



PENNINE EDUCATION

Pennine Education Newsletter

April 2021

Course Evaluation Forms

From Easter 2021 all Training Course Evaluation Forms will be sent to schools electronically after completing any Pennine Education Training Course. We believe this will be quicker for schools to complete and will reduce administration time and make the process more efficient. Once again, we welcome all feedback so that we can improve the service we provide to you.

Making Tax Digital

Relevant to Academies, Multi Academy Trusts and Independent schools using FMS who are VAT registered, above VAT Threshold and who submit their VAT return directly to HMRC.

As you will be aware HMRC require all VAT submissions after April 2021 are to be digitally transferred. This can be carried out via FMS using our Making Tax Digital Solution (MTD). Instructions on completing this process were sent out to schools via email and are available on our website under the document page. The password is Spring2021

If schools use the Vat 126 report they will carry on with the current process.

Contract Renewals

The invoices for the April contract renewals were sent out to schools on the 1st March. Please can you ensure the invoices are paid as soon as possible.

If you have not returned the signed the 2021 Sims Support Agreement please sign and return this to info@pennineeducation.co.uk

Customer Satisfaction Survey

As part of our commitment to providing schools with the best possible service we can, we welcome feedback from all our customers and are always looking for opportunities to make improvements to the service, as a result of that feedback.

We will soon be issuing our 2020/21 Customer Satisfaction Survey and would be incredibly grateful if you could spare a few moments to complete it. The Survey will be in electronic format this year and will be submitted online by following a link provided. We believe by going electronic the process will be quicker and easier for schools to complete, making the process more efficient for everyone. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Within the Customer Satisfaction Survey, we are asking your opinions on how you would like to receive the Termly Briefings in the future: face to face, remote, or a mixture of the two. Some schools have fed back that they like the remote sessions as it cuts down on the time that they are away from school, whereas others have suggested one face to face meeting per year and the others remotely would be a good combination. Please let us know what your preferences would be, when completing the Survey.

MIS Accreditations

Pennine Education Ltd is pleased to announce that it is now fully Accredited for Sims, Arbor and Bromcom. If schools are looking at alternative MIS software please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange an introduction.

Cloud Based MIS

Some schools have started looking at Cloud based MIS solutions as an alternative to their current system. Just a reminder that if you are having conversations in school regarding this, please drop us a line, we would be more than happy to assist you and use our contacts with alternative MIS providers to put you in touch with the right people or arrange a demonstration.

Pennine Education is currently an Accredited MIS Support provider for the following cloud-based MIS Solutions: SIMS Primary, Arbor & Bromcom.



Examinations

Edexcel: During lockdown due to Covid-19, you may have had entries into your exams and tried to apply the X mark in your marksheets. You may have received the following message - 'Edexcel Result not in range defined for aspect'.

Patch 17891 was valid for SIMS version 7.196 but if you've upgraded to 7.198, please get in touch and we'll arrange to supply the new patch from Capita (ESS).

Attendance

Pennine Education have created an attendance report to analyse the use of the X code and new attendance sub codes. If you'd like a copy of the report, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

SIMS Update

Spring 2021 upgrade has been released for Sims and FMS, Sims will be upgraded to version 7.198 and FMS to 6.198. This will need to be applied prior to Census day on May 20th for the Summer Census to appear in Sims.

Capita will cease supporting Sims on Windows 8.1 from the Spring 2021 upgrade.

Spring 2021 User Group

The Spring User Group will once again be held remotely on the 13th May 2021 for Primaries at 9.30am and for Secondary's at 1.30pm. A separate email invite will be sent to schools to book on the User Group.

The date of the census is 20th May 2021.

Attendance Sub codes in SIMS

To help complete the educational settings status form, Subcodes for the X and I code are now available in the registers with the latest SIMS.Net update (7.198). A SIMS Analysis report is available which shows the breakdown of the subcodes, both guidance and the report are available on our website:

<https://www.pennineeducation.co.uk/attendance-sub-codes.html>

If you need any further assistance, call or log a ticket with the help desk.