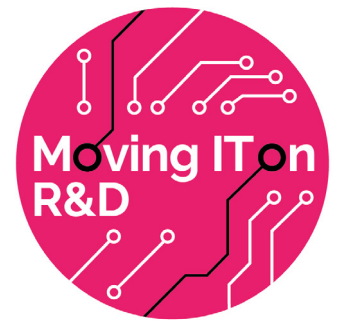




Moving IT On

Case Study



The Fitzwilliam Museum

Virtual Visits to the Art Museum



Summary of the project

Since 2010, 250 Year 8 students from Soham Village College have visited the Fitzwilliam as part of a special strategic relationship designed to promote access to art and culture. With the museum closed due to the pandemic, we collaborated with teachers to develop a blended museum experience.

Aims /Objectives of the project

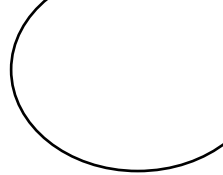
We worked with teachers from Art and Design, History and Modern Languages to design a learning offer consisting of pre-recorded videos and quizzes, activity prompts and a co-delivered live session delivered through an online platform.

R & D Plan

Our evaluator Vic Cook explored:

1. Does virtual engagement with the Museum encourage the development of cultural capital in young people?
2. How can object-based digital learning resources support the development of high quality talk and dialogue in the classroom?





What worked well?

The evaluation indicated that our digital offer provided an authentic learning experience for students and facilitated visual learning by enabling the students to see the artefacts close-up. A collaborative and flexible approach provided relevant curriculum enrichment opportunities for many students and enabled them to apply their new ideas to their work in school across a range of subjects. The live zoom session in the armoury was particularly memorable and enjoyable for students.

What might you change next time?

We would like to consider how to provide more opportunities for independent learning to better support the development of student agency. For example, students could decide which artefacts they would like to look at during the 'live' session, and then submit these ideas to Museum staff

What 3 lessons from this project might be usefully shared with others?

1. Collaboration was key as we developed new approaches to delivery.
2. It was also vital to allow sufficient time for the collaborative planning process
3. Working with teachers from different curriculum areas meant that the sessions could be delivered across a range of subjects as part of the usual Year 8 timetable. This approach also complemented the interdisciplinary nature of the Museum's collection.

"The dependence of a good internet connection will always be a risk of online delivery - but, I think, a risk worth taking for the sake of the ability to connect directly with the students in the classroom and to personally welcome them into our spaces and or invite them to enjoy our objects."

- Fitzwilliam Museum

