

# Harrow School, The Vaughan Library Eclipse Pro Case Study

Harrow School is an independent Boarding School for boys aged 13-18 years. The Vaughan Library is a Grade II listed building built in 1863. The library was refurbished seven years ago; it has outstanding library and ICT resources.

The book stock of 33,000 items is particularly rich in content. Since refurbishment the use of the library has increased from 36,779 visits in the academic year 1999-2000 to 81,029 in 2005-6.

The library is central to school life both physically and academically, it plays a key role in the success of the school. During the academic year 2004-5 it became clear that our existing LMS was outmoded. We were not able to run the library catalogue across the school network and the system did not deal well with overdues or reports, all of these needs had become necessary for optimum use of the library management system in the 21st century.

I investigated several LMS and had on site demos of most of them. It became clear that Micro Librarian had the advantage of the other contenders. I chose Eclipse Pro in autumn 2005;

my decision was helped by the excellent demonstration and information given by Daniel Tennent. The system was installed in January 2006. We were able to negotiate a package to include John Lyon School which is with Harrow School, part of the John Lyon Foundation and the system was installed in both schools early in 2006.

The conversion of our data, 32,000 items which included some complex catalogue entries went smoothly, only necessitating a couple of telephone calls to sort out various fields. Installation and training took place over two days, it went very well, training was excellent, I was able to cascade train those members of staff not able to attend.

Eclipse Pro now runs across the school network and 'Search Star' the OPAC can be accessed from every networked PC including those that are wireless enabled. All new pupils have been trained in the use of 'Search Star' as part of their library induction and have had their fingerprints scanned. The scanner was fun and enabled us to interact with each boy, they were most impressed. Existing pupils are gradually being trained to use 'Search Star' and are adding their fingerprints to the system. Prior to implementing Identikit we informed all our parents in writing about this exciting technology and since it's installation we have received universal approval in its use.

“We include using the catalogue in all information literacy sessions with both pupils and teaching staff.”

From an administrative point of view I have found Eclipse Pro very efficient in handling overdue items, we now email all notices to pupils, and statistical reports save me time.

Cataloguing is now very quick using imported records from Discovery, especially fiction. Non fiction takes a little longer as we usually adjust the Dewey number and keywords to suit our collection.

Margaret Knight, Librarian  
The Vaughan Library, Harrow School

