

Technical considerations for schools hosting Ultranet internally

The following information and associated cost implications relate to the installation and operation of Ultranet on a local school server (i.e. not applicable to schools opting for the hosted Ultranet solution).

Database Software

- Ultranet stores some core data in a Microsoft SQL Server database. If the school already has other applications using SQL Server then Ultranet will co-exist with these.
- If the school does not have Microsoft SQL Server then this will need to be installed before the Ultranet website can be set up. Three recommended editions of SQL Server are available:

SQL Edition	Express 2008*	Workgroup 2005/2008	Standard 2005/2008
Number of CPUs	1	2	4
RAM	1 GB	4 GB	OS maximum
Database Size	4 GB	No Limit	No Limit
Applications	Single	Single	Multiple
Processor License	Free	Approx \$1,700	Approx \$3,900

* **SQL Server Express 2008 with Advanced Services.** If running with SQL Express, **Windows Installer 4.5** and **Powershell 1.0** will also need to be downloaded and installed.

Note that there are limits on the size of the database and the number of users SQL Express can manage. As the number of users and the level of usage grows, performance begins to progressively deteriorate until eventually it is necessary to upgrade to the full version of the product. The larger the school and the greater the length of time Ultranet has been running, the more likely it is that SQL Server Express will no longer be able to cope with demands.

For large schools starting with SQL Server Express, we recommend budgeting for an upgrade to SQL Server Workgroup or Standard edition at a future point in time.

Server Hardware

From a performance and security perspective, best practice is to host Ultranet and SQL Server on a dedicated web server. We recognise that this may not be achievable given cost constraints. However, as Ultranet is a web application viewable from outside the school, we do recommend that schools discuss the security implications of this with their ICT Manager or support provider.

NOTE: Ultranet cannot be installed on a Windows Domain Controller or ISA Server. For security reasons, it is strongly advised not to install Ultranet on the Microsoft Exchange Server.

Server Technical Requirements

	Minimum Specifications	Recommended Specifications
CPU	Xeon (2.0Ghz), or Dual Core (1.8Ghz)	Quad Core (1.8Ghz)
Memory	3 GB RAM	4 GB RAM
HardDisk Space	40 GB free	80 GB free
Operating System	Windows Server 2003 SP2	Windows Server 2008 SP1
.NET Version	ASP .NET Framework 3.5	ASP .NET Framework 3.5