

## Berkhamsted School



### Microsoft Office Specialist Success Story (July 2015)

**Berkhamsted School** is one of Britain's leading independent schools, with over 470 years of history and tradition. It is a Day and Boarding school offering both single sex (from age 11 - 16) and co-educational teaching for boys and girls aged 3 - 18. The School is based on four sites situated in and around the historic town of Berkhamsted in Hertfordshire, a prosperous community surrounded by Chiltern countryside, and within easy reach of London.

**Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS)** is the world's most recognised computing qualification for proving a person's skills and abilities in Microsoft Office. Berkhamsted School took the decision to introduce MOS in 2013 with the vision of allowing students (predominantly Years 8 and 9) to develop and improve productivity in software used throughout the School, whilst providing them with a globally recognised certification.



*Andrew Griggs (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) presents the Centre of Excellence plaque to Simon Robinson with Laura Knight, Natascia Mateu-Bueso and Steve Redman.*

The School recently received the **Prodigy Learning Centre of Excellence Award** to mark the delivery of over 250 IT certifications in the year and high standards of achievement.

In total the School completed 386 exams in their first year as a Testing Centre which is a huge achievement by students and staff. Such has been the success of MOS that the School have now begun to deliver Outlook training and certification to staff to support CPD. The first staff candidates to achieve MOS certification in Outlook are now working to achieve MOS Master certification.

**Simon Robinson** (Head of Science and IT, Berkhamsted School) had praise for the School's achievement: *"At Berkhamsted, we believe it is very important to equip our students with the skills and qualifications they need for higher education and the world of employment. The introduction of MOS certification has been a great success and helps us achieve this aim."*

**Andrew Griggs** (Senior Account Manager, Prodigy Learning) said: *"Centre of Excellence is a fantastic achievement and aspiration for all of our testing centres. It is a privilege to visit the School to recognise this success. All credit to Simon and his colleagues for the enthusiasm and effort they have put into establishing MOS. This is clear throughout the School and the results truly speak for themselves."*