

Alps Digital Support Package

Welcome to Alps

We are delighted that you have decided to join us. The purpose of this digital document is to give you an overview of what you can expect both from your Alps analysis and of us as a support team.

The document contains links and references to the various resources you might need across the Academic Year, but in particular it will support you in getting started.

- 1. Logging in and setting up your staff access to Connect**
- 2. The system – how Connect Data and Connect Interactive work**
- 3. Training your staff**
 - a. Alps Methodology**
 - b. Target setting**
 - c. Using Connect Interactive**
- 4. Analysing your examination results**
 - a. Using the PDF Report**
 - b. Subject Review through Connect Interactive**
- 5. Monitoring across the year – getting the most from Connect Interactive**
 - a. Setting up Connect Data for monitoring in the year ahead**
 - b. In-year monitoring – Questions to ask of your data**
- 6. Embedding Alps – Principles and philosophy underpinning Alps in high performing schools**

The Power of Alps

Alps is used by over 1400 state and independent schools and colleges in the UK and in the International sector. School leaders use the analysis to foster ambition and aspiration across their schools, inspiring students to attain outcomes that give them access to the best Universities and further training opportunities.

The power of the Alps system is in its simplicity of use. The Alps thermometer is easy to understand, providing a visual aid for every indicator in your analysis and showing you the progress being made by your students.

None of us came into teaching because we love data, and there are many of us who are data phobic. The power behind the use of the Alps thermometer is that you don't necessarily have to understand the numbers sitting behind it. If you want to, you can read about the methodology, but the beauty of Alps analysis is that you don't have to.

Driving the Alps culture across a school is made so much simpler by focusing on the position of the arrow on the thermometer. If it is in the red zone – great. The conversation between senior staff and subject leaders can focus on how to retain the high standards. A blue zone grade instigates a different conversation, but one focused on subject improvement and identifying steps that would lead us up the thermometer rather than using it as an accountability 'stick'.

With Connect Interactive, the conversation can move further from the numbers with your data phobic staff. The 'What If' tool calculates the number of grades required to move up the thermometer, a simple bit of drag and drop that puts the students right in the centre of the conversation rather than it becoming dominated by a series of numbers.

In summary, the thermometer gives you a visual progress aid that clears the data fog for many of our colleagues allowing them to spend more of their time using the analysis to impact on their students.

Establishing your Alps Champion

In most successful Alps schools and colleges there is one person, usually, but not always, a member of the SLT, who is responsible for driving the Alps culture across the year.

Their role varies but may include the development of the quality assurance cycles in terms of assessment and progress. They will be the first to analyse and dissect the latest Alps monitoring input in Connect Interactive. They will reflect on the effectiveness of the cycle across the Academic Year, redesigning and rethinking it where necessary.

This person will prompt colleagues to carry out a detailed analysis of progress being made by students in their subject area/tutor groups after every data drop in line with the Quality Assurance Cycle. They are likely to be the person who meets all subject leaders to discuss implications resulting from the analysis and the next steps.

These 'Alps Champions' will oversee the implementation of intervention strategies with students, ensuring that they are making the best progress that they can. They will monitor communication home to parents/carers and ensure that quality conversations are being held in a regular and effective way with the students themselves.

Ask an 'Alps Champion' anything about progress across their school and you will get a detailed and accurate response.

Resource and Support from Alps

Throughout this digital guide there are many links and references to support material. There are three main places to find this information:

1. The Alps website - <https://alps.education/>

you will find some general material on the main website pages.

2. Alps Champions webpage - <https://alps.education/champions/>

This is accessible from your Connect Homepage in the Resources section. You will find all of the PowerPoint and Checklist resources here

3. The Knowledge Base - <https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us>

This is the support section accessible from your Connect Homepage.

You can click on the HELP button on the bottom of your Connect Interactive/Connect Data screen or you can press the 'Knowledge Base' button. Type in some key words or a question and you will find all related articles pop up.

4. Emailing one of our Alps Teams

- a. Our Education Team – education@alps.education - we are all former Senior Leaders in schools and colleges. We can support you in discussing questions related to your analysis.
- b. Our Customer Support Team – support@alps.education – highly skilled in the manipulation of data and in the submission process, this is our team of experts who are there to support the person responsible for data upload.

Starting Your Year With Alps – where to start?

Once your activation process is complete, you will be able to set up user accounts for staff and submit data to Connect Interactive. This is done via Connect Data and the following pages detail the steps that you should follow.

1. Logging in and setting up your staff access to Connect

Your main Connect account holder is the Principal/Headteacher. Alps staff will have set this person up as the main administrator of the system.

Ideally, the login details will be passed to the Data Manager or similar, who can then set up user access for all other staff in the school.

ACCESS	KNOWLEDGE BASE LINK	NOTES
Changing permissions	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360012633551-How-do-I-change-user-permissions-	Adding/changing who are your admin users and therefore have access to Connect Data
Add new users / bulk add users	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360012399552-How-do-I-add-new-users-	Setting your teaching staff up with Connect Interactive access
Delete users	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360010434252-How-do-I-delete-a-user-	Deleting Connect users

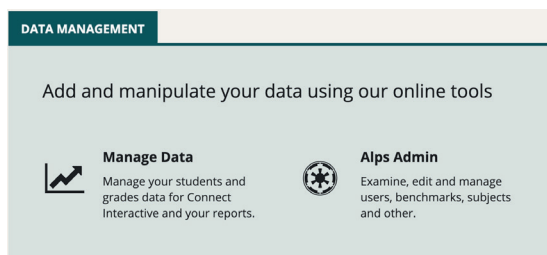
2. The System – how Connect Data and Connect Interactive work

Connect Interactive is the online platform which allows all staff to access their data analysis. There are 4 areas of Connect Interactive, all of which are accessible from the Connect Homepage. All staff can have access, and at present there is no differentiation in the analysis that they can see once logged in.

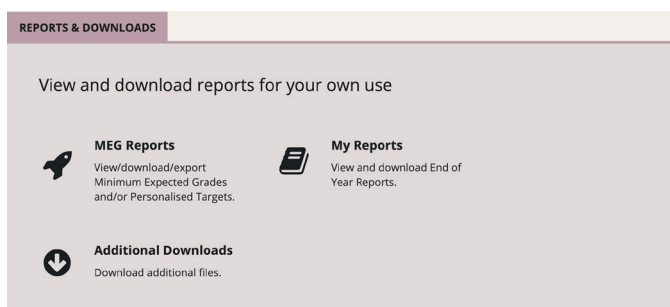
Connect Interactive users cannot alter any of the data in the system. This is restricted to your admin users with Connect Data access only.



Connect Data – is the system accessible to your admin users only. It is the way in which all student data is added to Connect Interactive. Your admin users can manage users from here and add different settings to your analysis.



Admin users will also be able to download PDF Reports from examination submission and MEG Reports (target setting section).



3. Training Your Staff

a. Alps Methodology

i. PowerPoint resource to use with staff: Methodology and target setting

This is designed to support you in training your staff. All PowerPoint resources will be available through your secure login on our website. The PowerPoint contains notes to act as a guide when you carry out the training.

b. Target setting

i. Setting Aspirational Targets – Webinar for SLT

(this is found on the Training Hub of the website)

Provides an introduction to the target setting process to support you as you start off with Alps in September. The webinar will take you through the generation of MEGs and in the methodology surrounding the setting of aspirational personalised targets with staff and students at the subject level.

ii. Aspirational Target Setting Checklist

The starting point if you want a quick guide to getting target data out of your Connect Data subscription as quickly as possible in August.

iii. PowerPoint resource to use with staff: Methodology and target setting (as above)

This is designed to support you in training your staff. All PowerPoint resources will be available through your secure login on our website. The PowerPoint contains notes to act as a guide when you carry out the training.

iv. Briefing Paper - [Using Alps to set aspirational targets with students \(PDF\)](#)

c. Using Connect Interactive

i. Webinar – Getting started with Connect Interactive

A webinar designed for staff to watch in their own time which will introduce them to the basics of Connect Interactive.

ii. Webinar – Advance use of Connect Interactive

A more detailed look into Connect Interactive, including the strategic section and the monitoring accuracy.

iii. Connect Interactive Workbook

A series of tasks for staff to work through, designed to help them see how to get the most out of the tools in Connect Interactive.

4. Analysing your Examination Results

a. Using the PDF Report

i. PowerPoint Resource: Getting the most from your PDF Examination Report (A Level) at a strategic, subject and student level

ii. The Subject Review Checklist

b. Subject Review through Connect Interactive

i. Briefing Paper - [A guide to subject review in Connect Interactive \(PDF\)](#)

ii. Webinar: The Strategic section of Connect Interactive

iii. The Subject Review Checklist

iv. Staff Checklists (see below section 6)

5. Monitoring Across the Year – getting the most from Connect Interactive

a. Setting up Connect Data

i. Adding Examination Results

To begin with, you will need to add results from the last examination series, then order your reports.

Use the table below to set up your cohorts and submit examination data.

SUBMITTING EXAMINATION RESULTS		
LED BY DATA MANAGER		KNOWLEDGE BASE LINKS
In Connect Data – COHORT TAB	Create your cohort for previous academic year – ie last year's Year 13. In Cohort screen remember to add to the previous academic year row.	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360029514911-Setting-up-your-Year-Group
	Input prior attainment – GCSE average point score.	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360029515631-Import-prior-attainment
	Add teaching data – subjects students are studying. NOTE: Teaching sets and teacher names are optional. Teaching sets will add detail to your Connect Interactive analysis.	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360029201572-Add-Teaching-Data
	ADD CUSTOM GROUPS You can import customised performance groups into Connect Interactive. This allows you to track their progress as a comparison group.	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360002022397-Adding-custom-columns
In Connect Data – GRADEPOINTS TAB	Use the Academic Year drop down to select the previous examination series. Click Add Exam Results and follow the wizard instructions.	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360029515671-Import-your-Exam-Results
Order your reports	Once you have completed the exam import wizard, you should navigate to the Oder Reports page and follow instructions	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360029201832

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ii. Adding monitoring data

SETTING UP YEAR GROUPS FOR IN-YEAR MONITORING		
LED BY DATA MANAGER		KNOWLEDGE BASE LINKS
In Connect Data – COHORT TAB	Create your cohort, eg Year 12.	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360029514911-Setting-up-your-Year-Group
In Connect Data – COHORT TAB	Input prior attainment – GCSE average point score.	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360029515631-Import-prior-attainment
In Connect Data – COHORT TAB	Add teaching data – subjects students are studying. NOTE: Teaching sets and teacher names are optional. Teaching sets will add detail to your Connect Interactive analysis.	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360029201572-Add-Teaching-Data
In Connect Data – COHORT TAB	ADD CUSTOM GROUPS You can import customised performance groups into Connect Interactive. This allows you to track their progress as a comparison group.	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360002022397-Adding-custom-columns
In Connect Data – GRADEPOINTS TAB	Create a new monitoring point. Input monitoring data.	https://alps.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360029201672-Import-your-Monitoring-Grades

b. In-year Monitoring – Questions to ask of your data

- i. Alps Checklist to Monitoring: This is the checklist to get you started with your monitoring for your year groups in September. There are links to the relevant Connect Data articles to support you in setting things up for each of your Year Groups
- ii. The MPZ - Briefing paper - [Establishing a monitoring point in September-the MPZ \(PDF\)](#)
- iii. Connect Interactive Briefing paper - [Making an impact using Connect Interactive \(PDF\)](#)

6. Embedding Alps – the principles and philosophy underpinning Alps in high performing schools

a. PowerPoint Resources: Embedding Alps into your culture

b. Staff checklists

- *Senior Leader's Checklist*
- *Subject Leader's Checklist*
- *Subject Teacher's Checklist*
- *Pastoral Leader's Checklist*

c. Alps Cycle: available to download from the website <https://alps.education/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Alps-Annual-Cycle.pdf>

d. Jumeirah College Case Study: <https://alps.education/case-studies/exceeding-expectations-with-alps-analysis-and-connect-interactive-at-jumeirah-college/>