

MyWorks KS3 ICT *Review*

Boardworks, creator of MyWorks, has added a formative assessment solution that is hosted online and covers a wide range of subject areas from key stage three to A level. The home page provides a clear indication of the features and benefits of the product throughout excellent videos and descriptions.

On the log in screen there are three help buttons: a quick start guide for students; a quick start guide for teachers; and a MyWorks handbook for teachers. The quick start guides link to an A4 pdf document that has three simple steps to start using the system.

This is excellent for teachers who are non-ICT specialists as within minutes of logging on tasks can be set and allocated to students. If help is required at any stage of the process, there is a team of MyWorks experts on the phone or online via instant messaging.

The first task is to allocate activities from the menu. Teachers who are confident in the use of ICT will find this stage straightforward without the need to consult the help guides. These teachers can then guide and support other teachers to roll out the system.

The key stage three ICT activities are engaging and motivational, with elements such as drag and drop, matching pairs, multiple choice and fill the gaps. Activities can be searched with ease and are categorised by national curriculum levels. If a student is unable to provide an answer, there is an option to revise the topic and direction to revision material.

This is not only an online formative assessment tool, but also a motivator for students to learn topics in an interactive way. It can be used to facilitate extension material at home and the mark book allows teachers to view the results of classes or individuals.

This is an ICT solution that will certainly save teachers' time and will be an asset in any school.

