

Key stage 3 teachers, researchers, LEA advisers

The eVIVA project



eVIVA is an innovative approach to assessing key stage 3 students' performance in ICT using online portfolios and mobile phone technology.

The eVIVA project involves students compiling online portfolios of their ICT work to show what they know and can do, the processes they have used and the decisions they have made. Annotating their work gives them an opportunity to show their thinking about their learning. Parents, teachers and other students can then give feedback online or using a mobile phone. Once students have completed their portfolio, they have a unique oral assessment – known as the eVIVA – that they can take on their mobile phone.



What has the project found out?

- Students are motivated and empowered by sharing their work in an online space.
- Exhibiting their work in an online portfolio appears to give students a sense of audience, lifts their expectations and boosts their confidence.
- Students value being able to explain their thinking through annotating their work and taking the eVIVA oral assessment.
- eVIVA offers teachers a new opportunity to have one-to-one dialogue about learning with individual students (something that can often be difficult in ICT lessons).

- eVIVA encourages a dialogue between students.
- Teachers value having an online portfolio that is easily accessible and supports continuous assessment.
- The eVIVA system provides evidence of students' work and thought processes. This enables teachers to make a fairer assessment of ICT capability.
- The use of eVIVA suggests that e-portfolios can be used effectively to support both formative and summative assessment in the classroom.

Phase one

The first phase of the eVIVA project ran from June 2002 until July 2003 and involved 10 schools in England. About 20 students from each school took part, with one teacher reporting findings to Ultralab (the organisation running the project on behalf of QCA). Students and their teachers were encouraged to see themselves as co-researchers in the work.

Phase two

Phase two of the project ran until July 2004. It involved five of the original schools and allowed the project to gather more information about the use of eVIVA for assessment.



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