



Nedre Bekkelaget Skole



CASE STUDY

First built in 1938, Nedre Bekkelaget Skole is an 'old' school with very 'new' education methods and forward looking ideas on ICT and its role in education.

Nedre Bekkelaget Skole has approximately 250 students as well as a small department for children with autism, and has been using the Fronter Open Learning Platform in their school for just over 4 years. On the 28th February a group of London Local education Authorities came to the school to see some of Fronter's more experienced users in action.



Our student guide showing us how she uploads her work into Fronter

Nedre Bekkelaget School is a primary school offering classes from year 1 to year 7. After a brief introduction by our host Mr Leif Husjord, we were introduced to our main guides of the day - the students. Divided into smaller groups, we were given a guided tour of their virtual school building. One group was led by an impressively bright and confident 10 year old girl called Anne*.

'We can talk about what we do on our assignments and get new ideas about what we should add.'

Anne
Student at Nedre Bekkelaget Skole

Anne gave us a short introduction, explaining how she and her classmates used Fronter on the computers, to work on projects together, chat and share ideas. 'We can talk about what we do on our assignments and get new ideas about what we should add,' said Anne, when asked about the chat tool within the learning platform.

As with learners of all ages, parental involvement and engagement is central and an essential way of supporting a child's learning experience. Anne explained how, 'we can show them what we have done when we have uploaded it to Fronter.' 'They can see everything.' In the past, parents were encouraged to log into the Fronter platform using their child's username and password, but the latest Fronter release now includes a Parental Login option where parents may now be assigned their own unique username and password giving them access to their specific child's work portfolio, attendance records and behaviour report.

'Fronter has become part of the background of the school and learning. It has taken its place not as a separate product, but as a facilitator in the learning process.'

Visiting London Local Authority

After the tour by the students, the visiting group was also given a presentation by the Head Teacher and one of the teachers at the school. They were able to give the visitors a very good overview of how Nedre Bekkelaget was using the Fronter platform and demonstrate how, 'Fronter has become part of the background of the school and learning. It has taken its place not as a separate product, but as a facilitator in the learning process.' (Visiting London Local Authority)



Mr Leif Husjord, Head Teacher at Nedre Bekkelaget Skole

How Nedre Bekkelaget is using Fronter:

- ✓ Recording attendance, grades and behaviour
- ✓ Uploading and downloading work
- ✓ Evaluating reading skills by recording sound
- ✓ Searching content
- ✓ Viewing websites and interesting links from the internet
- ✓ Taking tests
- ✓ Distribution of school updates and weekly lesson plans
- ✓ Process writing with the Fronter Document tool
- ✓ Displaying pictures from the latest school trip
- ✓ Creating and publishing the school newspaper
- ✓ Promoting awareness and safety on the web

Learning Path

The school is experimenting with the learning path tool, and has created lessons e.g. on religion, using the functionality of the tool. Starting with a simple design, different content pages can be created and arranged to form a 'learning path.' A learning path could be created to convey a certain topic or theme and can include periodic assessment tests or surveys, as well as direct students along different 'paths' according to their level of understanding or ability.

This tool has also been used to give information out to the parents or gauge the opinion on school policy by inserting a survey at the end of the learning path.

Individual Learning Plan (ILP)

We were given an in depth explanation and shown examples of how teachers at the school were using the ILP tool to keep detailed records of an individual child's progress through school.



Local Authorities eating lunch and speaking to staff at Nedre Bekkelaget Skole

Within the ILP, a student's short and long term goals, as well as comments from the teacher and student on progress can be recorded.

Teachers and students found this a good way to ensure that the students took an active role and 'ownership' of their learning from a young age.

*The name of the student has been changed.