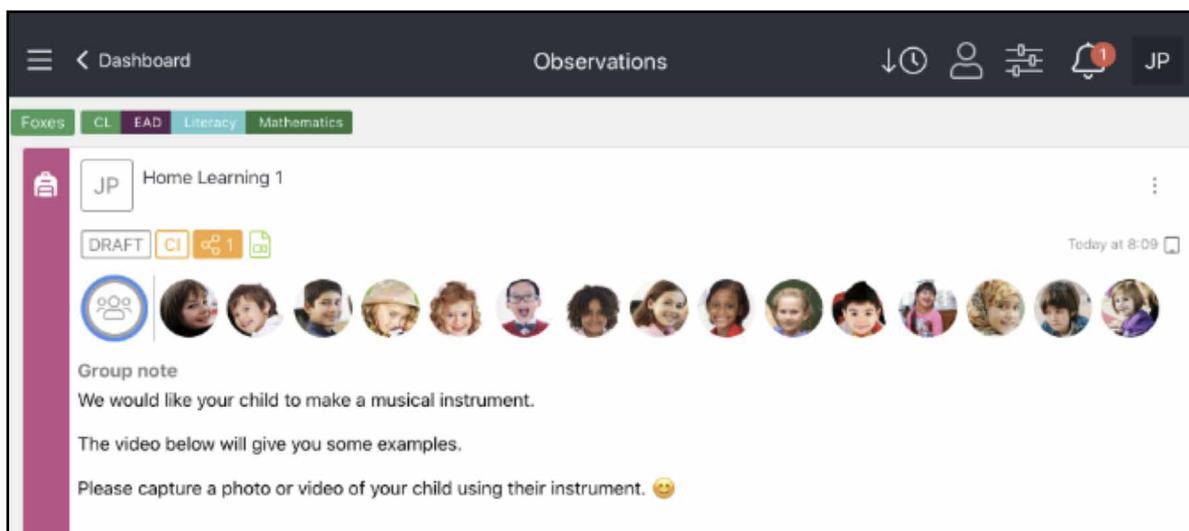
Home learning

Already a superb tool to improve communication about a child's progress at school with a parent/guardian, ReallySchool really came into its own during the lockdown. It wasn't just the ability to easily share a child's progress and other aspects of daily school life between the school and home, but other activities and content too. Using ReallySchool, teachers are able to send out remote learning activities such as video, photos, audio clips and notes on how to complete home learning activities. Equally, parents can use the platform to submit evidence of work undertaken and completed back to the teacher.

The built-in notification system means that neither parent nor teacher ever have to feel out of touch about feedback, achievements, progress and more. The benefit of this is, that whilst a lot of anxiety might have been felt by children, parents/guardians or even teachers during lockdown, everyone is part of the loop and that's a great win for all those key stakeholders. Everyone feels completely supported by what is happening with their child in relation to their schooling, even if they haven't been able to physically attend school.

Simple to use

Adding rich content to messages to children, parents or vice versa is a simple activity using the intuitive user interface.



As a teacher, you just simply choose to send a note to your class, select the type of content you'd like to attach by using the handy icons at the bottom of the screen, attach it and then just hit 'send'. The beauty of this for parents is that it isn't just really simple, they can easily access this on any of their devices too, even their smartphone. ReallySchool works on both Android and iOS, which makes it superbly accessible.

Check out some of these features:

- **Share home learning achievements.** Parents can easily add photos, audio notes, videos and text notes to demonstrate their child's achievements as part of home learning – or other activities such as distance swimming awards, for example.
- **EYFS 2020 is available for all assessments.** If you want to use the assessments earlier than required, they're all already built in, ready for you to use or trial with your children and classes.
- **Observation counters.** A simple-to-view dashboard that gives you a clear overview of all the observations made relating to all of the children in your class/classes.
- **Easily observe reports from previous years.** A great feature for teachers is to be able to easily see reports and observations of learners from previous years – really useful for transition and checking on learner progress, all of which help build that rapport and knowledge that is essential in helping us do our best job for the children we serve.

To sum up

ReallySchool is a great tool to support teachers, families and children and is jam-packed with lots of simple to use, access and share, features which make it a seriously compelling offer for EYFS and Primary settings.

"A great resource that is very effective in supporting practitioners as they collect and collate observations of our children's learning and progress." - Hampton Lakes Primary School

Check out our video for an introduction to ReallySchool!

