

# New search engine is transforming students' research

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A NEW resource to help pupils search for information they need to learn is transforming how work is researched at a Worcester school.

Children and staff at the Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College are now one of the first in the county to benefit from a system called Autology, a search engine which provides reference materials geared to their studies.

The system, which uses information from either established educational publishers or from pre-selected, high quality websites, is designed to help match the concept someone is searching for.

Paul Edmunds, director of IT at the Timberdine Avenue School, said it was an easy system for the children to use and was able to refine the search as an essay was being typed. "The more that is written the more of a focus the search becomes and the relevant texts are found. This saves such a lot of time for children and also teachers", he said.

Autology also allows teachers to easily upload their own resources into the system, which makes them available to search alongside other sources.

Headteacher Sean Devlin said the system cost around £4 to £4.50 per pupil for the school year, which he believed was an important investment into their learning and study. He said "We are proud to sign up to this new powerful learning tool which is the world's most advanced learning system. This is the way forward. A differentiated e-Learning search engine which is for key stage three and key stage four, up to post 16."

Juliette Webb, aged 15, said they were enjoying using the new system. "It is really good and it has been helping me lots with my work. It also is designed so I can take the work home with me. It is easier than any other search engine I have used and more specific than something such as Google."□

George Charteris, 15, said "It has some very useful information on there and is very clear and easy to use."□

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