



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](mailto:susi@nile-elt.com)