

ICT Services

Primary Schools Seminar Spring 2023

Cheshire East Council



Forum Etiquette

Mute your mic Turn off your camera





Forum Etiquette

Should you have a question or wish to comment, please raise your hand.



One of the team will interrupt the discussion and you will have a chance to speak. If you wish you may at that time put your camera on. Once finished please put yourself back on mute.



Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- General Information
- Sims License and Support
- Orchestra Pilot (West Schools)
- Schools Desktop (Including Teams Hints and Tips)
- SIMS Updates
- Regular SIMS Faults and Queries
- AOB



GENERAL INFORMATION



Sims/ESS Contracts

EAST LA Maintained Schools

The way your school contracts to receive SIMS will be changing from 1 April 2023. CE contract expires on 31st March

Schools will need to enter into an AE agreement directly with ESS.

This agreement will be for a three-year term and will be required to keep your SIMS and FMS software up to date and supported plus the right to use all core SIMS Next Gen features released during the term of the agreement.



Licences and support

SIMS Licence

Previously bought by the LA and top slice taken from school budgets

This money is being given back to schools and Schools buy licence directs from ESS

Schools SIMS/Office Support

Bought through ChESS and delivered by the Schools ICT Support Team

This is not changing. Still an Accredited SSU.

This is not just SIMS support but also cover desktop for Office pcs/365 advice/DNS/phishing etc.



When?

New contract starts 1st April 2023

ESS want to encourage schools to engage via the Portal promptly to ensure that from 1st April they continue to have access to software and support that will need to manage SIMS summer census and other statutory returns.

28th Feb for Portal Sign up

They can accept the new quotation at any time, but to be confident of being able to undertake the summer census they should confirm acceptance via the Portal by 31st March 2023, or preferably sooner and by 28 February 2022 where possible.

After 1st April if not signed up then will not be able to get upgrades for SIMS (which will be needed for Census in May)

Sims/ESS Contracts – West LA Schools and Academies



ESS have sent out the new contracts for 2023/24

Last year LA Maintained Schools bought into a 3 year deal but they are offering a new 3 year deal

This will reduce costs and be protected from any big inflation rises

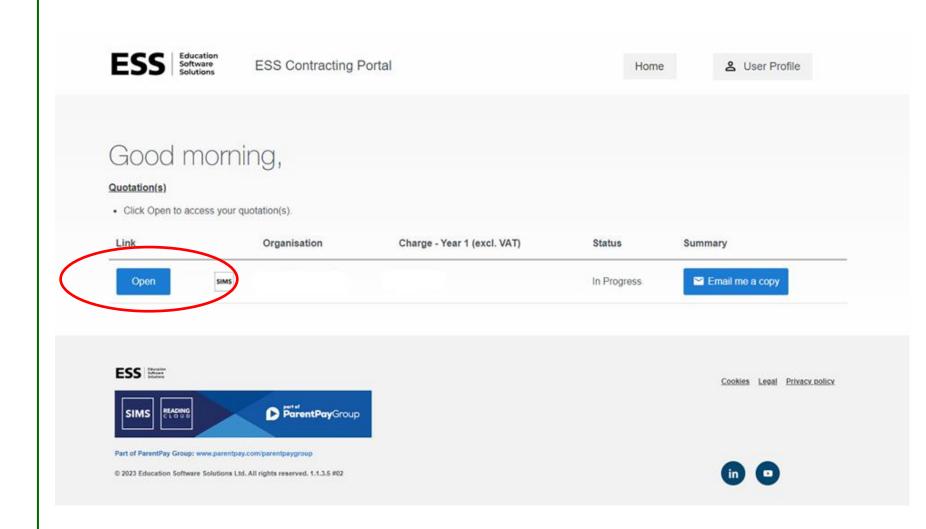
What is the new Subscription & what are the benefits?



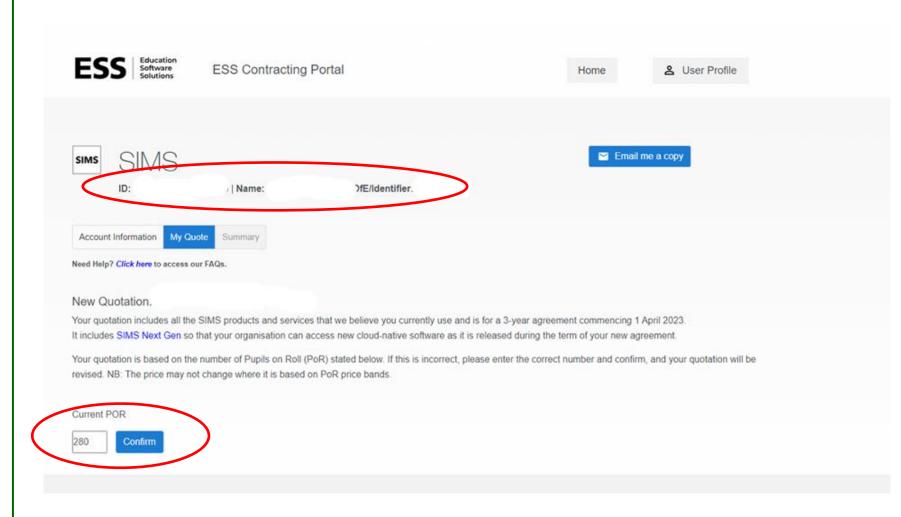
The subscription will include all the elements the school currently has in a single agreement.

- reduced annual charge for SIMS software for 2023/24
- a capped indexation rate of the lower of 5% or CPI+2.5% providing greater financial security to schools in years 2 and 3
- opportunity to add and buy SIMS Connected via the portal and 'go cloud'
- access to SIMS Next Generation

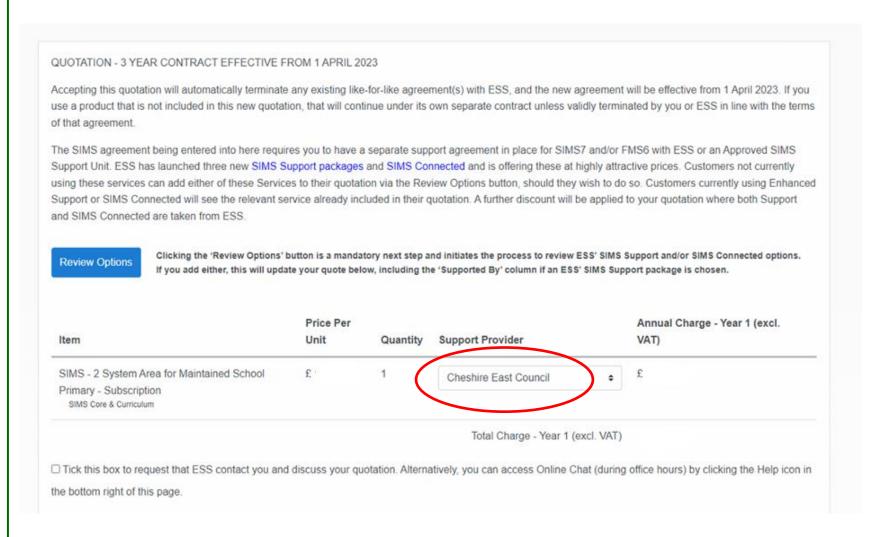














CREATING A CONTRACT:

Once you press the button labelled "Agree" this Quotation will be deemed to have been accepted, a contract between ESS and the Customer will be created, and the Customer will be bound by the terms of that contract.

If you do not wish to create a contract, do NOT press the "Agree" button.

By pressing the "Agree" button, the Customer agrees to create a contract:

- to purchase the Software and/or Services specified in this Quotation at the prices specified therein (subject to annual indexation);
- for a three (3) year term unless stated to the contrary in the Special Terms;
- priced on the basis of the Customer's current Pupils on Roll (PoR) number; and
- · subject to the Annex 1 terms, the Special Terms and any terms and conditions set out in the Quotation

Once you press the "Agree" button this accepted Quotation will be submitted to ESS, a contract is created and the Customer will be bound by the terms of that contract

If you do not wish to create a contract, do NOT press "Agree" and simply close this web page.

☐ Tick here to access and review the Terms & Conditions

Accept

Save



Support

ChESS Support packages 2023-2024

Bronze – Basic support

Silver – Enhanced Support – EOY, Updates and ½ day consultancy

Gold – Enhance support with EOY, Updates and 3 days training

All packages include Termly Forums and Workshops plus access to the website for documentation/videos, Hint and Tips as well as the Sims knowledge base

All include Desktop support for your admin pcs as well as DNS/strategic advice/Consultancy/365 help/support with Phishing emails/egress etc

Additional new packages and services coming soon



Support

Extra offerings for the coming year (No extra cost)

- Each School can have New Starter Induction
- School Improvement Sessions
- Health checks
- Advance reporting and excel workshop
- 365/Forms Workshop
- Other workshops as requested
- All either online or face to face



Support Going Forward

Looking at changing the Support in future years with the changing Environment/platforms

Different support packages for

- Sims On premise
- Sims Connected
- Sims Next Gen



Forums/Workshops

Workshops (FREE)

- Sims Parent Lite Dates TBC
- Forms Dates TBC
- Teams Date TBC
- Excel Date TBC
- SIMS Housekeeping Date TBC

Will email dates out to all



Training

- New starter training session
- Would this be useful as a group?
- Online or onsite
- What other training session would you like
- Book by emailing schools.training@cheshireeast.gov.uk



West Orchestra Rollout

- Takes an extract of MIS data for Cheshire West
- Pilot rolled out to 14 school at end of October, very successful
- Waiting on schools to reply with the Data Sharing Agreement
- Benefits
 - Better data quality for Schools and LA
 - Integration with social care and assists with safeguarding the child
 - Data protection- up to date contact details
 - Real time exclusions
 - SEN funding allocated correctly
 - Less time having to contact schools to check info



West Orchestra Rollout

- Arbor just make a link from the software
- Sims need software installed on server
- Being rolled out at moment, rest to be rolled out once Data Sharing Agreement has been signed
- lucy.k.morris@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk



West Orchestra Rollout

- Technical Requirements
 - Server 2012 R2, 2016 or 2022
 - NET framework 4.8 must be installed
- We can install this but ideally your ICT support company
- Will be monitoring if the extract fails and contact the school or 3rd party ICT.
- Already support this on the East



Halo

- Call logging system
- Can now open calls directly into the system using the link
- Halo
- Can no longer login to the system to see updates but can email back
- Template email sent out with link (wont work)
- Call the Service Desk 0300 123 5121 Option 1 for school



Unit 4

- Unit 4 new number: 0300 123 8093
- Recruitment and Pay queries: 0300 123 7729

CEC & CW&C councils, ANSA, Orbitas, Vivo, Winsford Town Council, Tatton Park Enterprises, Adjudicators recruitmentandpay@ecwip.co.uk

CEC primary, secondary and special schools TSCEastSchools@ecwip.co.uk

CW&C primary, secondary and special schools

TSCWestSchools@ecwip.co.uk

Academies

TSCAcademies@ecwip.co.uk

Absence Reversals

TSCabsenceteam@ecwip.co.uk

Pensions

tscpensions@ecwip.co.uk

Sourcing Team

sourcingteam@ecwip.co.uk

Stat Team

tscstatutoryteam@ecwip.co.uk



Contact Information

ICT Service Desk

0300 123 5121, Option 1

Online Portal: Halo

Schoolsictservicedesk@cheshireeast.gov.uk

www.cheshireschools.co.uk

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SCHOOLS DESKTOP



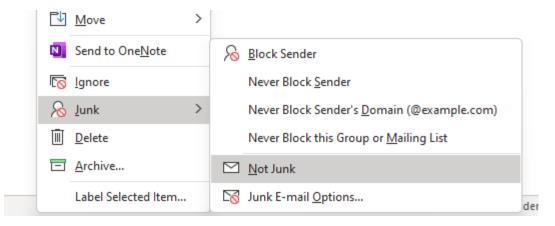
Emails arriving in junk

- Microsoft have changed their filtering settings
- Lots more genuine emails arriving in junk
- Majority of schools use O365
- Egress emails also arriving in junk
- Not affecting google schools yet



Emails arriving in junk

Can say Not Junk



- Can pin Junk folder as a favourite
- Can whitelist schools emails domains e.g. cheshire.sch.uk but issue if a school is compromised
- Ask you IT to whitelist @reader.egress.com



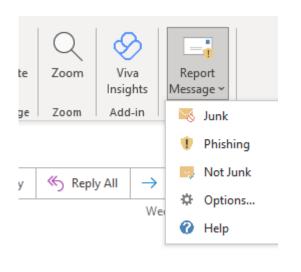
Phishing emails

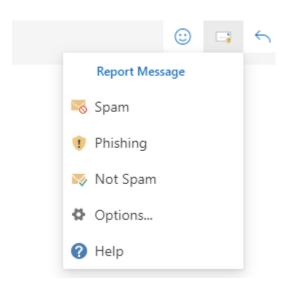
- Phishing emails still coming
 - Egress
 - Invoices etc
- Hover over the link and can see not from Egress
- Lots from powtoon.com so block this url with you ISP
- Already blocked for all schools with
 - School Broadband, Exa and Entrust
- Protect yourself from phishing Microsoft Support
- National Cyber Security Centre



Phishing emails

New feature in Outlook and Online





- Can report as Phishing or junk etc to Microsoft
- Enable the Report Message or the Report Phishing add-ins - Office 365 | Microsoft Learn



Google/Gtech Training

- Google Training Days December 2022
- Recordings
 - Getting started with Google
 - Going Further with Google
- May be able to run more if the lots of schools interested
- Can also run individual training for schools

Google Classroom/Chromebooks



- Old pcs can be turned into Chromebooks
- Chrome OS Flex £27 one off cost
- Works just like a Chromebook



Google Forms

- Forms.google.com
- Just like Forms in O365
- Can use template or just start from blank page
- Change settings on who can respond
- Add Collaborators
- Link to Sheets, instantly fills responses in



Google Meet

- Meet.google.com
- Like a Team meeting in O365
- Click New meeting
- Can be Instant, Later or in Google Calendar
- Invite relevant people(Guests)
- Can change settings for the meeting

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Office 365 – Teams Meetings

- Creating meetings through Outlook and Teams
- Cant send BCC though Outlook or Teams
- Can copy the link and past in a separate email
- Can see in Teams calendar
- Change Meeting Options



Office 365 – Teams Meetings

In the meeting

Button now been expanded, raise hand etc



- Change background
- Share screen in a meeting
- Can record a meeting

Office 365 – Teams New Features



In Chat

- Right click on send button send at scheduled time
- Can edit or delete and change time etc
- Can delete whole conversations
- Pin Person at top
- Pin for everyone if want to highlight part of chat
- Save a chat
- Find saved chats under your face



O365 Backup

- O365 is not backed up
- You can restore up to 30 days at present
- Barracuda offer a backup of all data for £19.70 per staff member per year
- Backs up all of O365 inc Emails, One drive, Teams,
 Sharepoint etc
- Barracuda can only backup O365



O365/Google Backup

- Depends how much data may be cheaper to backup with RBUSS
- 12p per GB per Month
- If just backing up a few share eg Sharepoint, Google drive etc



Antivirus Renewal

Antivirus is due for renewal in September

Budget for Approx £7 per device for 3 years

Currently using ESET/Panda

Testing other offerings too (Bitdefender)



SIMS Queries

Excel Hints & Tips



SIMS Queries

- Reception admissions preventing duplicate records if children already on role for Nursery etc. Reporting
- Creating shortcuts from home page
- •Is there an option on SIMS where you can bulk add documents? for example adding annual school reports into linked documents instead of individually adding the document per child.



Excel Tips

Flash fill **Quick Analysis Creating Lists Moving Data Removing Blank Cells Tidy Data** Join Data **Power Query Remove Duplicates Conditional formatting Simple Pivot Table**



SIMS NEXT GEN



Sims Next Gen

Setting up Sims ID Administrator details.

Providing teachers, staff and pupils with a single login to access multiple local and cloud based applications.

User permissions are managed centrally to ensure that your school's systems are secure, saving you valuable time and resource.



Sims Next Gen

Email



Preparing your school to be Next Gen ready Confirm your school's contact details for SIMS ID authorisation

Dear colleague,

As you'll be aware, ESS has embarked on a £40 million pound multi-year programme of innovation to revolutionise SIMS. We call this programme SIMS Next Gen.

To support your journey towards using SIMS Next Gen, there are some prerequisites that need to be in place. To ensure you receive the information required to prepare for SIMS Next Gen, we need to confirm the details of the person responsible for technical administration at your school.

Confirm the technical administrator details for your school >



Sims Next Gen

Take a closer look at SIMS Next Gen...

https://www.esssims.co.uk/nextgenplan?cycle=464&phase=&area=&ro le=®ion=#results

A breakdown of availability of Sims next gen modules



SIMS UPDATES

Sims .net Spring 2023 Release



- Latest Sims Spring 7.210 upgrade release made available 10/03/2023
- Email sent out from <u>schoolsictservicedesk@cheshireeast.gov.uk</u> with instructions
- Upgrade for Gold/Silver Support will be completed by schools team W/C 20/03/2023
- Upgrade for Bronze support will need to be actioned by your IT



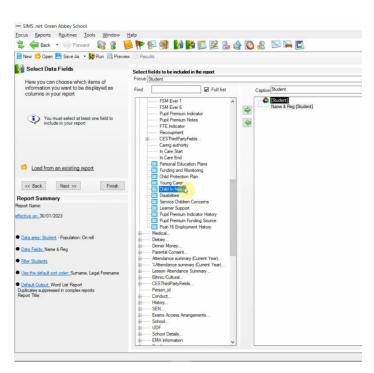
Reporting

Student List Report

New data items added – <u>More Able</u> and <u>Service Children in need</u>

Child in Need Reporting

 Child in need sub report option available under additional information in design report

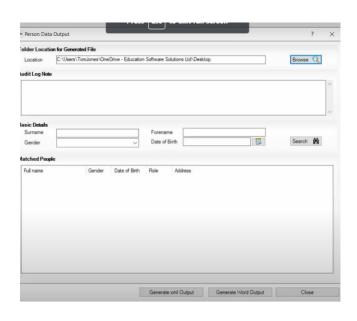


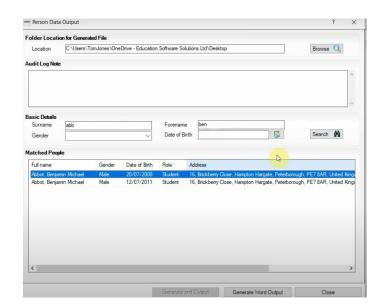


Reporting

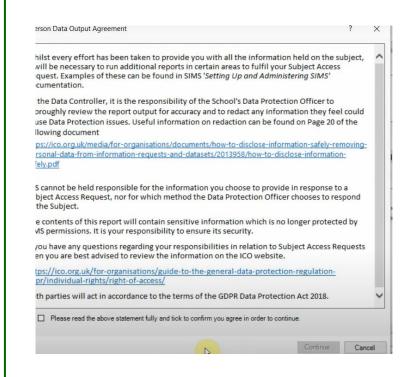
Child in Need Reporting

Report available under <u>Routines</u>, <u>Data Out</u>, <u>Person Data Output</u>







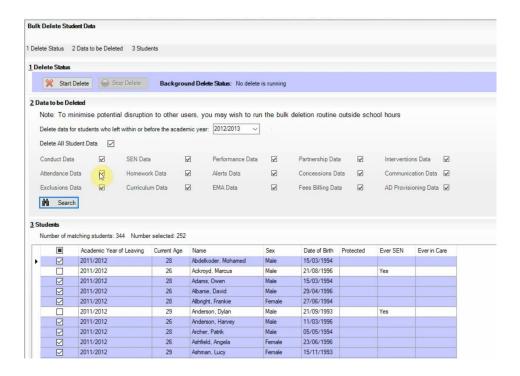


LA Provided Transport	Uniform Allowance		
No	No		
Welfare - Child In Need			
Start Date	Notes		
01/01/2023	Need identified		
	·		
Group Memberships			
Group Type	Group Name	Start Date	End Date
Class	7D/Ci	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7y/Ma1	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7y/Pe1	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7y/Te1	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7YEL/Ar	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7YEL/Co	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7YEL/En	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7YEL/Ge	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7YEL/Gg	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7YEL/Hi	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7YEL/Mu	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7YEL/Re	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	7YEL/Sc	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Class	Class 7D	05/09/2022	31/08/2023
Curriculum Group	7y	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Curriculum Group	7YEL	05/09/2022	21/07/2023
Ethnic Data Source	Provided by the parent	05/09/2022	
Ethnicity	White - English	05/09/2022	
First Language	English	05/09/2022	
Home Language	English*	05/09/2022	
Home Language Category	English*	05/09/2022	



Reporting

Report available under <u>Routines</u>, <u>Pupil</u>, <u>Bulk Delete Student Data</u>

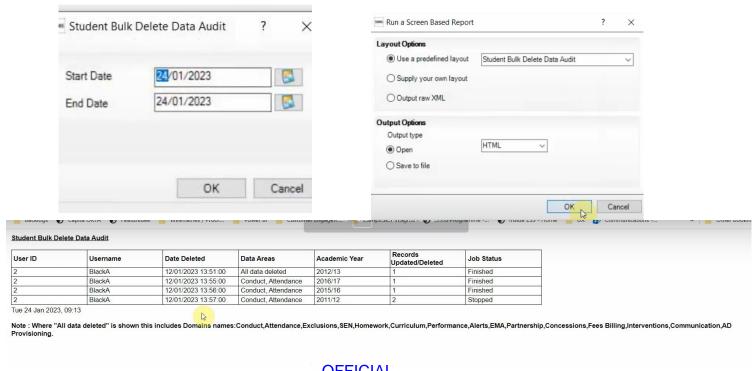




Reporting

Student Bulk Delete Audit Report

New report available under Reports, Student Analysis Reports, **Student Bulk Delete Audit Report**

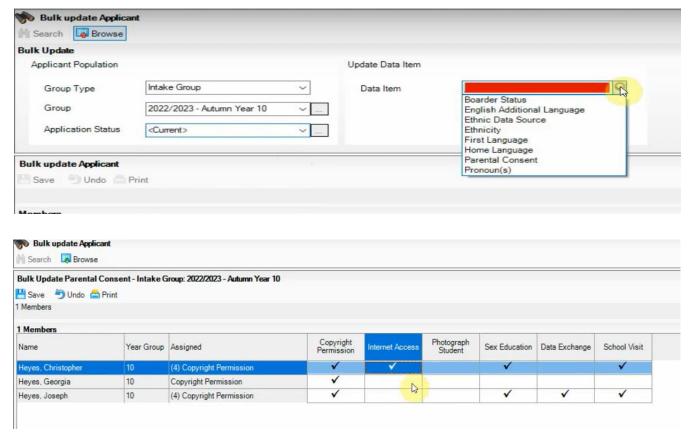


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Bulk Update Applications

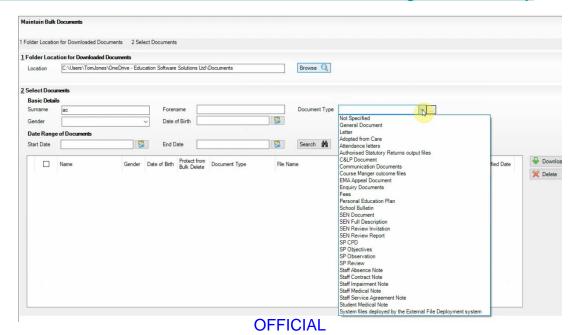
Routines, Admissions, Bulk Update Applications





Bulk Delete Documents

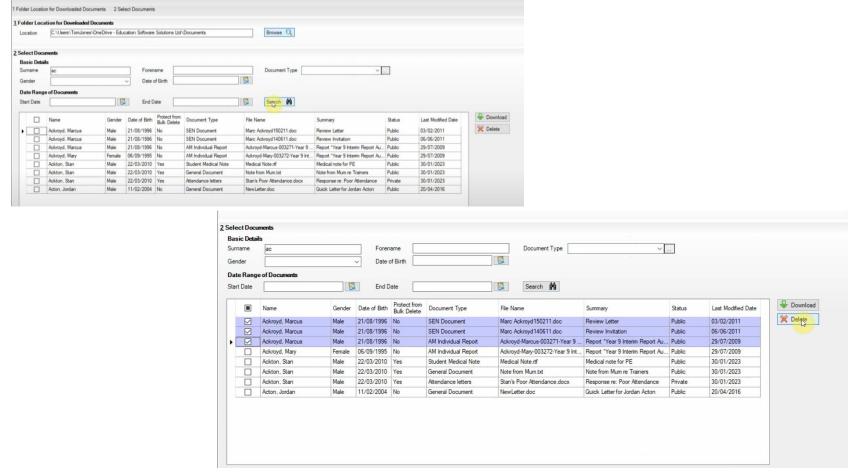
- Tools, Housekeeping, Document Management Server, Maintain Bulk Documents
- <u>Data protection in schools Data retention Guidance GOV.UK</u> (www.gov.uk)
- IRMS Schools Toolkit Information and Records Management Society
- IRMS Academies Toolkit Information and Records Management Society





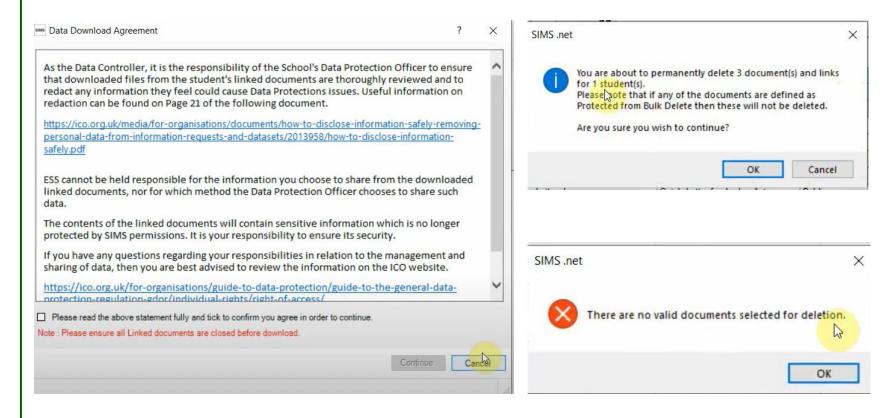


Bulk Delete Documents





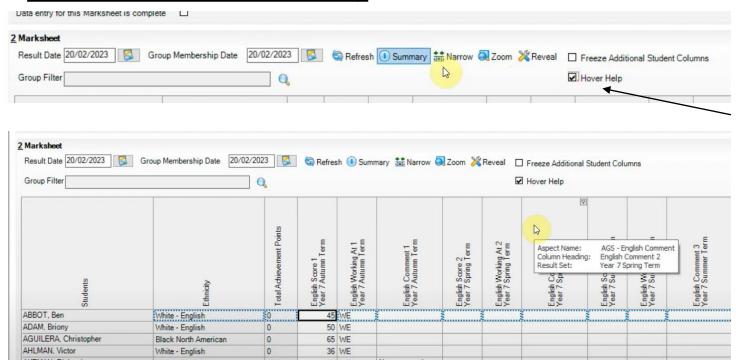
Bulk Delete Documents





Assessment

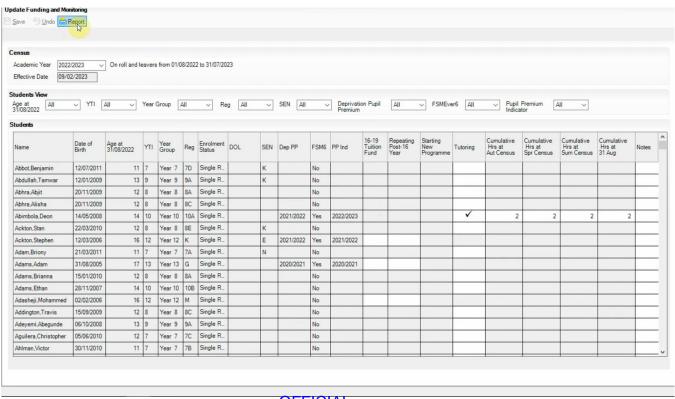
 Improved Column Heading information available under <u>Focus</u>, <u>Assessment, Marksheet Entry</u>





Funding and Monitoring

 Report Button now available under <u>Tools</u>, <u>Statutory Return</u> <u>Tools</u>, <u>Update Funding and Monitoring</u>



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ESS SIMS YouTube Channel

All the videos in this presentation can be found on the ESS Sims YouTube channel.

ESS SIMS - YouTube

On the site you can find information videos on updates, reports etc.



Summer 2023 Census

Key Dates

Summer Census Day - Thursday 18/05/2023

Attendance	01/01/2023 to 09/04/2023
Exclusions	01/08/2022 to 09/04/2023
 Alternative Provision Placements 	19/01/2023 to 18/05/2023
Funding and Monitoring	01/08/2022 to 18/05/2023
Learner Support	01/08/2022 to 18/05/2023
 Free School Meal Eligibility 	20/01/2023 to 18/05/2023.



Spring 2023 Census

Changes to Census

- Early Years DOB Range Updated
- Added Funding and Monitoring Report Button
- Support Unit Link is now the first link in census communication

Baseline Fileset ID required is <u>2400</u> (included in Spring Release)



ESS SIMS Ideas Portal

Raise any new ideas or enhancements to the existing functionality you may have.

Take the opportunity to view, vote and promote ideas that you feel would make the most difference to your experience in SIMS.

URL to access ideas portal

https://customer.supportess.com/csm?id=kb_article_view&sysparm_article=KB00438
69

You must log in to the support portal to access the ideas portal.

ESS SIMS - Satisfaction Survey Cheshire East



The SIMS 7 Satisfaction Survey is your direct opportunity to feed back to the product team on your experiences and views of the software.

Its a short questionnaire that gives you the chance to detail your thoughts on the modules, rate the user experience and evaluate the latest additions.

You can access the satisfaction survey:

- in SIMS 7, via Tools | SIMS Satisfaction Survey.
- via https://www.ess-sims.co.uk/user-survey
- via the support portal (https://customer.supportess.com/csm?id=kb_article_view&sysparm_article=kb0049142).

You do not need to log in to the support portal to access the satisfaction survey.

SIMS End of Year 2023



Gold Support, Silver Support & Ad-hoc Purchases

- Forms will be sent out at the end of May
- Save on S:/ and email <u>schools.training@cheshireeast.gov.uk</u> by the end of June

Bronze Support

- Can buy through eCWIP/ChESS
- SIMS End of Year 2022/2023

SIMS End of Year 2023



- School Terms and Holidays (If not known, provide basic details and it can be amended at a later date)
- Class structure Class Name/Teacher/NC Year (Assigning staff members can be done at a later date if not known)
- Promotions (Which class they're going into in the next Academic Year)
- Admissions (Where the ATF is saved on S:/ If used)
- Year 6 Leavers Information



Contact Information

ICT Service Desk

0300 123 5121, Option 1

Online Portal: Halo

Schoolsictservicedesk@cheshireeast.gov.uk

www.cheshireschools.co.uk

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