Developer Documentation

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Let's talk about our docs

Developer Docs ~~and User Docs~~

- All in MediaWiki

- Linked to moodle.org user accounts

- (Almost) anyone can edit

- Content editing is relatively straightforward

- One of the *most* important parts of our onboarding process and continuing DX

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Let's talk about our docs

Developer Docs ~~and User Docs~~

- Content dates back over fifteen years
- Issues with discoverability (navigating to content)
- Search features are poor
- Easy to get lost in content (in-page navigation)
- Lack of structure (~90% of docs at root)
- Lack of spell checking, linting
- Uses Wikitext when almost everything these days uses MarkDown (familiarity for authors)
- Manual content import
- Documentation not versioned to Moodle releases
- Content not reviewed often
- Offline availability

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The benefits of change

Some of the benefits

- Offline support
- Review of documentation before it lands
- Block integration of new features until documentation exists
  - Write documentation as you go and submit at the same time
- Easy bulk changes
- BYO Editor
- Higher quality documentation
- Version-specific documentation

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Before you ask…

- Won't this lead to less contribution?
  - We hope not
  - Regular contributors will be given more permissions
- What about people who don't use Git?
  - Small number of people in the context of devdocs
  - A good skill to learn for Moodle development anyway
  - GitPod, GitHub Editing UI, etc.
- How can I help?
  - Go through the issues list and grab good-first-issues
  - Go through the existing documentation and mark pages obsolete

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Questions

Empowering educators to improve our world