Advanced Installation Topics

1. Installing on to a Linux or Novell server or NAS appliance

It is possible to have a network installation that uses a Linux or Novell server or NAS appliance to host the server portion of the Primary ICT software. In this scenario, the Linux or Novell server/NAS appliance will have the server files stored on it and share them out to the network where Windows-based client PCs will be used to run the software on.

The software is not specifically designed for this option so a 'manual' approach is needed. This involves creating an 'image' of the server installation on a Windows PC and then transferring it to the Linux or Novell server/NAS appliance.

Installation Requirements

As for a normal network installation:

- You will need to store the server installation in a folder on the Linux or Novell server/NAS appliance that is **accessible by Teachers and Pupils**.

- You will need **Administrator rights** on the Windows-based PC's and on the Linux or Novell server/NAS appliance

- You should install the year groups in the following order, skipping the year group(s) you do not own: Y**3, Y4, Y5, Y6, Y1, Y2**

You will also need a **Windows-based PC** on which to create an image of the server installation. This can be one of the network client PCs.

<u>Important!</u>
It is not possible to add additional year groups to a Linux or Novell server/NAS appliance installation without completely replacing the installation (and thus wiping your database of Teachers, Classes, Pupils and their results). Therefore make sure you install all available year groups the first time.

Installation Instructions

The installation is done as follows:

1. On a Windows-based PC, perform Stages 1 & 2 of the Network Installation instructions (see previous pdf file 'Network Installation under Windows'), using the root folder of a local drive as the target installation folder. For example, install the software to '**C:**'.

2. Copy the newly created '**Smart Learning**' folder and all of its contents to the appropriate location on the Linux or Novell server/NAS appliance.

3. Set the permissions on the '**Smart Learning**' folder on the Linux or Novell server/NAS appliance to be '**Read and Execute**' for Teachers and Pupils.

4. Set the permission on the '**Smart Learning/Data/DB**' folder on the Linux or Novell server/NAS appliance to be '**Modify**' for Teachers and Pupils.

5. Perform Stage 3 of the Network Installation instructions (see previous pdf file 'Network Installation under Windows'), to install the software on to the client PCs.

6. Perform Stage 5 of the Network Installation instructions to activate the software.

Advanced Installation Topics

2. Alternative arrangement for client installation – storing client files on the Server

It is possible to install the Primary ICT software across a network without needing to store the client portion of the software on client PCs. This has the advantage of easier installation but does slow start up of the software slightly, as the client program has to be downloaded from the server first before it can be run (the download is done automatically by the client PC when the software is started).

As for a normal client installation, the software continues to be executed on the client PC and in that PC's context, but the files themselves are simply stored on the server for convenience.

To use this arrangement:

1. Perform Stages 1 - 5 of the Network Installation instructions (see previous pdf file 'Network Installation under Windows'). ***Stage 3 should only be applied to one client PC***.

2. On the client PC, locate the software's installation folder (chosen during Stage 3) and then copy its contents to the '**Smart Learning**' folder on the server (chosen during Stage 1).

3. Update the shortcut in the Start Menus and on the Desktop to point to the '**Smart Learning**' program in the '**Smart Learning**' folder on the server.

4. Copy these two shortcuts to all the accounts of all users of the Primary ICT software.

This arrangement can also be used with a Linux or Novell server / NAS appliance in place of the Windows server. In these cases, use the alternative Network Installation instructions for these types of devices in place of the standard Network Installation instructions.

3. Automating client installations on a Network

The normal installation process has a technician installing the client portion of the software (Stage 3 of the Network Installation instructions) individually on each client PC. While fine for small numbers of PCs, this can be laborious and time consuming when installing to large numbers of client PCs.

In Windows-based networks, it is possible to automate the client installation using the network login script. This may also be possible for Linux or Novell-controlled networks but the Linux/Novell server's administrator will need to adapt the following instructions to suite their environment. The instructions are not explicit but instead outline the approach and steps needed. **_These should only be undertaken by an experienced and skilled Systems Administrator._**

Installation Requirements

To create the automation:

- You will need **Domain Administrator privileges**.

- A network server and one client PC upon which Stages 1 - 5 of the Network Installation instructions have been performed. _Stage 3 need only be applied to one client PC for the purposed of the automation_.

Important!
These instructions assume that all users of the Primary ICT software 'see' the server installation in the same place, e.g. have access to the same set of shares using the same share names/drive mappings. If this is not the case, you will need to perform these automation steps for each group(s) of users as dictated by the variations of share names/drive mappings between groups of users.

Automation Approach and Steps

Automating the client installation is done as follows:

1. Take a copy of the files and folders created on the client PC during Stage 3 of the Network Installation instructions, and store these in a suitable location on the server. This location does not have to be accessible by all network users, only by "user" under whose privileges the Login script is executed.

   - Copy the '**Smart Learning**' folder and its contents from the chosen location on the local drive, typically '**C:\Program Files**'.

2. Edit the network login script for each group of network users that will be using the Primary ICT software, adding commands for copying the above collected folder and files to the same location on the client PC that they are logging into.

   - You can over-write an existing client installation every time a user logs in. While this does no harm, it will delay login unnecessarily. It is better to test for the presence of one of the files, for example the .exe file, then copy if not present (or make the copying of each file individually conditional).

3. Update the user's Start Menu and/or desktop shortcuts using either Windows' built-in account control facilities, or the proprietary desktop/environment control software you have already in place on the network.

   - If you are not specifically controlling user's environments from the server, you can put a copy of the desktop shortcut on all client PCs in the '**All Users**' group. This can also be done via the network login script.

     - In Windows XP, this folder is: **C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Desktop**
     - In Windows Vista / 7, this folder is: **C:\Users\All Users\Desktop**

4. Speed Up for entering teachers, classes and pupils in multiple standalone installation scenarios

A standalone installation is designed to work in isolated with no reference to any other PC irrespective of whether the PC is in a network or not. If you are using a set of standalone PCs, such as a set of laptops that are stored on a trolley and are not networked, or you do not have a server in your network so have to install the software as standalone, you will need to set up all Teachers, Classes and Pupils individually on all the PCs – a laborious exercise.

By way of a time saver, it is possible to enter the Teachers, Classes and Pupils only once and then copy this information to the other standalone installations. You will however still have to install the software itself on all the standalone PCs individually, using the CD ROMs supplied.

Important!
All PCs must have the same year groups installed to use this speed up on them.

Important!
If you wish to install additional year groups at a later date, you should do this as per Stage 2 of the relevant Standalone Installation instructions.

To use this time saver:

1. Install the software on all PCs by following Stages 1 & 2 of the relevant Standalone Installation instructions above.

2. Perform Stage 3 on only one of the PCs.

3. On this same PC, enter the Teachers, Classes and Pupils using the software's Administration screens, covering all Teachers and Pupils who will be using the software.

4. On this same PC, locate the software's installation folder (chosen during Stage 1) and then navigate to the '**Smart Learning\Data\DB**' folder and copy the contents of the '**DB**' folder to a memory stick.

5. Go round all the other PCs, locate the software's installation folder (chosen during Stage 1) and then navigate to the '**Smart Learning\Data\DB**' folder and copy files same files back from the memory stick into the '**DB**' folder. If prompted, choose to replace the existing files.

Note:
You will need to go round all PCs to collect assessment results (if wanted) and combine them manually.