



PROMETHEAN

"Be the best  
you can be"

ACTIVboards help  
Crosshill School to  
***'Be the Best'***

- >> Lessons are positively vibrant
- >> Pupils love the interactive whiteboards
- >> Motivation is improved



Headteacher Mike Hatch

Crosshill School in Blackburn is a special school for children between the ages of four and sixteen who have difficulties in learning. The school takes children who have been, or are in the process of being statemented under the 1981 Education Act as having special education needs. Pupils are taught in small groups and once staff have found out what they can do, they build upon their successes to encourage progress. They follow the same curriculum as mainstream primary and secondary schools which is suitably adapted to the individual pupil needs.

### Moving On

By the time students reach the age of 13 planning for their future after leaving school has already begun. Crosshill has excellent links with Blackburn College, where students attend for two days a week when they are in their last two years at the school. At College they work towards achieving NVQs in a variety of vocational skills.

The school motto for Crosshill is simply **'Be The Best You Can Be'**, and Headteacher Mike Hatch is proud of the fact that Crosshill is continually helping pupils towards achieving this goal.

Mr Hatch says, **"We have a wonderful learning environment here at Crosshill School, both staff and pupils are creative in their approach when it comes to using our interactive whiteboards."**

Crosshill has a number of Promethean *ACTIVboards* installed throughout the school, plus one mobile system which is used daily in assemblies. These assemblies are extremely interactive with whole group involvement in the topic of the day. Pupils are encouraged to demonstrate their dexterity, abilities and knowledge through challenging and supporting each other using games and presentations at the whiteboard.

### On Safari

Staff are true advocates of the *ACTIVboards* and use them on a cross-curricular basis daily. When deputy head Mr Ian Maddison could not take his pupils to a watering hole in Africa to see lions, he did the next best thing.

**Using the internet and ACTIVboard, and viewing via a live webcam he took the whole class to a watering hole in Africa to see real live lions.**

"I like to use the internet on the whiteboard."

"The impact of teaching *ACTIVboards* is the sustained interest in the whole class."

"Our children love using the interactive whiteboards."

"They all want to be the one with the pen."

"I like the colours and sounds we have in our lessons."

"Lessons are positively interesting."

"Pupils enjoy the lively multimedia presentations on the boards."

Pupil motivation is essential to Crosshill and the *ACTIVboards* are enabling the school to develop this further. Both staff and pupils use the boards and daily use of the internet for lesson content is evident. Pupils are keen internet users and through their own surfers club they enjoy experimenting with the functionality of *ACTIVstudio* to liven things up even further.

### Major Award

Crosshill is the first school in the UK to be awarded the status of '**Community Special School**' by the DfES. With this award comes additional funding of £1.25 million which will mean major modifications to enable the school to encompass the wider community, meaning the doors would be open from 8am to 8pm.

### Childs Play

Miss Pinder's recent accident meant she had to have time off work to recover. The simplicity of *ACTIVboards* meant that upon returning to school the pupils made sure she was kept up to date with what they had been learning, and they even explained a few of the finer points of text manipulation.



Pictured are pupils helping Miss Pinder get back into the swing of things.



"It makes lessons fun"

## About Crosshill School

Crosshill school is set in its own grounds overlooking the town of Blackburn and has extensive playgrounds with an up to the minute computer suite complete with colour co-ordinated carpets, furnishings and interactive whiteboard. The school was opened in 1975 and is progressing from strength to strength. Making academic progress is not the only aim for pupils at the school, the staff believe that it is their responsibility to educate young people about themselves and the world in which they live. The whole school buzzes with a vibrant atmosphere and both staff and pupils are positive about their approach to teaching and learning.



## About Promethean

Promethean is dedicated to the development and supply of ICT solutions that can be used as teaching tools in the classroom to accelerate learning gains across the whole curriculum. Based around the world's most advanced whiteboard/software combination, which is designed and manufactured in the UK, Promethean's systems create an interactive teaching environment that enables multimedia delivery to whole class groups.

Solutions include: **ACTIVboard (Interactive Whiteboards), Videoconferencing (codex and peripherals), wide format displays for data and video, multimedia software, all encompassing solutions for presentations, education, training, collaborative working, distance and flexible learning.**

[www.promethean.co.uk](http://www.promethean.co.uk)



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