

THE DYNAMIC CLASSROOM

DOUGLAS BUTLER

Director, iCT Training Centre, Oundle School, Peterborough, UK debutler@argonet.co.uk - www.argonet.co.uk/oundlesch



Introduction

Of all the academic subjects, Mathematics has possibly the broadest range of computer-related applications which can help with visualisation and greater understanding. For many teachers this is the great escape from the chalk, but for many though it represents a serious challenge to their well established and perfectly effective teaching styles, throwing up significant training issues.

With more and more classrooms being fitted with projectors, new techniques have to be established to make the best use of them. The key is variety, mixing regular teaching strategies with occasional computer-generated images.

In this presentation Douglas will show a number of lesson plans for secondary and college level mathematics making use of dynamic images from Excel, the Web, geometry software and Autograph. It will go on to show how standard Office tools can help to document the lessons on an intranet system using hyperlinks.

Finally, with pupils the world over tending to find the subject dry and uninteresting, and teachers thinking they have discovered better things to do with their lives, Douglas will try to make the point that technology can have a role to play here in rescuing this dire situation. Technology can help to make the subject appear more lively and relevant, and to add a sparkle to the lessons, thus making the process of teaching and learning the subject more fun, and more effective.