

## GCSEs in action



**“Phenomenal change”  
in Year 11 online learners  
at Langley Park**

The GCSE subject of child development has been brought to life for Year 10 and 11 learners at Langley Park School for Girls thanks to vision2learn’s unique brand of online learning.

One group of hard-to-reach learners has now entered its second year of study towards GCSE Child Development. This, according to their teacher Sue Gooch, represents a significant achievement in itself.

**“We feel we have found the perfect solution”**

Sue, Head of Vocational & Flexible Learning Faculty at Langley Park School for Girls, said: “At the start of this academic year I am pleased to say that we have nine Year 11 pupils and 13 Year 10 pupils studying on vision2learn GCSE Child Development. They are great groups to teach, but they are classed as hard-to-reach for a range of complex reasons. Low confidence is a big issue for the majority of them.”

Since the changes to the vocational education landscape following the Wolf Review in 2011 Langley Park began looking for an alternative solution to specifically address the needs of this type of learner.

Sue explains: “Post-Wolf we started looking for alternative options that suited our lower-ability learners at Key Stage 4. With vision2learn for **schools** we feel we have found the perfect solution – my pupils love using this learning platform.”

Since 2006 vision2learn has worked with secondary schools across England and Wales to help hard-to-reach 14–19 year olds engage and achieve more through e-learning. We have created an accessible digital classroom which includes whole online courses of GCSE and vocational study in key subjects.

In the past Sue took a workbook-led approach in her Child Development lessons. Transferring to a completely online solution this year has saved valuable time in the classroom and offered a greater degree of variety in terms of lesson structure.

Sue said: “As my Year 11 group had used workbooks to study Child Development last year, they have made the transition to online delivery really well. They love the bright learning environment on vision2learn for **schools** GCSEs.

“The thought provoker sections at the side of each screen are also great for initiating group discussions too. As part of our blended learning approach we invited a sister of one of our pupils, who had become a teenage mother, to talk to the class about child development – and why no-one should become pregnant so young!”



## GCSE attainment online

Child Development is one of five online GCSEs offered as part of a vision2learn for **schools** licence. The other courses available are GCSE in Leisure and Tourism, IGCSE First Language English, GCSE Religious Studies and GCSE Statistics.

The online resource itself helps learners to actively explore child development topics, including pregnancy and parenthood, and gain the skills and knowledge needed for their GCSE assessment. Like all online vision2learn qualifications, GCSE Child Development is backed by tracking and management tools to help teachers pinpoint areas for improvement throughout the course.

Sue has benefited from the teacher support on the vision2learn platform this year. She said: "As a teacher I like that you can flip back and forth between study materials. This gets around the age-old problem of what to do with a pupil that has fallen behind the rest of the group – I can now simply set them some work on the vision2learn for **schools** platform to help them catch up. Everything is there for you.

"We have one learner who is mobility impaired and cannot join the rest of the Year 11 group. Due to her disability she works from our Pupil Learning Support Area away from the other girls, which can lead to feelings of disengagement. However with vision2learn she feels a part of the group, as she knows that she is learning the same material as the others."

“The difference I have seen is phenomenal”

Since taking on her current Year 11 group of learners, Sue has noted a sea change in terms of positivity and enthusiasm towards the subject. Child development is now not only one of their favourite subjects at school; it is also having an influence on some of their long-term career aspirations.

Sue said: "The difference I have seen in my current Year 11s from the start of Year 10 is phenomenal. One of my learners now wants to become a midwife, while another wants to pursue a career in child development. We are setting our Year 11 class a mock exam based on the questions provided at the end of each unit. This makes the group feel a part of the mainstream of learners we have here, and they are taking everything in their stride.

"The pupils in our sessions feel privileged to learn online with vision2learn. Their view of it is that no-one else at the school learns like them."

## Langley Park School for Girls

Langley Park School for Girls is a single sex secondary school comprising 1,195 learners situated in Bromley, Kent.

This is the third year that Langley Park has used vision2learn for **schools**. Pre-Wolf Report the school found success offering vocational Level 2 Nutrition and Health and Level 2 Equality and Diversity qualifications. So far over 300 learners have enrolled on our courses at the school.

## Contact us

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