**To customise the sidebar of your blog**

You can change the display in your blog sidebars by activating **Plugins** and then reordering how they display in **Widgets**. First go to the **Dashboard**.

1. In **Appearance** and **Theme Options** you may have the option to change the arrangement of columns.
2. In **Plugins** you can activate the extras you would like to use. I go for **AddThis Social Share**, **Akismet**, **Widget Pack** and **WP-Cumulus**. Just click on Activate. More about the **Widget Pack** here. Find more advanced widget options on [www.widgetbox.com](http://www.widgetbox.com) or [Edublogs Help.](http://help.edublogs.org/2009/08/06/widgets-available-to-different-edublogs-blog-users/)
3. Go back to **Appearance** and **Widgets**. Drag widgets from **Available Widgets** into **Main Sidebar**. Drag to reorder within the sidebar.
4. To add widgets from widgetbox.com or elsewhere that involve an embed code, you need to paste the code into a **Text Widget**:



1. My favourite sidebar line up includes **WP-Cumulus** for animated tags, Tag Cloud, **Recent Posts, Archives, Links, Categories, AddThisWidget, Subscribe by Email, Recent Comments** and also **Clustrmaps** and **Twitter** embedded as Text Widgets.
2. Make sure each of your blogposts has **Tags** and a **Category**.
3. Make sure your links are marked **Blogroll**.­­­­

Here’s an example of what your sidebar might look like:

