

Overcoming challenges

Jason Sharp, ICT Teacher

Home learning has come into its own at Admiral Lord Nelson School as colleagues across the school changed how they work to accommodate those learning online as students prepare to return to school in September.

What has changed?

While there were some challenges at the beginning of the pandemic, staff at Admiral Lord Nelson School soon got to grips with virtual learning. Through the use of Google Classroom, student engagement soon increased as teachers began to adjust how they teach through technology.

In terms of ICT, the focus on more philosophical and ethical topics became commonplace including 'my life online,' a series of workshops based around online learning and safety that challenged students to think differently.

What we did

- Teachers designed their own strategies and projects over Google Classroom that worked for homeschooling
- Created 'my life online,' a series of philosophical debates that focused on online safety for students
- Taught 'ethics in IT' and the impact of automation on manufacturing and people's jobs
- Students created a presentation aimed at the elderly about the dangers of the internet and what to look out for
- Weekly phone calls to tutor group to check in and see how students are doing
- Reviewed existing IT curriculum to see how we could adapt it for online learning

The impact

- Feedback from parents/carers has been very positive as they have appreciated the interaction you get from a weekly call
- Student engagement has increased dramatically since introducing live lessons.
- Since year 10s have returned, productivity in the classroom has increased as students have missed the routine of learning.

Why do I teach in Portsmouth?

Since secondary school, I have always wanted to be a teacher. After studying a degree in physical education, I left after a while as it wasn't for me. I started working at Admiral Lord Nelson School as a teaching support assistant.

I've been at the school for 10 years and thanks to Essential Teaching UK, I will be a fully qualified teacher next year.

I live in Portchester and always have done. I think it's a nice place and friendly with great places to walk. Portsmouth is a great city – I'm really lucky to have it on my doorstep.

About the teacher training provider

Essential Teaching UK Ltd is a recognised education and training organisation delivering high quality training throughout the UK. Their aim is to inspire the next generation of teachers, inspirational teaching and learning is vital to helping every child succeed. They also specialise in 'Forces into Teaching' which encourages and supports armed forces personnel into teaching and development.

Want to find out more?

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