

## Engaging with the community and beyond using space education for the 21st Century - Hawley Hall High School

### Leading space education programme

#### Key actions

Through the leading space education programme, we aimed to increase the use of pupils using new technologies in particular the use of ICT within the classroom. This involved use of mini laptops, video recording, podcasting and videoconferencing with other organisations. In order to do this staff needed confidence and knowledge of what technologies are readily available within our school. The task began by liaising with ICT staff to find out what was available and receive training. We also aimed to increase our community links through going out into the community to local scout groups.

The use of mini laptops was introduced and pupils readily used these for research purposes with ease - this has benefited all pupils within the school in science as it meant more pupils can now use ICT without the need of an ICT suite. Many classes have completed projects using podcasting which we hope to upload to the website/Kaleidos in the near future. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed making these 'they're wicked' said one year 11 pupil. A small number of pupils, approximately 45, have now used videoconferencing facilities within the school which we hope to develop over the coming months and years. To begin with only the gifted and talented cohort was targeted but this has been slowly increased to include a whole middle ability class. This is starting to put science back on the map as an up-to the minute subject where pupils try all sorts of activities!

In the meantime we went out into the community (targeting local scout groups that had many pupils in year 6) to deliver help and support to obtain the astronomy badge.

#### Impact on lead and partners schools

All staff within science have taken on board the uses of new technologies and are now keen to use ICT more readily and with confidence within lessons as a real tool for improving pupils education. Websites and other various activities have been incorporated into schemes of work. All subjects are following suit and the school as a whole are now using the Kaleidos learning platform for homework's etc meaning pupils can access set work at home or in the library via the internet.

#### Impact on specialism

Our reputation within the community is ever increasing in a positive light, through going into the community. We now have a community coordinator who is building on our community links and is further increasing them.

#### Top tips

The first tip is \* Find out what your school already has! Your ICT specialists will know and your technicians are a godsend. They really know lots about what is out there!

The second is \* Get training on new technologies you're not familiar or comfortable with (Your ICT department is a great tool for this) - this will give you confidence in your classroom and trust me the students will take to it like ducks to water!

For videoconferencing there is tons of free stuff out there and many primary schools and high schools have these facilities so you can easily have competitions between schools and the best thing is this is usually free!!!

## The future

Videoconferencing is what we hope to continue to develop in the future now that staff are more confident with its use and we hope that other departments will opt to use these facilities.

We plan to continue reaching out into the community to deliver the astronomy badge but we have also passed on resources and ideas for the groups we have been to to aid them in delivering the astronomy badge in the future. We hope to go into Cub groups to help deliver other science related badges.

## Contact at school

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## Images from the programme

### Students get to grill NASA experts



### Video conferencing in the classroom



### Students at work

