



## Congleton High School makes the move from SIMS to Progresso

Following a long and stringent MIS review process Congleton High School chose to move away from their current supplier to Advanced



Congleton High School is a specialist engineering academy whose motto is 'Achieving Success Together'. Their aim is to be an inclusive school where the highest standards of teaching and learning enable every single student to fulfil their potential. In 2010 the school decided to review their management information system (MIS) and consider the options available to them if they moved away from their current Capita SIMS system. The team agreed that this should be a stringent process and that all aspects of moving to a new MIS and the complexities for the school had to be considered. This included ensuring that it was a system for the long term that could support the school as it grew and changed into the future.

### Utilising management information to drive standards

Progresso had only been live in a small number of schools for a short period of time and was therefore relatively new when Congleton High School selected it as their chosen MIS. The Principal, David Hermitt was pleased to share with us.

*Hermitt says, "Congleton High School has always been well known for high standards of education but we realised that we were not at the forefront of utilising our management information. We carried out research over nearly two years and decided to take the leap of faith by selecting Progresso. In 2012 we began using it as our main system for managing our student data. Our staff now have access to a wealth of information using simply a web browser and a secure password. We can choose the level of access for each user and share information in real time. Each day, automated systems allow everyone to share regular updates on how well our students are doing".*

### Tremendous Potential

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Congleton High School is looking forward to further expanding their usage of Progresso to help support their aims and goals, including driving school improvement. Mr Hermitt was pleased to share the following comment about the future for the school and their chosen MIS.

*"Changing our MIS was not a decision that was taken lightly. It was a two year process that involved an extensive investigation. We were keen to ensure that we made the right decision."*

Susan Mardlin > Deputy Principal

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**Principal David Hermitt** says, *“The teething problems of our first year are being rectified and we are growing in confidence each day. This system has the potential to drive school improvement by making information accessible to those who need it, when they need it”.*

## Meeting the needs of modern education

Susan Mardlin spoke about how Progresso stood out from competing systems.

**Mardlin** says, *“For us having a system that was modern, utilised the latest technologies and was forward-thinking, was essential. Progresso has been built as an integral system that can respond to the needs of modern education and this was a key factor in our decision.*

*Also, we were keen to avoid a system that required a number of bolt-on modules or additional different products that didn't talk to each other, to achieve our requirements. In Progresso we saw a more complete solution with the interoperability that would provide what we needed”.*

She also went on to state that it was also important for Congleton High School to have a hosted system in place that was internet based and could be made available through the latest mobile technology.

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*“The potential of the system is tremendous and we are excited by all of the opportunities that it presents us with, especially those that will help to support our aims including those within our school development plan.”*

Susan Mardlin > Deputy Principal >

## More information

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