

VSH Update

End of 2016 review

“ We have been delighted by the growth in **MyLibrary** in 2016 and would like to thank all the local authorities using it – almost half the number in England and Wales – for their support. We have thousands of looked after children benefiting from our programmes, as well as adult learners, and we’re looking to build on that and develop further in 2017. ”

James Bench-Capon, Senior Editor

Tablet take-off

The biggest success of 2016 has been the launch of our tablet programmes. By giving their learners locked down tablets (that can only be used for **MyLibrary**), Virtual Schools can have complete peace of mind, with none of the worries that often go with elearning.

Many Virtual Schools have told us that it was the tablet schemes that made the difference and persuaded them to pursue mobile learning for their looked after children. So far we have sent out over a thousand tablets to **MyLibrary** customers.

It’s a very simple solution – every learner has a device of their own, the publications they need are pre-loaded, and all they have to do is switch on and start learning.

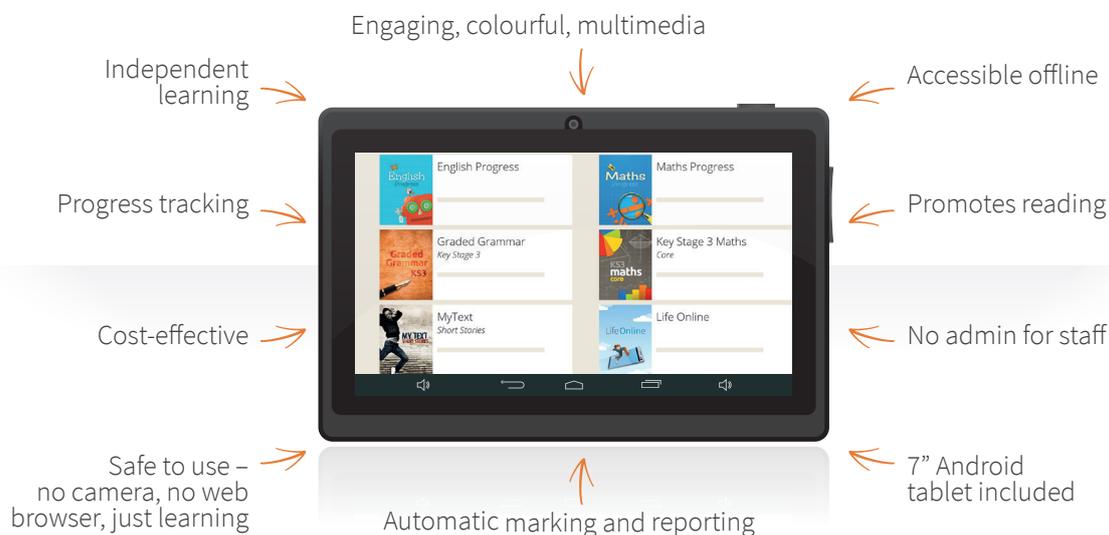
A helping hand

We are proud of the increasing support we can offer Virtual School staff to make sure that every **MyLibrary** programme is as successful as possible.

We can:

- ▶ provide both initial and ongoing admin support
- ▶ brief Virtual School teams so that everyone knows about **MyLibrary**
- ▶ hold presentations for groups of foster carers or DTs to get as many people as possible involved.

This is backed up with printed letters, leaflets and login cards, meetings with our support team, individual reports on progress, and telephone and email support. If you’re already using **MyLibrary** and there’s something else we could do to support you, please let us know.





CreativeMe winners set for publication

A massive thank you to all the young people who participated in the **CreativeMe** writing competition, and to the Virtual School staff who supported them to do so.



We are delighted to announce that we have now selected seven winners and seven runners-up, and they will be receiving their prizes very soon. All fourteen entries will appear in a special anthology on the **nimbl** app, along with entries from Coram Voice's **Voices 16** competition.

Everyone involved in the judging process was really impressed with the high quality of the entries and the different writing styles and ideas of the entrants. We are looking forward to publishing the anthology early in 2017.

Coming in 2017

Next year we plan to keep adding to our library of publications for children and young people. We're also increasingly excited about the opportunities mobile learning creates for staff. Virtual School staff might benefit from a range of CPD publications on topics relevant to looked after children, which could supplement or even replace costly face-to-face training. Get in touch to find out more.



A growing community

Virtual Schools now using **My Library**:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Barking & Dagenham | Leicester City |
| Barnet | Luton |
| Bexley | Merton |
| Birmingham | Middlesbrough |
| Bournemouth | Milton Keynes |
| Brighton & Hove | Newham |
| Bromley | Norfolk |
| Cambridgeshire | North Lincolnshire |
| Cardiff | Northumberland |
| Cheshire West & Chester | Oldham |
| City of London | Pembrokeshire |
| Coventry | Peterborough |
| Croydon | Plymouth |
| Cumbria | Poole |
| Darlington | Portsmouth |
| Derby City | Rochdale |
| Durham | Slough |
| East Riding | Somerset |
| East Sussex | Southampton |
| Enfield | Southend |
| Gateshead | Southwark |
| Gloucestershire | Stockport |
| Greenwich | Suffolk |
| Hackney | Tameside |
| Hammersmith & Fulham | Thurrock |
| Hampshire | Tower Hamlets |
| Harrow | Wakefield |
| Havering | Walsall |
| Herefordshire | Waltham Forest |
| Hillingdon | Wandsworth |
| Hounslow | West Berkshire |
| Islington | Westminster |
| Kensington & Chelsea | West Sussex |
| Kent | Wiltshire |
| Kingston upon Hull | Windsor & Maidenhead |
| Lambeth | Worcestershire |
| Lancashire | |

New additions

 Walsall



Find out more

Contact Jacquie at Pearson Publishing – 01223 350555 or j.cox@pearson.co.uk – to make an order, to request a brochure about mobile learning for LAC, or to arrange a free visit from us. You can also find out more at: www.pearson.co.uk/virtual-schools.



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