

CASE STUDY

Holmfirth students go online to prepare for work

A Virtual College Case Study

Holmfirth High School is a mathematics, computing and applied learning specialist and is committed to embedding ICT in the curriculum.



The **features**

Virtual College have an array of tools to help businesses acheive their goals, the following were used to help Holmfirth High School:

| E-learning (| Courses | Evaluations | ✓ | Tracking of Learner Progress | | Customisation |
|---|-----------------|---|----------|---|----------|--|
| Training Ne Analysis | eds | e-Portfolios | ✓ | Reporting | | Manage Requested Learning |
| Certificate I | Printing | PDP's - Personal Development Plans | | Competencies | | Skills Matrix |
| CPD Trackir | ng | e-Assessments | | Appraisal Systems | | Job Roles |
| Event Mana | gement | Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) | | | | |
| T | | | | | | |
| This case study will | focus on the fo | llowing key areas: | | | | |
| Mandatory Training | | Staff Induction Training | ~ | Blended Training Solutions | | Investors in People OFSTED |
| Company P & Procedur | olicy e | Product and Equipment Training | | NVQs and e-Apprenticeship Resources | | Objective Setting |
| Overall benefits demonstrated by this case study: | | | | | | |
| Cost Reduction | ✓ | Increase in Quality and Consistancy | ✓ | Reduced Carbon Footprint | ✓ | Flexible Route for Learning & Skills Development |

For more information on the features and tools used, please call us on 01943 885 085, email questions@virtual-college.co.uk or visit www.virtual-college.co.uk

The background

Holmfirth High School first opened in 1959.

Originally built as a Secondary Modern School to house 600 students, the buildings have been extended, with significant modification and development, to accommodate the expansion into an 11-16 Mixed Comprehensive School with over 1300 students.

The school is a mathematics, computing and applied learning specialist and is committed to embedding ICT in the curriculum.

Students enjoy access to 5 ICT suites, a library with computing resources and many departments have tablets or laptops to enable ICT to be embedded in the curriculum. Studying online is therefore 'normal' and accessible for the 'digital natives' of Holmfirth High School.

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"Holmfirth High is an 11-16 Mixed Comprehensive School with over 1300 students."

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The challenge

"All 250 male and female students in Year 9 gain valuable preparation for work knowledge."

Michele McLoughlin is Head of Enrichment and Business Studies at Holmfirth High with a remit which includes enterprise and gifted and talented programmes.

Michele oversees the extensive work related learning programme for year 9 students which includes first aid, health and safety, food hygiene, enterprise, careers and personal finance. This course has been running for the last four years and helps all 250 male and female students in year 9 to gain valuable preparation for work knowledge.

Based in West Yorkshire and famous for being the location of 'Last of the Summer Wine', Holmfirth is a popular tourist destination. The leisure industry in the area offers part-time employment opportunities for students still at school and valuable experience for those who wish to pursue a career in the sector.

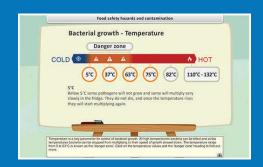
The **Solution**

"We use Virtual College's online food safety and hygiene resources as part of a blended learning solution," explained Michele.

"Students have 6 weeks to cover this section of the work experience programme. Online learning allows students to work at their own pace."

"We have supplementary materials available for those who progress quickly but e-learning provides valuable flexibility."

"Any students who have been absent can catch up on the online learning in their own time at home or in the library."



The **Results**

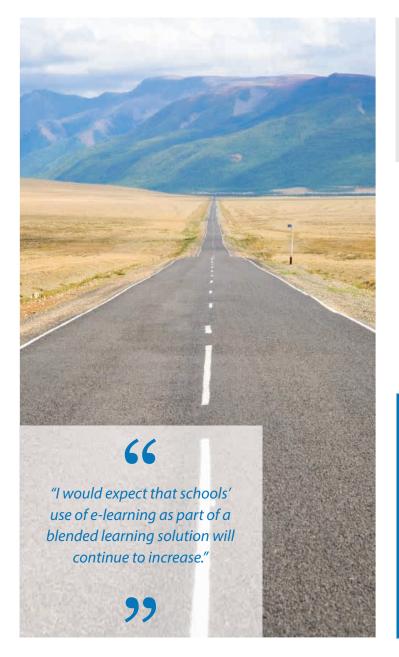
Michele commented: "Our students are accustomed to learning online and also have access to personal finance and health and safety e-learning resources on the popular work related programme."

"Virtual College's level 2 food safety and hygiene resources are engaging and also give our students a qualification in the subject which provides them with an edge in the competitive iob market." "Some of the students have been so enthused that they have gone on to take the subject at level 3 under their own steam. Members of our own staff have also used the resources to update their accreditation." "Virtual College's level 2 food safety and hygiene resources are engaging."

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What next?





Screen captures of the level 2 food safety and hygiene course.

"Delivering learning resources online gives flexibility and is a natural way of learning for young people," said Michele.

"I can see opportunities to deliver more employability courses using online resources."

"I would expect that schools' use of e-learning as part of a blended learning solution will continue to increase especially as economies of scale start to drive down prices."

To find out more

about what benefits the implementation of e-learning can have on your company, please get in touch by calling 01943 885 085 or email us: questions@virtual-college.co.uk

Other case studies



How e-learning increased customer satisfaction at Unity Housing



Creating accessible training for electrical contractors



Introducing a blended learning approach at Aldwyck Housing Group



Phone **01943 885085**



Email

questions@virtual-college.co.uk



Web

www.virtual-college.co.uk

About Virtual College

For over fifteen years, we have provided online courses to individuals and companies across the world, breaking down the boundaries of traditional learning to deliver cost reducing, time efficient training. Unlike many other e-learning providers, our training extends to actual programme/qualification creation and delivery - resulting in a unique blended solution. The knowledge, experience and feedback that this delivery provides helps ensure that we strive to continually improve our solutions.

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