Recommended server spec for Firefly

Firefly should run fine on most reasonably modern servers, however, some schools have asked us for a list of recommended specifications when installing Firefly to a fresh server. Every configuration is different, however we recommend the following as a guideline to ensure optimal performance:

Hardware requirements

Hard disk: We suggest a minimum of 80Gb of hard disk space to begin with. Whilst the basic Firefly software itself will use only approximately 40Mb, further space will quickly become needed as the site grows and more resources are uploaded.

Processor: Most recent processors, e.g. Intel Xeon, will suffice. For optimal performance, however, we recommend a dual-core model or greater.

RAM: 2Gb minimum, 4Gb recommended if running SQL Server on same host.

Firefly will run equally well on either a physical or virtual server, including 64-bit machines. Schools with virtualised environments are advised to run Firefly on its own virtual machine, as this helps avoid any potential conflicts with other services running on the server.

Software requirements

Your server should be running Windows Server 2008 or higher, and should have the following components installed/enabled:

- NET Framework 4.0 or higher
- SQL Server 2005 with Advanced Services (enable Full Text Search), or higher
- IIS 7 or higher
- ASP.NET enabled (version 3.5 or higher)
- Static Content enabled
- Windows Authentication enabled