

Top Performers

Bradley Stoke Community School, Bristol

Bradley Stoke Community School opened in September 2005 and has been a specialist school for Performing Arts and Languages since September 2008.

In November 2009 Ofsted judged the school as outstanding overall and September 2010 has seen the start of the next phase of life at the school with the opening of their Post 16 Centre.

This year Bradley Stoke are the host for the Creative and Media Diploma, with students travelling from other schools to BSCS for their principal learning. They also run a BTEC in Media Production. To support the syllabus and to be utilised in their Personalised Curriculum, the school invested in a TV studio, which was installed by Planet PC in August 2010.

Iain Williams, deputy head teacher, told us how user friendly staff and students have found the equipment. "It is really, really intuitive. We had a two hour training session with Planet and were able to record a news broadcast the very next day!" Iain, clearly impressed, said how professional he found Planet PC to be. Commenting on Sales Manager Matthew Hastings, Iain said "His technical knowledge is fantastic and he can translate this into everyday language and not in a geeky way. They are very 'educational friendly' and flexible. We feel we can pick up the phone at anytime."

Media teacher, David Bryant described how the Creative and Media courses are in full swing. Level 3 students are embarking on music video production, using the chroma key as a backdrop for them to film rock bands performing. They are also using this opportunity to experiment with all the other equipment. Level 2 students are making and presenting a magazine style production, featuring their own short reports relating to topical issues, akin to The One Show.

Bradley Stoke Community School also intend to use the TV studio for promotional videos showcasing their equipment in operation as a way of recruiting new students. Iain summed up the appeal to students "It captures their imagination immediately and provides a real world video production scenario. Processes you couldn't imagine previously can now be achieved easily. Students can also see what really happens behind the scenes and not just in front of the camera."

