

The Kings School, Ely required a solution that could support the MFL department. A key criterion was that any purchase had to easily integrate with their existing ICT infrastructure and provide a flexible learning environment. As is the case across many schools, teachers were actively seeking to engage students and improve student performance in oral work; SANAKO Study 1200 offered a range of tools to assist teachers in reaching this objective.

**KINGS SCHOOL**

- Range of MFL courses are offered with most students studying one or two languages including French, German and Spanish with some students studying Latin
- English as a second language is also available to students, developing essential skills through lively discussion sessions, where students from different cultures contribute their own unique perspectives
- The Modern Languages Department makes full use of its facilities. Each classroom is equipped with satellite TV, audio visual facilities, internet access and interactive whiteboards. The Department also uses intranet resources for teaching, including language specific programmes and listening facilities

**SANAKO Study 1200**

- 26 concurrent user licenses for use across the campus
- Home licenses for all MFL students enable learning to continue at home, students can still record speaking activities and prepare for examinations
- Integrate existing materials in to the MFL classroom and bring true multimedia into the language lesson
- Functionality and ability to monitor and support voice recording for model imitation and reading practice

**The Digital Leap of Faith!**

The Kings School, Ely is not averse to technology and after several funding bids, a new Head of Languages in place and the recognition and support from the school Head that investing in a language lab would be a facility worth having, the school book room was identified as a location, split in two, and then one half surrendered to make way for a language lab - at last the school was on its way!

Steve Dunlin's, Network Manager at The Kings School, Ely main focus was 'That of the technology in which the solution is built on, it had to be network based and offer flexibility.'

Naturally, the Network Manager and language staff reviewed a range of alternatives and ultimately made the decision to choose SANAKO Study 1200. Mr Dunlin chose to use laptops, because space (as always) was a major consideration to the school. They also had the added benefit of being cheaper than a desktop.

As for the installation, Steve believed that 'it was all very thorough, with pre-checks done on the laptops to make sure they met the hardware specifications required. This was followed by the software installation which went smoothly and we had a working system up and running within a day.'



*SANAKO Study 1200 has revolutionised language learning*



*Students are motivated and engaged in the learning experience*



As you would expect the Network Manager did encounter some issues and stated 'I cannot say everything went without a hitch (it never does in my experience) as we did have some minor issues, but the important thing from my point of view is that the support from SANAKO was good and also timely. They did two follow up visits to make sure we were happy with the system and so, in short, they could not be faulted on the quality of support.'

### The Linguists Perspective

Esmeralda Salgado is Head of Spanish and an experienced teacher and user of the software language lab, SANAKO Study 1200. Ms Salgado states 'that the language lab has revolutionised the way we teach and students learn a language within just a term of using it. This piece of software can be as simple or as elaborate as the teacher chooses and, that is, in my opinion, one of the great benefits of this solution.'

As you would expect from such innovative software a range of tools are available to the teacher which can assist in motivating and engaging the students.

### Differentiated Learning

SANAKO Study 1200 encompasses all the basic functions that you would expect from a Language Laboratory, such as the pair-work facility or the ability to individually listen to mp3 files, immediately boosting self-confidence and independent learning of students. In addition, teachers can also listen to individual students and co-operate with them for advice if necessary. More importantly, students can be placed in different groups, who, consequently, can be working on different files, levels, or even different languages!

Ms Salgado describes that 'one of the most innovative features, of SANAKO Study 1200, is the fact that we can launch any type of file to the students: mp3, mpeg, PowerPoint or Word! This simple feature means that students can now work on two documents simultaneously: a video with a word document to write answers on, or a Powerpoint game template which will require some oral input from the students, which can then be recorded and saved using the SANAKO player.'

### Improving Student Confidence

Within SANKO Study 1200, "Voice Insert" enables users to create a pause within any mp3 or mpeg file for a student to record a response. The Kings School uses this feature, very successfully to practice questions and answer style exercises or role-plays.

Ms Salgado states 'video files are particularly effective when used together with this "Voice Insert" feature.' Teachers can use a video file and set up bookmarks with questions or simple instructions in strategic timed parts of the file, for example: What do you think about this idea? Traditionally, students would have stopped the file at this point and write down their answer.

However as Ms Salgado highlights, 'using Voice Insert, our pupils can now give the answer to this question in the Target Language, orally, and this software will then play the video with the students input. Using simple video files, pupils can be requested to guess what the speaker will say next and play back their answers. This, in my opinion, places language lessons and individual learning into a different league. Voice Insert can also be used by us, the teachers, to provide feedback to students about individual presentations, dialogues etc...'

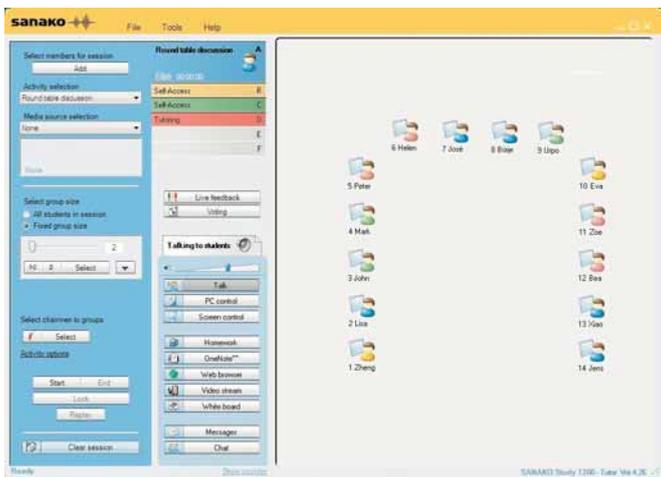
### An Integrated Solution

The School also use Task Magic activities linked the language lab: the students can play flashcard games by giving an oral input to an image, sentence etc... And record their contribution. Ms Salgado points out that 'this simple exercise can be adapted to different levels by asking some students just to say the name of a picture, or say the name of the picture within a sentence in the present tense, or within a sentence in the present and past tense while extending their answers!'

The Kings School, has found that the possibilities are massive depending on the teachers' imagination and boldness. Similarly, the benefits of exploiting real, authentic materials in a meaningful and yet independent way are extraordinary and will put, for the first time, not only the teaching, but also the learning of MFL well into the 21st Century.

For more information on The Kings School, Ely please visit [www.kingsschoolely.co.uk](http://www.kingsschoolely.co.uk)

For more details about SANAKO, formerly Tandberg Education and our range of digital language laboratories please visit [www.sanako.co.uk](http://www.sanako.co.uk) or contact [ukenquiries@sanako.com](mailto:ukenquiries@sanako.com)



SANAKO Study 1200 teacher interface

### High Technology from Finland



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