

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR SCHOOLS USING THE SCOMIS SIMS HOSTED APPLICATION SERVICE (OTHERWISE KNOWN AS SIMS TERMINAL SERVER)

EXTENDED SUPPORT FOR WINDOWS XP, SERVER 2003 AND OFFICE 2003

Recently Capita announced that end of support for these products would be Autumn 2012, but due to feedback from LA's and schools they have now extended support to **Summer 2013** for Windows Server 2003 and **Autumn 2013** for Windows XP and Office 2003.

However, the extended support comes with this caveat from Capita:

Please note that all of the above are already in a period of Microsoft Extended Support. This means that whilst we will test our software against the above Microsoft products, there may be cases where it is not possible to provide a fix as it will be reliant on a solution being delivered on the basis of 'reasonable endeavours.'

Scomis are in the process of upgrading our servers to a Windows 2008 platform. The cost for this is included in the charge for hosting your data. **As you are using SIMS in our Hosted Application environment, you do not need to upgrade your workstations to accommodate these changes.**

The Hosted Application Service will be upgraded to Microsoft Office 2010 in the Easter 2012 break. This will mean that any data exported to Word or Excel from SIMS will appear in Word or Excel 2010 format.

It is the school's responsibility to make sure that any workstation using Microsoft Office 2010 via SIMS Terminal Server is licensed to do so. You may therefore need to purchase Office 2010 licences for use after the upgrade if you haven't already done so.

PLEASE NOTE: Scomis do not hold an inventory of Microsoft licences bought by schools and individual schools are responsible for ensuring that they hold sufficient licences and to keep/maintain their own licence inventory.

Client Access Licences can be purchased at £11.00 per workstation but this licence does not extend to using Office 2010 outside of the Hosted Application Service.

If you wish to install Office 2010 on the workstations in order to use it outside of the Hosted Application Service, full Office licences can be purchased from Scomis and currently cost:

Office 2010 Pro £31.77 per workstation.
Office 2010 Std £24.86 per workstation.
Installation CD's are available at £9.72.

Other Microsoft licence models are available.

OFFICE 2010 Training

Office 2010 training is currently available – click here <http://training.scomis.org/office-2010/> to see details of the course. Extra training courses can be scheduled at alternative venues if required. Please register your interest by e-mailing scomis@devon.gov.uk.

ACTIONS FOR THE SCHOOL:

Please make sure you have Office 2010 licences before Easter 2012
Consider registering interest in Office 2010 training

We have attached a flowchart which will be helpful in exploring which option is the best for your school.