

Innovative technology for the classroom

Overview

The International School of London (ISL) Group consists of three private schools in London, Surrey and Qatar, all following an international curriculum. ISL's approach is characterised by a very innovative view of the role of technology in the classroom. To turn those ideas into reality, the Group has worked closely with Reflex (now part of ITEC).

The challenge

When it comes to the deployment of technology, ISL sets the bar high. The goal is to prepare children not just for the world as it is now but as it might be in 10 or 20 years. That means, in particular, encouraging children to be more than just passive consumers of technology. Above all, learning ought to be an active and collaborative experience.

In the words of Joris Deckers, who leads the Group's IT and Operations: "Our investment in technology always has an academic rationale. We really want to go beyond the level of giving everyone iPads and using collaborative cloud tools. It's all about identifying the right technology that can stimulate innovative ideas and new thinking."

The solution

The ISL Group includes a number of primary and secondary schools and the Group is especially interested in technology that aligns with students' natural curiosity and propensity to play and explore.

That prompted a decision to gradually move away from using projectors and whiteboards in the classrooms. The Group wanted to replace end of

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Joris Deckers, Group IT and Operations, ISL Group



life audio visual products with new touchscreen technology to further enhance the learning environment.

It was a natural evolution to enlist Reflex's help. Reflex (now part of ITEC) has taken care of ISL's printing requirements for a number of years and has even provided remote technical support to the school in Qatar. Joris Deckers' view of the Reflex service is positive: "They are prompt, quick and nothing is ever a problem."

Working with Reflex, the Group wanted to redefine the whole concept of large classroom displays for teaching and learning. ISL plumped for the Avacor interactive touch screens.

Avacor offers a precise and fast 10 touch response using high resolution infra-red touch. The key from ISL's perspective is that this technology encourages collaboration amongst students and the teacher, while pupils benefit from simultaneous writing capability.

Reflex engineers helped ISL overcome a number of installation challenges. Wall space was tight, the wall would not take the load bearing required to wall mount and the position of ceiling lights made it impossible to fit a projector mount. Reflex's solution was to provide a floor supported wall mount.

Interactive screens are now installed as standard throughout the Group. It is another example of ISL's determination to use technology to reshape its educational practice. The Group also uses a premium video conferencing solution for remote teaching. One of the promises is offering native language teaching for all students. So, for example, a student from the Netherlands attending the school in Qatar received lessons in his mother tongue by video conference from a teacher in London. The student in question passed the IB language exams with top marks.

About Itec

Itec provides agile managed print, IT, VoIP and document capture technology, expertly deployed and supported for smarter business outcomes. Itec has offices and facilities in Bournemouth, Bridgwater, Bristol, Exeter, London, Manchester, Plymouth and Redruth (Cornwall).

Contact the Itec Group UK

Book a meeting to discuss your needs

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Smarter Working

// Reflex/ITEC have helped us put in place technology that enables our students to become innovators and new thinkers. //

Agility

// The quality of support from Reflex/ITEC helps us get the maximum from our investment in technology. //