

## **“Compelling case” studies**

*Studies to present the compelling case for all school pupils to have access to ICT and the Internet.*

### **Pupils teach themselves**

(This study is part of compelling case study “It will feel weird without my computer”.)

There is almost no limit to learning when the pupils start teaching themselves.

Soon the team of pupils that produce the school’s weekly video bulletin will have to find some new members to join them. Alice (Reporter) and Peter (Technical, Director) will be going to secondary school next term. The rest of the team – Sarah (Script Producer), Tom (Technician), Janette (Camera Operator) and Hannah (Reporter) - are determined that whoever joins the team to replace these two must be as committed and enthusiastic as they are. The team are excellent role models for the other pupils and expect to have no shortage of yr 5 and yr 6 pupils wanting to be a part of the group.

With almost no help from any of the teachers, the team produce a weekly video bulletin reporting on what has been going on in the school. They work on this most lunchtimes and sometimes after school, videoing interviews with pupils and teachers and gathering and editing video taken by others, such as that taken on the recent school trip to a farm.

Whenever technical challenges arise they work out themselves how best to do what they want to, with only occasional advice from one of the teachers. For example they now do voice-overs and dub music into the bulletin.

The resulting bulletins are very professionally produced and much enjoyed by all the pupils, who can see them by logging onto the school’s online platform. This means the bulletins are also available for parents to see, helping to engage them with the life of the school.

As well as being a major achievement for the team producing it, other pupils are regularly interviewed for the bulletin and get the experience of explaining on camera what has been happening, or about some particular achievement they have had in or out of school.

What the pupils are learning is not just technical skills. They are learning to judge what makes effective communication, how stories are best told and how the script for the whole bulletin needs to flow. They are working on timings and how to balance the different parts of the bulletin. They are also developing inter-personal and team-work skills that will help them throughout life.

Perhaps careers in television and the media await!

(note – names of pupils have been changed)

**The educational detail, max one page.** (to be added)

**Quantification, or the questions to be asked of teachers to get the necessary information.**

1) It has always been acknowledged that some pupils gain very considerable benefits from extra-curricular activity, but this is often a big drain on teachers' time. What is the balance here between teacher time and learning time? The group need very little teacher supervision and help.

2) What is the full range of skills and knowledge being learnt and put into practice? They are certainly extending their learning in very many ways.

3) Spending 4 lunchtimes a week creating the bulletin is a significant extension of the time they are spending on activities that are helping them learn. Do they also spend time in the evenings on scripting or learning how to edit video?

4) In what ways is this activity helping other pupils learn? (Pupils and teachers not involved in creation of the videos were not asked about this during the last visit.)

**Professional development questions/follow-up questions** (to be added)