

10 October 2011

Dear Parent

## Wycombe High School's Virtual Learning Environment

As I am sure you are aware, Wycombe High School has a highly active Virtual Learning Environment – commonly referred to by students and staff as Moodle.

The principal purpose of our Moodle VLE is to provide an online support for teaching and learning for all our students and students from some of our partner schools. Those who do not have good access to the Internet from home can use the VLE in our Learning Centre from 8.00 am until 6.00 pm. Some pages or 'courses' provide open access to anyone on the internet and are widely used by schools in many parts of the world, including Hong Kong, Portugal, Poland, Australia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Ireland and many other parts of the UK. However most of the content is hidden from the eyes of the public and only accessible to particular classes of students and their specific teachers.

Within these private courses our students will find a range of resources and activities. Students can download worksheets and presentations; they can view video clips and slideshows; they can watch animations that explain concepts and they can download podcasts and mp3 files to help them with music and languages. There are many links to carefully selected web-pages to help our students find some of the resources they need for their studies. As well as these multimedia resources, there is a wide range of interactive activities. This includes discussion forums, questionnaires, voting polls, quizzes, glossaries, games, puzzles and wikis. These are all used to enhance and enrich the subjects we teach and to encourage students to take their learning well beyond the classroom.

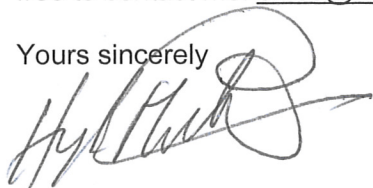
With Moodle, our students can also hand in drafts or finished work online and their teachers can mark the work, grade it and provide detailed feedback. If students have problems with their work, or if they are unwell, they can keep in touch with their teachers and school friends using a secure, monitored messaging system that is closed to anyone outside the school community. Our daily student bulletin is also available on Moodle.

This year we have an additional section on Moodle for parents. Initially it will be where you can find copies of our monthly publication High Flyer and some of the letters for parents. To find the 'Parents' page on Moodle, firstly use a search engine to find 'Wycombe High School Moodle' or go directly to <http://whs.moodle.co.uk/>.

1. click on the 'Moodle for Parents' icon (penguin picture) on the homepage
2. type in the enrolment login key (this year the login key is **Fortiter2012**)
3. click 'enrol me on this course'.

If you wish to explore Moodle further, please feel free to browse through our open access courses, I am sure you will find much to interest you. If you have any questions about Moodle or the school's library, please feel free to contact me: [office@whs.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@whs.bucks.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely



**Mr Hugh Mothersole**  
Information Services Manager