



PART OF THE **INTO** GROUP

Can an online course
on UK education
replace the face-to-
face UK experience?

**Susi Pearson, Senior
Trainer**

15 Jan 2022

[www.nile-
elt.com](http://www.nile-elt.com)

Session Outline

How it all started

Making the transition to online

A look at the course

Practicalities and stats

What the participants said

The future

What is the answer to the big question?

How it all started...

Long history of providing trainee teachers with school placement experiences in Norwich

April 2020: Covid situation

Making the transition to online

Elements we could include from the face-to-face course:

- Methodology
- Information & reflection on the UK education system vs the Swiss system
- Classroom Observation
- UK Culture

What we could bring from our online course delivery experience

- Existing and well-established platform
- Experience in designing and delivering interactive and effective online courses
- Specialist and experienced tutors.

This led to:

Insights into the UK Primary Classroom

A 5-day, 25-hour online course which includes the following:

- A live Question and Answer session with a primary professional from a UK school
- Classroom observation of lessons at a Norwich primary school
- Methodology (Drama in the primary classroom; Activities for the primary classroom)
- Classroom Language
- Insights into British culture

Also included:

- NILE Members Area
- NILE eLibrary
- Cultural Programme.

And later:

Insights into the UK Secondary Classroom

A 5-day, 25-hour online course which includes the following:

- A live Question and Answer session with a secondary professional from a UK school
- Classroom observation of secondary teaching in UK classrooms
- Methodology (Drama in the secondary classroom; Activities for the secondary classroom)
- Classroom Language
- Insights into British culture

Also included:

- NILE Members Area
- NILE eLibrary
- Cultural Programme.

A look at the course

A look at the course

Input

- Videos
- Short articles
- Tutor feedback

Interactivity

- Quizzes
- Forums: text & video
- Padlets
- Google Docs
- Live sessions

Practicalities and stats

Practicalities

- 25-hour course, usually over 5 days: 9am to 4pm UK time
- Minimum of 10 & maximum of 32 participants per course
- Content hosted on NILE platform & live sessions on Zoom
- Access for 6 months after the course

Stats so far...

- Over 200 participants from 3 different institutions in Switzerland
- Over 95% rated the course as Good, Very Good or Excellent.

Flexibility

- **Course delivery:** intensive or part-time
- **Participation:** 100 or 80%
- **Additional social & cultural programme options** eg a live event

The key benefits they mentioned

- Drama can be easily implemented, and different activities for doing
- this.
- Motivating and varied ideas and activities for teaching English, for
- a more creative and interactive classroom.
- Reflecting on teaching principles and gaining a great deal as a
- result of observing and discussing what happens in other
- classrooms.
- Information about the UK education system.
- Learning about British Culture.

What the participants said..

Your online platforms are outstanding! It was easy to understand what I have to do and where I am able to find it! This made learning a bit easier.

I really much appreciated that we were in constant exchange during the course. I like that we did not only produce content, but actually look at each others' contributions and comment on them. I think this is very important for the motivation.

I really liked the variety of independent studies and live sessions and how they were built up and merged together.

A lot of material, activities, hands-on things that we can immediately use in our classroom. Thank you so much!

It was very informative and I learnt so many ideas and games which are amazing. Also the videos of the classes in the UK were very interesting and different to our classes here. I learnt a lot about the UK school system and the UK culture.

All tutors were very helpful, friendly and motivating. We could always write them a message or ask them in the live sessions, if something was unclear to us.

The future?

Offering the course as....

an alternative to UK placements where these are not possible

a modular version, integrated into institution's regular programmes

a pre-departure option for face-to-face course

The answer to the big question?

Any questions?

NILE website

<https://www.nile-elt.com/>

Insights into the Primary Classroom

<https://www.nile-elt.com/products/PrimaryClassroom>

Insights into the Secondary Classroom

<https://www.nile-elt.com/products/SecondaryClassroom>

My email

susi@nile-elt.com