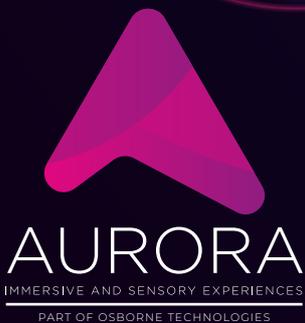


# ***SUCCESS STORIES***

Fitzalan High School



PART OF OSBORNE TECHNOLOGIES



Fitzalan High School  
Ysgol Uwchradd Fitzalan

# Putting immersive learning at the heart of a major school redevelopment

**Location:** Cardiff, UK | **Project:** Osborne Technologies' Aurora immersive classroom with Igloo Vision software

**Date:** September 2023 | **Product:** 7x8 metre Immersive Classroom

## Introduction

When Fitzalan High School in Cardiff embarked on a sixty four million pound project to rebuild their premises from the ground up, they wanted to ensure students had access to future-thinking facilities that would enhance the outstanding teaching on offer.

As part of their redevelopment, Fitzalan approached Igloo Vision and Aurora Immersive by Osborne Technologies to build an immersive classroom which could be used across all departments and by students of all ages from 11-18.

Installed in September 2023, the Fitzalan Immersion Studio is a big hit with students and staff, and has so far been used for virtual field trips to inspire creativity and to celebrate the history and diversity of the Tiger Bay area in Cardiff. It's even hosted an immersive history lesson for the Prince and Princess of Wales.



*The Prince and Princess of Wales visiting the Fitzalan High School immersive room.*



When designing a school for the 21st century, surely there should be spaces like this to bring learning to life for young people. You can read about it, you can look at a small screen, but actually being in the room and experiencing it just makes things more memorable, more understandable and we're going to really benefit.

**Mrs J Kemp - Assistant Headteacher**



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## The Product

**The Hardware** – The Fitzalan Immersion Studio is a three-walled immersive room powered by eight Optoma projectors and an Igloo Immersive Media Player (IMP). The visual experience is enriched by further sensory controls, including dynamic lighting, surround sound, wind machines and scent diffusers, all controlled by Aurora's command delivery system.

**The Software** – The immersive classroom runs using Igloo Core Engine (ICE), the operating system for immersive spaces by Igloo Vision which makes it easy for educators to incorporate immersive learning into their teaching.

**The Content** – One of the big advantages of ICE is the flexibility of the software, which is designed to display almost any type of immersive or traditional content on any display – including 360° video and specialist VR learning content. Fitzalan staff have been making use of Igloo's native integrations for YouTube 360° and Google Streetview, and have also been creating their own immersive learning content using 360° video and presentations in Microsoft Sway.



*The Fitzalan High School immersive classroom with a selection of images and films about the history of Cardiff Docks and Tiger Bay.*

## The Result

After one term in its new premises, Fitzalan has already found plenty of ways to incorporate immersive learning into the curriculum and the large, visually impactful space can easily accommodate up to 35 students with plenty of room to move around and interact with the display.

Here are some of the ways the immersive classroom is being used:

### Immersive films exploring local history

Fitzalan is located in one of Cardiff's most diverse areas and many of its students are descendants of seafarers who came to work in Cardiff Docks and Tiger Bay. The first piece of bespoke content Fitzalan made for the Immersion Studio was a 360° film combining archive footage, images and text to explore the history of the local community.



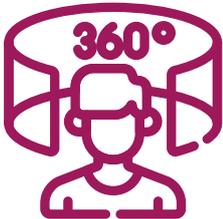


## Virtual field trips to the Supreme Court of the United States

When learning about American politics, sixth-form students have the opportunity to speak via video call with a member of the Supreme Court. Now with the immersion studio, students can also take a virtual tour of the courtrooms.

## Exploring different ecologies in biology

One of the great things about an immersive classroom like Fitzalan's, is that it's so easy to enhance the current curriculum with immersive content and bring difficult spatial concepts to life. For example, teachers have used the space to explore the ecology of aquatic environments in biology or different landscapes in geography.



## Bringing history to life

History students have been learning about life in the trenches during the First World War by experiencing CGI and reenacted 360° content about trench warfare.



I think the staff were really pleasantly surprised with the kind of interface and how easy it was to use certainly in the initial set up.

**Mrs J Kemp - Assistant Headteacher**

## Going Forward

Fitzalan High School are only just getting started with their new premises. Over the following year staff will be looking to roll out use of the immersive classroom across the curriculum so that every subject and student benefits from immersive learning.



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