



"ACTIVboard makes learning much easier"

ACTIVboard Technology Advances Teaching and Learning at Bishop Rawstone C of E Language College

- >> Creating positive teaching & learning environments
- >> Technology which enriches all areas of the curriculum
- >> Raising standards the enjoyable way

An Innovative Approach



Headteacher George Lloyd

Bishop Rawstone is a Church of England Language College and DfES Training School affiliated to the Technology College Trust. In 1996 the school became a designated Specialist Language College and during 2000, David Blunkett officially announced their 'DfES Training School' status. It was inspected by Ofsted in April 2001 and the report notes that the College provides 'an excellent standard of education for its pupils.' Admission to the College is based on locality, with intake from 34 primary schools. Teachers, including the Headteacher, have children of their own who attend the College.

As expected, the College has a very positive language focus and supports language learning in local primary schools. With a reputation for dedication and quality learning, more than 80% of students go on to a local further education college with many of the students studying 'A' levels. Opportunities are also offered by the University of Central Lancashire to gifted linguists from the College who wish to continue their language studies.

George Lloyd first saw Promethean's ACTIVboard 5 years ago and it was clear to him this technology would have major benefits for the College, primarily in opening up new teaching and learning opportunities. Bishop Rawstone promotes Information Communication Technology (ICT) throughout the College and was a pioneer of Promethean's interactive whiteboard technology. The College also acts as a test centre which enables Promethean to carry out valuable 'live' research into the effectiveness of new technological developments. The evidence strongly suggests that these developments are indeed helping the teachers to raise standards of student achievement. George Lloyd said, "Our partnership with Promethean is a demonstration of how education and industry, working together, can make a difference in raising standards of student achievement."

Stephen Jury, Managing Director of Promethean says, "**Bishop Rawstone adopts an innovative approach to learning and is advancing teaching methods by integrating Interactive Whiteboard technology into everyday lessons. We are extremely pleased to be a part of their success story.**"

Totally Integrated Technology

A key criterion when implementing the interactive whiteboard technology was that it became an integral part of the College. Deputy Headteacher of 20 years, Bleddyn Davies said, "We didn't want it to be a piece of equipment rolled out occasionally to impress, it needed to be part of the fabric of the College itself." The College now has a total of 14 fixed ACTIVboards including a number of portable versions that meet the needs of everyone. The new College science laboratory was designed around the ACTIVboard to ensure maximum use of the resource. In addition to the whole group-learning environment, the College offers its students individual resources with many curriculum areas having fully equipped computer 'breakout rooms'.

"I like using the whiteboards, they are a great help."

"The impact of teaching ACTIVboards is the sustained interest in the whole class."

"Children's motivation is extensively improved."

"They all want to be the one with the pen."

"I like the colours and sounds we have in our lessons."

"The whole class is involved."

"Children want to be part of the lessons using the whiteboards."

ACTIVboard uses electromagnetic sensing technology to provide a platform for delivery of large screen multi-media content. The teacher has complete control of PC developed applications with the benefit of being able to annotate and modify content as the lesson progresses, turning it from a general presentation aid to an integrated group learning system. Teachers can also prepare lessons in advance and re-use the content again or adapt it to suit the needs of a particular group of learners; this means they can spend more time face-to-face with the students. George Lloyd added, "Teachers can prepare lessons in advance that can be delivered by other colleagues. The collaborative planning of lessons has helped us to focus on the quality of teaching and learning."

Positive Pupils

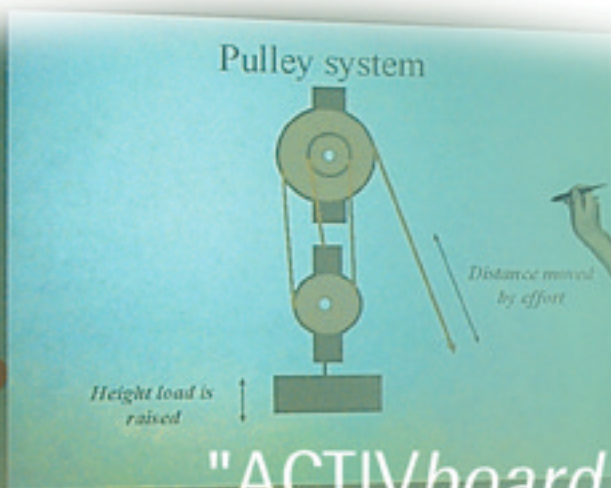
Staff and students enthusiastically support the use of the interactive whiteboard technology. When asked, year 10 students commented, "ACTIVboard makes learning much easier, it's more exciting than a normal board and lets us work and learn as a whole class. In science we can link a thermometer and electrodes that measure and display this information during our experiments. It really helps us to understand the subject. Revision has become so much easier, we can go back and see an entire previous lesson." Parental response in a recent Ofsted report also shows great enthusiasm for the College and the opportunities it offers in ICT and Languages.

Bishop Rawstone is committed to strong international links and this is reflected in their web site. Using a video conferencing link via the ACTIVboard students at the College are able to communicate with students from other countries and with foreign students studying at the University of Central Lancashire. Bleddyn Davies said, "Being able to communicate with native speakers face-to-face has been invaluable for some of our more able language students."

George Lloyd added, "As a Language College we work towards the creation of an international dimension which permeates all areas of curriculum to enrich it. ACTIVboard is part of this. By integrating ICT into education we are increasing student interest and enjoyment in learning. My colleagues and students share my enthusiasm for Promethean's technology, and are genuinely excited by the learning potential they offer."

Teamed with the ACTIVboard Plus, and in use at Bishop Rawstone is the innovative whole class response system. A world first which provides instant whole group feedback, this technology offers teachers immediate lesson assessment. It enables them to adapt lesson content and structure providing a more targeted and tailored approach to whole group learning, whilst providing a means of fun which encourages participation and attention from the students.

The potency of this technology in enhancing quality teaching and learning was highlighted in the College's recent outstanding Ofsted Report.



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Looking towards the future, Bishop Rawstone is an active participant in helping to further refine Promethean technology. George Lloyd concluded, "The support from Promethean is first class. We are working closely with them to continue improving the technology so that teachers are supported in their continued efforts to raise standards of student achievement."

About Bishop Rawstone

Bishop Rawstone has gained much recognition for its influential work with the community and ICT developments. The College is a regional Centre of Excellence for the training of teachers on the Graduate and Registered Teacher Programme. In addition it has been awarded the Charter Mark for Excellence, Investors in People, the School Curriculum Award and has also received a DfES Achievement Award. As a C of E College belonging to the Blackburn Diocese, Bishop Rawstone has strong connections with the church community. A chapel within the College offers students and teachers an oasis of calm. A denominational Inspection earlier this year concluded that it is an excellent College, with an outstanding Christian ethos.

www.bishoprawstone.lancsngfl.ac.uk



About Promethean

Promethean is dedicated to the development and supply of ICT solutions that can be used as teaching tools in the classroom to accelerate learning gains across the whole curriculum. Based around the world's most advanced whiteboard/software combination, which is designed and manufactured in the UK, Promethean's systems create an interactive teaching environment that enables multimedia delivery to the whole class groups.

Solutions include: **ACTIVboard (Interactive Whiteboards), Videoconferencing (codecs and peripherals), wide format displays for data and video, multimedia software, all encompassing solutions for presentations, education, training, collaborative working, distance and flexible learning.**

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