
This article discusses the theoretical links between motivation and learning and the use of information technology that arose during the evaluation, by both teachers and pupils, of the effects upon teaching and learning of the installation of an extensive new computer network in their secondary school. The initial questionnaire was completed by 69 of the staff and a stratified, random sample comprising 161 of the pupils. Those originally surveyed were sent to follow up questionnaire at the end of the year. Responses to the questions were grouped by similarity into categories and these categories were related to theories of motivation and learning. Findings of the study show that both pupils and teachers reported a wider variety of effects of the installation of the computer network upon their learning than in its effects upon their teaching. The most common comment by teachers about changes in pupils’ learning reports their increased motivation in lessons. A change that was noted by both teachers and pupils in both questionnaires is the change in type of tasks set for the pupils to more open, independent learning assignments, which have given them more control over the task than in a task with a fixed structure detailed by the teacher. When observed using a multimedia CD-ROM, pupils could be seen to follow the hypertext links seeking pictures, sound effects and more information as the interest arose. The observation that pupils are paying more attention to presentation of their work and that presentation of their work and that presentation has improved since the installation of the computers network is made by both staff and pupils in both the surveys. The authors argue that the installation of a computer network in a secondary school results in improved teaching and learning and increased enjoyment of learning in the school with both pupils and teachers viewing the use of IT as beneficial to learning. These can be justified theoretically using Behavioural, Cognitive and Social Constructivist theories of motivation and learning.

**Keywords:** IT; Secondary education; Teaching- Learning strategies; Multimedia; Pedagogical theories; Network; England.