

✱ Education

 **aurora**
immersive

Fitzalan High School

Case Study

Location
Cardiff, UK

Date
September 2023

Project
Osborne Technologies' Aurora
immersive classroom with
Igloo Vision software

Product
7x8m Immersive Classroom



Putting immersive learning at the heart of a major school redevelopment



About Fitzalan High School

When Fitzalan High School in Cardiff embarked on a sixty four million pound project to rebuild their premises from the ground up, they wanted to ensure students had access to future-thinking facilities that would enhance the outstanding teaching on offer.

The opportunity

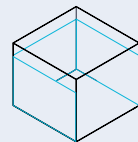
As part of their redevelopment, Fitzalan approached Igloo Vision and Aurora Immersive by Osborne Technologies to build an immersive classroom which could be used across all departments and by students of all ages from 11-18.

The results

After one term in its new premises, Fitzalan has already found plenty of ways to incorporate immersive learning into the curriculum and the large, visually impactful space can easily accommodate up to 35 students with plenty of room to move around and interact with the display.

Installed in September 2023, the Fitzalan Immersion Studio is a big hit with students and staff, and has so far been used for virtual field trips to inspire creativity and to celebrate the history and diversity of the Tiger Bay area in Cardiff. It's even hosted an immersive history lesson for the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The solution



Three walls
of stitched
projection



8 Optoma
projectors



Scent
delivery



Surround
sound



Dynamic
lighting



Wind
machine



Igloo immersive
media player
(IMP)



Room
command
system

The immersive classroom runs using Igloo Core Engine, the operating system for immersive spaces by Igloo Vision which makes it easy for educators to incorporate immersive learning into their teaching.

One of the big advantages of Igloo Core Engine is the flexibility of the software, which is designed to display almost any type of immersive or traditional content on any display – including 360° video and specialist VR learning content. Fitzalan staff have been making use of Igloo's native integrations for YouTube 360° and Google Streetview, and have also been creating their own immersive learning content using 360° video and presentations in Microsoft Sway.

“When designing a school for the 21st century, surely there should be spaces like this to bring learning to life for young people. Actually being in the room and experiencing it just makes things more memorable, more understandable and we’re going to really benefit.”

Mrs Kemp, Assistant Headteacher

Here are just some of the ways teachers are using the immersive classroom to enhance teaching:



Immersive films exploring local history

Fitzalan is located in one of Cardiff's most diverse areas and many of its students are descendants of seafarers who came to work in Cardiff Docks and Tiger Bay. The first piece of bespoke content Fitzalan made for the Immersion Studio was a 360° film combining archive footage, images and text to explore the history of the local community.



Virtual field trips to the Supreme Court of the United States

When learning about American politics, sixth-form students have the opportunity to speak via video call with a member of the Supreme Court. Now with the immersion studio, students can also take a virtual tour of the courtrooms.



Exploring different ecologies in biology

One of the great things about an immersive classroom like Fitzalan's, is that it's so easy to enhance the current curriculum with immersive content and bring difficult spatial concepts to life. For example, teachers have used the space to explore the ecology of aquatic environments in biology or different landscapes in geography.



Bringing history to life

History students have been learning about life in the trenches during the First World War by experiencing CGI and reenacted 360° content about trench warfare.



To find out how we can bring your next project to life,
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