

Building brighter futures for learners

Heworth Grange Tyne and Wear

Heworth Grange Comprehensive in Gateshead is a well respected school in transition. It is currently redeveloping its structure and facilities so that in September 2012 its pupils will be able to enjoy learning in essentially a brand new school.

This significant investment in infrastructure placed renewed pressure on other areas of the institution to be as cost-effective as possible without compromising on quality. It was with this need in mind that Lesley Allen, Head of Personal Social Religious Education (PSRE), turned to the vision2learn for **schools** e-learning service.

Because the platform is completely contained online, including all nationally accredited courses and resources, it reduces overheads and offers students the flexibility to learn at home or at school at any time. This accessibility has enabled her pupils to gain real life skills and achieve Level 2 qualifications in subjects including BTEC WorkSkills, Nutrition and Health, and Equality and Diversity.

Lesley explains: *“The performance of the pupils this year has really exceeded our expectations. I believe the secret behind this success is the vocational basis of the vision2learn for **schools** courses. The content is relevant to their lives, and helps us to deliver a balanced curriculum that complements GCSE studies.*

“This is the second year that we have offered both our Year 10 and 11 pupils the opportunity to study Equality and Diversity in this way. The fact that we have over 240 children across both years enrolled this academic year I believe speaks for itself.”



vision2learn for **schools** at Heworth Grange – read our case studies on www.vision2learnforschools.com

The school has enjoyed an exceptional 92% pass rate for its Level 2 Equality and Diversity course, instilling in many of the recipients a renewed level of confidence and self-esteem as well as a newly found focus on study skills.

One such pupil is Tristain Hemingway. Vision2learn for **schools** was initially used to help the Year 11 student progress from Level 1 learner status to gaining Level 2 qualifications as part of a Key Stage 4 achievement programme. It has certainly had the desired effect and played a vital part in helping him progress into further education.

Tristain explains: *“Working with vision2learn has got me back on track with my school-work. The content is really good and I have enjoyed working my way through the Nutrition and Health, BTEC WorkSkills, and Equality and Diversity courses.*

*“I am now looking forward to studying Performing Arts at Gateshead College next year with a new level of confidence and self-belief. I know that the study skills I have developed with vision2learn for **schools** have played a large part in getting me there.”*

Tristain’s story is a good example of how the vision2learn for **schools** platform is helping Level 1 learners make the step up to achieve Level 2 qualifications in order to progress into further education and employment.



vision2learn for **schools** at Heworth Grange

Lesley has also enjoyed achieved positive results with BTEC Certificate in WorkSkills Level 2 (QCF) for the first time this year. Initial expectations were that 70 pupils would successfully complete. In reality 170 pupils passed the course: 150 achieving BTEC certificates and one presented with a BTEC diploma.

Lesley said: *“The numbers have been a really pleasant surprise. I think the intuitive nature and accessibility of the platform means that pupils have immediately taken to this form of learning. This generation of children is so computer literate that it all comes natural to them.*

“The fact that they can learn at home as well as school has really helped those that have fallen behind with their studies too. They are even supporting each other’s progress by emailing each other to make sure their friends are not struggling with the course demands.”

But Lesley is not prepared to simply rest on these significant achievements. She is now looking ahead to developing more e-learning initiatives for the 2011/12 academic year.

Lesley explains: *“We have some exciting plans for the vision2learn for **schools** service for next year. It is our aim to offer online learning to parents and family members of our pupils too.*

“Not only will this allow them to develop new skills, but they can also gain a deeper understanding and support the learning of the pupil. It should be a real win-win scenario.”

Lesley and her department will have the full backing of Heworth Grange Head Teacher Chris Richardson, who has been equally impressed with the results delivered by this e-learning approach. He said: *“The vision2learn platform has helped to make our learners more independent and has made a significant impact upon levels of attainment.”*

With the many changes that are currently taking place at Heworth Grange Comprehensive, its successful adoption of vision2learn e-learning looks firmly set to stay. With the help of teachers like Lesley Allen, pupils like Tristain can use the platform to build themselves a brighter future.

Heworth Grange

Heworth Grange is an improving secondary school in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear which has specialist status in the performing and the visual arts. Over the last two years it has been recognised as one of the top 200 improving schools in the country. A new school building is being constructed on the site and is due to be completed in 2012. It first started using the vision2learn e-learning service in the 2009/10 academic year, and has found increasing success with the platform over the past two years.

Contact us

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