

ponder



Online assembly resource for Secondary Schools





What Is Ponder ?

Ponder is an online assembly resource that has been developed over the past 10 years so that it provides high quality acts of reflection that can be facilitated by anyone within a Secondary School.

As a Senior leader in three very different secondary schools and in my position as Head of two of them, I was often frustrated by the inconsistent use of registration time and delivery of daily worship. Ponder was developed to address this and provide engaging, meaningful acts of worship and reflection for young people. Two years ago we took Ponder online and made it available to schools throughout the country on a subscription basis.

Ponder harnesses the power of the internet, using video clips and activities to make worship relevant and engaging. Each theme contains five different stimuli with discussion questions. In addition, each theme is supported with a Bible verse, prayer, short reflection and quote to frame the discussion.

Activities are kept varied to sustain student interest and enables schools to select the ones most appropriate for their pupils. If necessary, every session can be delivered without any preparation with facilitators simply clicking their way through the programme. With Ponder there is no excuse for poor quality, inconsistent acts of worship.

Ponder and it's predecessors have been tried and tested in both Church and Community Schools. It has received very positive feedback from SIAMs and Ofsted.

Ponder is unique, providing resources for every day of every week of the school year*

Please don't just take our word for it. You will find two themes on our website that we invite you to try out with your students. We have also restructured our subscription packages so that schools don't have to commit to a full year's subscription from the start. We are confident that once the programme is introduced across the school it will transform daily worship.

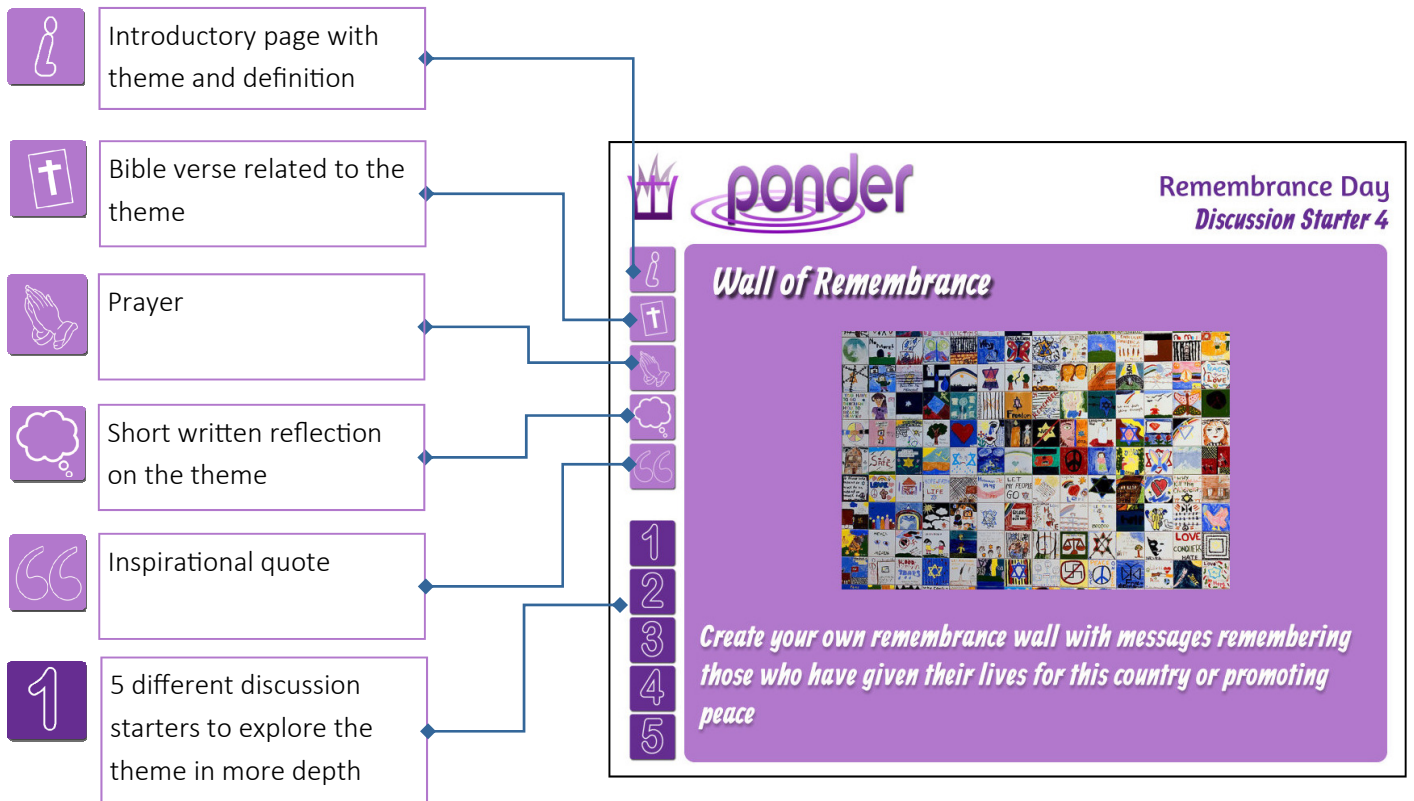
Why Choose Ponder?

- ◆ No preparation needed
- ◆ Engaging and relevant discussion starters
- ◆ Consistent, varied and high quality
- ◆ 2 Years of material currently available
- ◆ New material published each term
- ◆ Pages customised so schools have ownership
- ◆ Distinctive and positive sessions
- ◆ Available just 5 days from ordering
- ◆ Flexible subscription packages

The School Distinctiveness Company

The School Distinctiveness Company was started by Steve & Hilary Dobson in July 2013 with the aim of supporting schools in enhancing their distinctiveness. Steve has been a Headteacher in two Secondary Schools receiving outstanding feedback on his work on Christian Distinctiveness, especially programmes such as Ponder. Together Steve & Hilary have over 50 years of experience in schools as well as over 25 years in Youth Work.





How Ponder Works

Ponder is an online resource and can be used anywhere that there is an internet connection. When a school subscribes to **Ponder**, their subscription lasts for 12 months. A unique link will be provided with a host page from which the subscription modules can be accessed. In addition, all pages will be 'badged' with the school logo. Giving you some ownership over the programme.

Each Ponder module is split into 8 different themes with five **discussion starters** designed to provide at least a week's worth of material for schools. Whoever facilitates the worship session can simply flick their way through the pages in any sequence. We envisage that schools may use the **verses** and **prayers** daily and supplement them with one of the discussion starters but how you make use of the resource is up to you.

Each **discussion starter** includes a video or activity to get students thinking. These are supplemented with a number of questions aimed at stimulating discussion among group. Typically the activities may include a **film clip** or **music video**, both age appropriate to all

secondary aged pupils, along with other **thinking skill activities**.

The material is further supplemented with our unique **Worzles**, short powerpoint based quizzes based on the theme. These are designed to be fun, engaging and give a basis for further discussion. These activities require a quick download and are run separately from the main programme.

This year we are introducing a new modular approach to Ponder enabling schools to subscribe to modules relevant to their context. The themes are drawn from **values**, **Christian Festivals**, **World Faiths** and **issue awareness**. These can all be explored within a Christian context but can also be broadened to reflect more general viewpoints.

Ponder is designed to be varied, engaging and a positive approach to corporate worship. It has the power to bring consistency across the school enabling anyone to deliver high quality worship sessions. We invite you to try it out and find out for yourselves.



Modules

The following modules contain material that we have published over the past two years. Each term we add at least one other module to our programme.

Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4
Values 1	Values 2	Values 3	Christian Festivals
Excellence	Faithfulness	Patience	Advent
Honesty	Contentment	Stewardship	Christmas
Consideration	Commitment	Community	Lent
Contribution	Resilience	Generosity	Easter
Gratitude	Love	Judging Others	Pentecost
Perseverance	Happiness	Collaboration	Ascension Day
Equality	Caring	Positivity	Epiphany
Reverence	Prayer	Mercy	Trinity Sunday

Module 5	Module 6	Module 7	Module 8
Values 1	Values 2	Values 3	Issues
Thankfulness	Compassion	Justice	Remembrance Day
Humility	Peace	Hope	World AIDS Day
Endurance	Determination	Koinonia	Black History Month
Service	Trust	Forgiveness	Holocaust Memorial
Leadership	Courage	Responsibility	Fair Trade
Respect	Joy	Kindness	International Day of Peace
Integrity	Faith	Self-Control	Anti-Bullying
Aspiration	Charity	Friendship	World Book Day

Subscriptions

Ponder is a subscription based programme. To subscribe, please send an email to steve@schooldistinctiveness.co.uk or download an order for from our website at www.schooldistinctiveness.co.uk

Subscription Rates			
	Single Modules (8 themes)	Three Modules (24 themes)	Five Modules (40 themes)
Small Schools (up to 699 students)	£200	£550	£850
Medium Schools (700-1100 students)	£250	£700	£1075
Large Schools (Over 1100 students)	£300	£850	£1300

SPECIAL OFFER

10%

Discount

On all 2015/16
subscriptions taken out
before the 30th June
2015

Terms And Conditions:

1. Ponder is an online subscription service. All material is copyrighted to the School distinctiveness Company with the exception of video clips and Bible verses. All video clips are freely available via Youtube and remain the copyright of the originators. 2. Access to individual modules will remain in place for 12 months from the date of purchase before removal unless previously agreed with us. 3. All licenses required for showing video clips remains the responsibility of the school. 4. Removal of firewall restrictions, where necessary, remains the responsibility of the school. 5. None of the material, including Worzles, should be distributed without prior consent, in writing, from the School Distinctiveness Company.