Class Autoloading and Namespaces

From Version 2.6, Moodle has supported autoloading and namespaces – see the 'Automatic Class Loading' page

(https://docs.moodle.org/dev/Automatic_class_loading)

continued

The class files must exist in the plugin's **classes/** folder or its subfolders and must follow certain rules to be autoloaded.

- Each class should reside in its own file and the namespace should follow the Frankenstyle convention *and* the filename must be the same as the class name. For example, the `checkinput()` class in the `webservice_bulkenrol` namespace would be in the file ***/web service/bulkenrol/classes/checkinput.php***.

- Namespaces are designed to improve code organisation and the directory structure in the **classes/** should match the namespace structure.

continued

- Namespaces are not required for any new code and there is no requirement to move non-namespaced classes to namespaces.

- In some cases, the use of autoloading classes is mandated, such as for raising events and, in other cases, such as developing external (web) services.

- Classes are cached and, therefore, when developing code, you will need to refresh the cache whenever you make changes unless you have debugging set.