

## Flat Classroom Project (FCP)

Dr Katya Toneva (ICT Director and Project Manager)  
Sarwat Siddiqui (Leading Teacher)

International Community School, London: [www.icschool.co.uk](http://www.icschool.co.uk)  
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Visit our websites

- [www.flatclassroomproject.net](http://www.flatclassroomproject.net)
- [www.digiteen.org](http://www.digiteen.org)
- [www.eracismproject.org](http://www.eracismproject.org)
- [www.netgened.org](http://www.netgened.org)
- [www.flatclassroomconference.com](http://www.flatclassroomconference.com)

# Flat Classroom Project

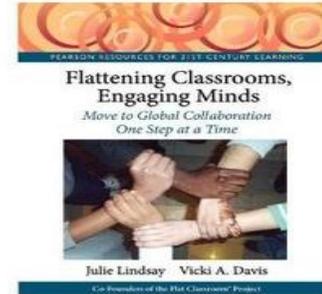
<http://www.flatclassroomproject.org/About>

## What is a Flat Classroom®?

The concept of a 'flat classroom' is based on the constructivist principle of a multi-modal learning environment that is student-centered and a level playing field for teacher to student and student to teacher interaction.

## Read our Book!

Released January 2012, *Flattening Classrooms, Engaging Minds: Move to Global Collaboration One Step at a Time*. Read more about what people are saying, see how you can purchase the book, and find out who to connect with and learn more! <http://flatclassroombook.com>



## What is the Flat Classroom® Project?

The [Flat Classroom® Project](#) is a global collaborative project that joins together middle and senior high school students. This project is part of the emerging trend in internationally-aware schools to embrace a holistic and constructivist educational approach to work collaboratively with others around the world in order to create students who are competitive and globally-minded. The project was co-founded by [Michelle S. O'Neil](#) (USA) and [Vicki A. Davis](#) (USA).

SEARCH INSIDE!™

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During the first term of 2011/12 academic year, the International Community School, London took part in the global Flat Classroom Project that uses web 2.0 technology to join-up students from around the world.

The idea being to “flatten” the classroom walls so students can communicate and work with their peers online, across the world.

The school took part in the project on a particular topic: “How ICT could improve people’s lives”. This was linked to the English curriculum. The idea was that students could develop their English language proficiency and academic language skills through researching, collecting, analysing, evaluating, reporting and presenting information via the virtual Flat Classroom.

The required final product was a video storyboard on the project topic.

# Why consider the potential of innovative technologies that support language development and collaborative learning?

- New technologies can be powerful tools for using and acquiring language skills.
- The nature of work is changing.
- We need to prepare our students to compete in a new global economy.
- We need to prepare our students to be effective 21<sup>st</sup> Century citizens.



# Our FCP aims:



- Transform the learning environment into an inspirational learning space where students interact, create, collaborate and build up knowledge whilst using language for these different purposes.
- Develop students' skills of cooperation, communication, collaboration and competition, and their use of topic vocabulary.
- Introduce our students to global communities with similar interests and provide the opportunity for them to communicate and collaborate.



# Using integrated Web 2.0 technologies

The Flatclassroom processes are constantly evolving, both as available technologies change, and as participants become more adept at acting within and across the online collaborative environment.

For example, the students needed to contribute to wiki spaces to introduce themselves and to plan their projects. They needed to use Flatclassroom Ning space, online forums and Google docs to share examples, to communicate with other Flatclassroom students across the world and to provide peer support and feedback.

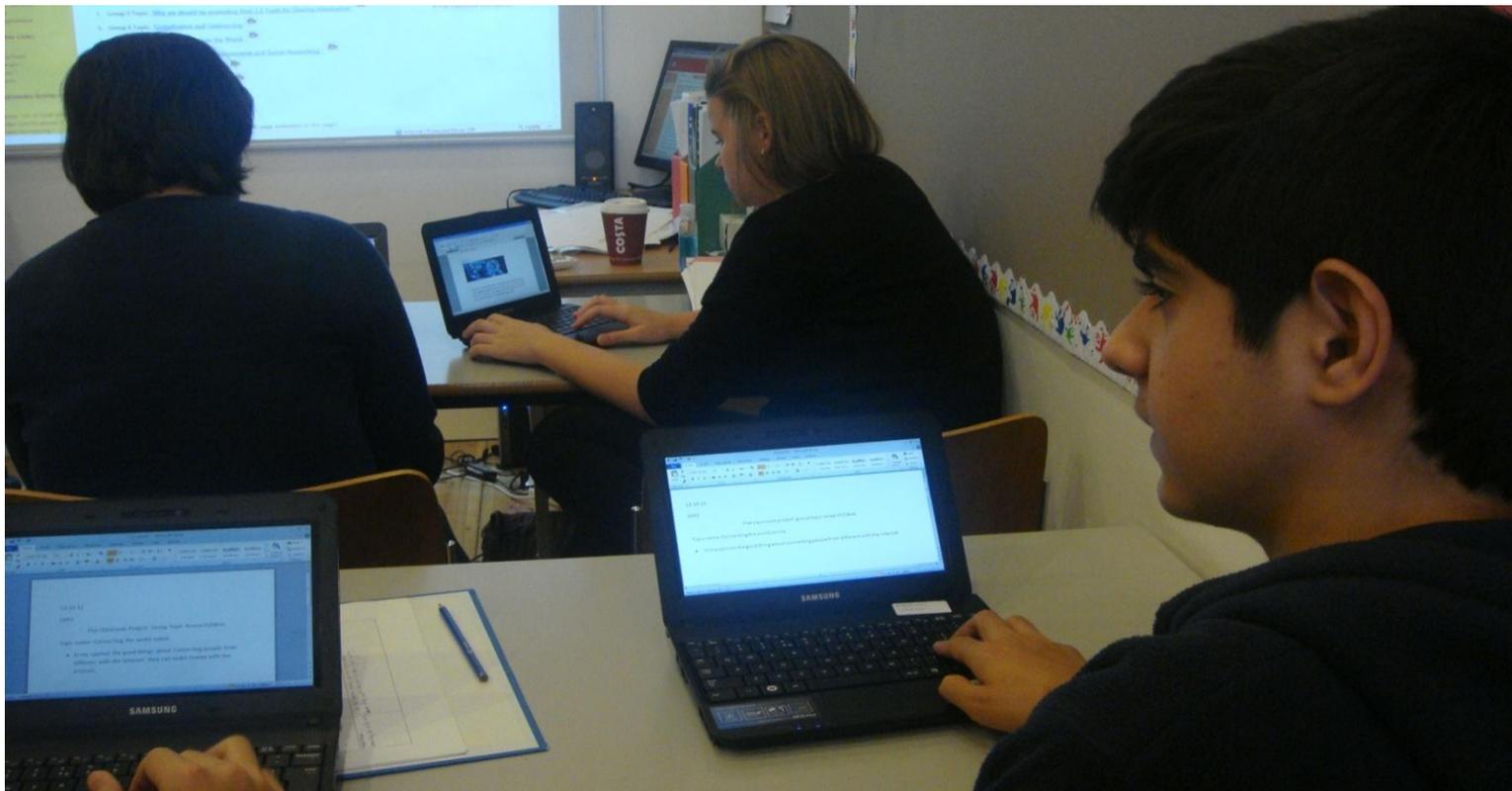
Students used Animoto and YouTube to edit and publish their video storyboards. They used Elluminate web-conferencing software to present their final products.



**Links to ICS students' final work are published at the  
Project Wiki:**

<http://fcp11-3.flatclassroomproject.org/ICS+-+London>

For example, please watch a student's video storyboard:  
<http://flatclassroomproject.ning.com/video/connecting-people-everywhere-and-anytime-by-alixs-ics>



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Skills



The students needed to understand the principles of working online and to adopt new skills and behaviours, including skills for online communication, collaboration and networking. The project required understanding of security and copyright issues as well.

The students have found these demands much more challenging than the development of the final project product (video storyboards for presenting their topics).

# Thank you for your interest!



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