Sample statement for students:

“The plagiarism detection service is an online service that enables institutions and staff to carry out electronic comparison of students’ work against electronic sources including other students’ work. The service is managed by iParadigms Europe Ltd in Newcastle upon Tyne is available to all UK tertiary education institutions by subscription.

The plagiarism detection service works by executing searches of the world wide web, and extensive databases of reference material, as well as content previously submitted by other users.

Each new submission is compared with all the existing information.

The software makes no decisions as to whether a student has plagiarised, it simply highlights sections of text that are duplicated in other sources. All work will continue to be reviewed by the course tutor.

Once work has been submitted to the system it becomes part of the ever growing database of material against which subsequent submissions are checked.

The software is used as a tool to highlight any instance where there is a possible case of plagiarism. Passages copied directly or very closely from existing sources will be identified by the software and both the original and the potential copy will be displayed for the tutor to view. Where any direct quotations are relevant and appropriately referenced, the course tutor will be able to see this and will continue to consider the next highlighted case.”