



## Welcome

In this term's edition of the newsletter we bring you the latest news of the Essex Primary ICT Curriculum (e-pic<sup>1</sup>). We also look at ICT within the Ofsted Framework for the Inspection of Schools.

If you are reading this on paper and want to see details of any of the items then go to the [www.e-pic.org.uk/news](http://www.e-pic.org.uk/news)<sup>2</sup> website where you can see the newsletter with all the hyperlinks. We also invite you to complete our online feedback form so we know how best to support schools in Essex and to help you in developing ICT in your school.



## E-pic News

Three new packages have appeared this term on the e-pic website and there are more in the pipeline! Each of the three covers the same theme: 'Saving Planet Earth' and there are resources for EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

The e-safety packages were featured at a recent Anti-Bullying Conference and also at the 'When Is Now' conference in Colchester. The conference videos can be accessed at: <http://sb1.emhub.com/vl/local/Essexqfl/><sup>3</sup>

All of the resources are proving very popular, and the e-safety resources particularly so. The materials are used not just by schools in Essex but also by schools in other Local Authorities and even in some schools abroad. The e-pic website was recently nominated for a national e-Government award for excellence.



## Ofsted Framework

The revised Ofsted framework for school inspection<sup>4</sup> was published this term. School effectiveness is judged under the following categories:

- Pupils' Outcomes
- Provision
- Leadership and Management

Among other things, under **Pupils' Outcomes** inspectors will be looking at the quality of learning and progress made by pupils over time.



<sup>5</sup> is the tool many schools in Essex use to record half-termly teacher assessments

for ICT and to assign ICT levels at the end of an academic year.

To make recording even easier we have put together e-pic recording sheets<sup>6</sup> for teachers to use. We are also putting together materials designed to help children track their own progress and evaluate their own learning based on a set of 'I can...' statements.

Under the heading **Provision** inspectors will be looking at the quality of teaching and the suitability of the curriculum.

We are currently working alongside a number of schools to re-write their curricula, helping them to ensure they have the breadth and depth of coverage within ICT required by the National Curriculum as well as built-in opportunities for the use of ICT to support learning in other areas.



We are also putting together new CPD activities. These are designed to introduce the new arrangements for schools heralded by the recent 'signing-off' by the government of the recommendations of the Rose Review<sup>7</sup>. The new National Curriculum is expected to be in place by 2011 with some measures (including the possible mandatory reporting of ICT levels) expected to be in place by 2010. Schools can feel confident that the e-pic materials will continue to be up-to-date and reflect changes in ICT as they happen.

**Leadership and Management** includes judgements on two very important elements: the effectiveness of safeguarding and the promotion of equality. E-pic not only provides schools with curriculum materials on e-safety but also guidance for schools (also available via [www.e-gfl.org](http://www.e-gfl.org)<sup>8</sup>). In addition we have put together a package of support for schools designed to kick-start e-awareness and e-safety in schools working directly with children and staff. Please contact us if you would like more information.

We are also in the process of putting together materials to support schools in addressing the current inequality that exists in ICT learning. Recent Flippi data has identified that throughout Key Stages 1 and 2 boys, in general, do less well than girls in all aspects of ICT. This begins to level off in Year 6 but is of concern, nonetheless. Again, if your school would like further information on this please contact us.

If you would like further details of any of the issues raised in this newsletter or would like to request support and/or training please contact the team via the Curriculum ICT Helpline on 01206 863636, by emailing [gwenllian.south@essex.gov.uk](mailto:gwenllian.south@essex.gov.uk) or by using the feedback form at [www.e-pic.org.uk](http://www.e-pic.org.uk).