# What is Moodle and why do we use it?

Simply put, Moodle is a virtual classroom! It helps teachers and student keep a classroom that is open 24/7. Students are enrolled in Moodle courses/classes which match their timetables. When they log on, they see all their courses and can click on them to see sections related to lessons, homework etc.

## Lesson materials and homework information – everything the students need in one place

Teachers upload documents, lesson plans, assignments and other teaching materials for students so that students have access to these at all times. Even if a student cannot attend a lesson, they can still access all the material needed to catch up and submit assignments so that they don't fall behind.

Teachers put up detailed homework information on the course Moodle page, including deadlines and expectations about submission formats. On their homepage (called a dashboard) each student can see a calendar which shows what homework is due when, so they have a constant visual reminder which should help them keep up with the homework deadlines.

# Messaging and keeping in touch

Through Moodle, students and teachers can use the message function to send messages to each other with questions or information. All students also have an @eskmoodle email address which they can use to send emails to teachers.

## Effective, instant and transparent marking

Students submit their homework on Moodle and teachers mark these giving feedback which students see immediately. The feedback and grades will always be available on Moodle so students can refer back to teacher comments when they like.

Importantly, as a parent, through the "Parent Role" on Moodle, you can also see the assignments your son or daughter has submitted plus the grades and feedback the teacher has given.

#### **Moodle technical support**

Our students are already becoming Moodle experts! It is important though not to become anxious when there are technical problems. So, we have a Moodle technical support team at ESK who can address technical difficulties you may have as a parent or student. You can email <a href="moodle@englishschoolkyrenia.org">moodle@englishschoolkyrenia.org</a> with details of your problem, and please always include a screen shot of any error messages. Remember first to check through our 'ESK Secondary Online Learning Guide' on the Moodle parents' portal to find some simple steps to solving some common technical issues.