



Dear Parent / Guardian of Year 8 pupil,

I am pleased to advise that Markethill High School will be continuing to use a website called IXL with Year 8 pupils. You will be aware of the great importance Markethill High School places on 'self-quizzing', notably the art of retrieving information and knowledge from memory. Much evidence in the realm of cognitive science indicates strongly that the more our children undertake so-called retrieval practice, the better they are likely to achieve in academic studies.

IXL is a comprehensive learning programme offering unlimited Maths and English practice across thousands of skills—all of which are aligned to GCSE specifications. One of the best things about IXL is that your child can access it from home, so you have a chance to see your child's progress. Indeed, it will be expected that each Year 8 pupil will initially complete two IXL 'codes' each week. The weekly codes have been provided separately in the 'Year 8 Parent' section of the school website. Your child has also been given a copy.

Your child has been introduced to IXL in school and access to the system involves these easy steps:

1. Go to <https://www.ixl.com>
2. Enter your child's username and password and click "Sign in." Username and Passwords have been given to pupils in school.
3. Click on the relevant year (Year 7) and code.

IXL is designed to help your child learn at his or her own pace. The programme is adaptive and will adjust based on your child's demonstrated understanding of the material. All of your child's results will be saved, so you can monitor his or her progress anytime by clicking on Analytics. For on-the-go practice, you can download IXL's free tablet apps for iPad, Android, or Kindle and sign in with your child's username and password.

I hope you'll encourage your son or daughter to use IXL regularly.

Yours faithfully,
J.A. Maxwell
Principal