

* Education

 **aurora**
immersive

Hunningley Primary Academy

Case Study

Location

Barnsley, South Yorkshire, UK

Date

January 2023

Project

Osborne Technologies' Aurora
immersive classroom with
Igloo Vision software

Product

5x5m Immersive Classroom



Immersive classroom supports academy in securing excellent Ofsted rating.



About Hunningley Primary Academy

Based in Barnsley and part of the United Learning Trust, Hunningley Primary Academy is a school for pupils aged three to eleven. With their new contemporary immersive classroom and high-quality resources, learning is brought to life, providing new experiences and helping pupils retain and recall information. The space is used to enhance teaching across all subjects and has played a key role in Hunningley's journey from being rated 'Good and Improving' by Ofsted in 2021 to 'Outstanding' in 2023.

The opportunity

Hunningley Primary Academy approached Osborne Technologies to investigate the potential use of an immersive/sensory space within their school. The school identified the need for an additional learning space to provide engagement and fulfilment for pupils across the curriculum. An Aurora immersive classroom from Osborne Technologies provides an experiential learning environment offering a captivating space for pupils to fully immerse themselves into lessons, bringing their subjects to life.

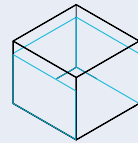
Why Osborne Technologies?

Staff members from Hunningley Primary Academy had previous experience of another Aurora project installed at a neighbouring school within the borough. As part of the process, Osborne Technologies provided a demonstration of the full capabilities of an Aurora immersive space. Following the demonstration with staff and pupils and feedback on their experience, it was clear that an immersive classroom was the way forward. The next steps were to find a suitable space within the school to transform. By working with Osborne Technologies, the school had peace of mind that the project would be fully managed from start to finish, including all planning, building works, electrics, plastering, decoration and hardware installation.

The process

Once they identified a room for the project, it was time to design the new space to meet their specific requirements. Osborne Technologies began converting a multi-purpose teaching space into a fully immersive classroom. With a design agreed, the team began the process of delivering the project on behalf of the school.

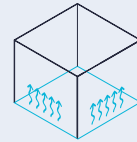
The solution



Three walls of
stitched projection



Scent
delivery



Underfloor
vibration



Surround
sound



Room command
system



Igloo Core
Engine

The Aurora installation team constructed a room within their existing 5x5 metre space complete with a raised floor (for underfloor vibration) and accessibility ramps.

Osborne Technologies, in collaboration with the shared immersive space company, Igloo Vision provided their Igloo Core Engine, enabling users to view and interact with any digital content. This includes software, such as PowerPoint, Google Street View, 360° images, videos, interactive apps and VR headset content.

The results

Hunningley has found that the immersive classroom is having a huge impact on student learning outcomes. It improves their writing, makes it easier to communicate spatial concepts and keeps students engaged and curious about the wider world. Ofsted were also wowed by the immersive classroom. The space has played a key role in Hunningley's journey from being rated 'Good and Improving' by Ofsted in 2021 to 'Outstanding' in 2023.

When you walk into the immersive classroom, it's immediately obvious the room is a cross-curricular space, used from nursery all the way up to year six. They are also working with their Special Educational Needs Coordinator to devise a programme of calming content which can help SEN students. In December 2023, Father Christmas visited the immersive classroom when staff transformed it into Santa's Grotto. In the future Hunningley wants to open its doors to other local schools so their students can also benefit from the immersive classroom.

“The children love it. As soon as we say the lesson is in the immersive classroom there's cheers and you can see the impact it has on pupil outcomes. The quality of writing is so much better and it broadens their understanding of concepts that are quite hard to understand.”

Miss Hughes, Assistant Principal

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



Inspiring creativity in English literature

Hunningley teachers told us the immersive classroom is brilliant for generating ideas and creative language. Year six students, for example, used an immersive forest environment to inspire writing when studying Macbeth.



Communicating complex ideas in geography

Whether it's a virtual trip to an erupting volcano or wind farm, Hunningley teachers have found that adding an immersive element to a topic can give students a much better spatial understanding of core concepts.



Preparing students for secondary school

Changing schools can be challenging for students and Hunningley have been helping students with the transition by taking them on a virtual tour of their new route to school using Google Street View.



Visiting Museums

Hunningley students have been using the Igloo software to explore some of the thousands of digitised museums and galleries available through tools such as Google Arts and Culture.



Bringing history to life with 360° video

YouTube 360 is full of great history content and students have been learning about Vikings using immersive content made by National Geographic.



And loads more

Hunningley told us the immersive room had been used to show content on the Egyptians, Rio de Janeiro, castles, fairytales, earthquakes, aquariums, art galleries, places of worship, the Alps and the Portuguese coast.



To find out how we can bring your next project to life,
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+44 (0)1226 295455 / info@auroraimmersive.co.uk / auroraimmersive.co.uk