

The Interactive Whiteboards, Pedagogy and Pupil Performance Evaluation: An Evaluation of the Schools Whiteboard Expansion (SWE) Project: London Challenge

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With statistical analysis by Becky Allen, Andrew Jenkins,
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AIMS AND METHODS

Aims of the Evaluation

This study was designed to evaluate the educational and operational effectiveness of the London Challenge element of the Schools interactive Whiteboard Expansion project (SWE). The SWE funding stream was intended to fully equip at least one core subject department in each London secondary school with interactive whiteboards (IWBs) and became available for this purpose in 2003/4.

The objectives of the research were to assess the impact of interactive whiteboard use on:

- Teaching and learning;
- Teacher/pupil motivation, and pupil attendance and behaviour;
- Standards in core subjects at KS3 and GCSE.

It also assessed the impact of SWE's approach to teacher CPD and the effectiveness of the structures in place at LEA and school level to guide the project implementation in local settings.

This study used a mixed methods research design. The main methods employed were:

- Case studies;
- Survey of departmental IWB availability and usage;
- Statistical analysis of pupil performance data.

FINDINGS

Summary

The main findings are that the SWE scheme substantially increased the number of IWBs in use in London secondary school core subject departments. As a technology, IWBs adapt well to the kind of whole class teaching environment favoured in secondary school core subjects. Their actual use varies according to the teacher, and between subject areas.

The transformation of secondary school pedagogy is a long term project. The use of IWBs can contribute to this aim under the appropriate circumstances. Discussion of pedagogy should precede and embed discussion of the technology. Successful CPD is most likely to be effective if it supports individual teachers' exploration of their current pedagogy, and helps identify how IWB use can support, extend or transform this. Discussion of the relative strengths and weaknesses of different ways of using the technology for particular purposes should be part of the on-going work of a department. Although the newness of the technology was initially welcomed by pupils any boost in motivation seems short-lived. Statistical analysis showed no impact on pupil performance in the first year in which departments were fully

equipped. This is as we would expect at this stage in the policy-cycle.

Detailed Findings

1. The supply of IWBs to London secondary schools

The SWE funding stream substantially altered the pattern of secondary school spending on IWBs in London by:

- Doubling the number of IWBs deployed in schools;
- Significantly increasing the deployment of IWBs in Maths, Science and English. Without SWE funding, the vast majority of IWBs in schools would be deployed in other subject areas (Figs 2 & 3 in Allen, 2005, Annex C);
- In schools where some boards were already in place, the SWE funding was able to fully equip more than one core subject area;
- Some early difficulties experienced in the installation of IWBs and the supply of training associated with the short timeframe in which SWE funding became available have not substantially impacted on the uptake of IWBs;
- Maths and Science departments were the main beneficiaries of SWE funding, with English departments generally equipped last.

2. The Use of IWB Resources

IWBs are a technology that is being used. They are easy to integrate into the work of the class. Only a very small minority of teachers who have access to the technology are not using it. Many teachers are using IWBs in most or every lesson with particularly strong use in Maths and Science.

IWBs are mainly being used: as a data projector which can navigate to multiple screens; as a surface which can generate a dynamic rather than static form of display; to enhance presentation from the front of the class.

The bulk of the texts currently used on the IWB are the teacher's own. Externally produced subject specific software is most common in Maths. Externally produced software that has the most potential to transform pedagogy is often underpinned by considerable research investment and has been fully developed in relation to specialised areas of the curriculum. Other commercially produced materials may be far less innovative.

When creating their own texts, many teachers struggle to incorporate principles of design which can establish clear reading paths for pupils. Lack of familiarity with such principles of design may make it much harder for teachers to create and share resources that can be used independently of their author.

Very few peripherals were seen in use with IWBs. To date there does not seem to be any clear policy advice on the potential of different peripherals to enhance IWB use, and departments' purchases seem to be as much a matter of chance as informed choice. However, the research also concluded that peripherals could

substantially enhance the use of IWBs when they helped teachers move away from the front of the class, and enabled pupils to exert more control over the contents of the board.

3. How Far has the Technology Changed the Way Teachers Teach?

There is considerable variation in the use of IWBs both within departments and between core subjects. The literature suggests a continuum in which new technologies initially support, then extend and finally transform pedagogy as teachers gradually find out what the technology can do. Familiarity, confidence and time are assumed to be the keys that unlock this gradual process of transformation. Our research certainly shows that those taking the lead in using the technology in the most innovative ways often have had access to the technology for the longest period or are particularly committed to exploring what it can do in circumstances where they have time to experiment. But the introduction of an IWB does not in and of itself transform existing pedagogies. Moreover we consider that the use of IWBs to support, extend or transform existing pedagogies can all be justified, depending upon the immediate curriculum context, the teacher's purposes and the pupils' needs. The main emphasis needs to rest with the appropriateness of the pedagogy, not the use of the technology per se.

4. What Kinds of Changes Does the Technology Foster?

To a large extent the kinds of changes the technology fosters depend on what teachers think it is for. There are three key themes that dominate thinking about the role of IWBs in changing pedagogy. These are: increased pace of delivery; increased use of multimodal resources, incorporating image, sound and movement in new ways; and a more interactive style of whole class teaching.

The research suggests two important caveats to these anticipated benefits.

First, it is possible to approach pace, multimodality and interactivity with either a surface or deep understanding of what they contribute to pedagogy. A surface approach rests at the level of the technical or physical attributes of the technology. From this perspective, making pedagogy interactive means using particular features of the IWB such as drop and drag, or moving between multiple screens during lesson time. A deep approach embeds the use of the technology more specifically in a broader pedagogic aim. This means assessing more precisely how particular features of the IWB can achieve a wider pedagogic purpose which is itself centred on increasing pupil understanding of key aspects of relevant subject knowledge.

Second, the value of particular attributes of the technology and their capacity to achieve meaningful change depend on how these features fit with existing pedagogic approaches and priorities embedded in the particular subject domain and its existing practice. So fast pace in teaching is perceived as much more of a virtue in Maths than in other subject domains. This is also where the technology is most likely to be used to this effect. From this point of view, the introduction of IWBs to secondary schools may reinforce, or even distort, rather than reconfigure the dominant approach to pedagogy in particular subject areas. We would recommend that teachers review when a fast pace to pedagogy is appropriate, under what conditions,

and when it is not, rather than assume that it is axiomatic that the technology should be used in this way.

5. The Impact of IWB Use on Pupils' Learning

The use of an IWB does not of itself automatically alter the dynamic of whole class teaching in secondary core subject areas. It does offer up an opportunity to think about the strengths and weaknesses of whole class teaching and how else it might be organised. Where we observed best practice, departments or individual teachers were aware of this dimension and had consciously set aside time to reflect on the most appropriate use of the technology in their own context.

When use of the technological tools took precedence over a clear understanding of pedagogic purpose, the technology was not exploited in a way that would or could substantially enhance subject learning.

For instance, the focus on interactivity as a technical process can lead to some relatively mundane activities being over-valued. Such an emphasis on technical interactivity was particularly prevalent in classes with lower ability students. Lessons with higher ability students tended to be less focused on getting students up to the board and were less concerned with being seen to be interactive. The absence or presence of this kind of interactivity was not decisive in creating opportunities for pupil learning. In lower ability groups it could actually slow the pace of whole class learning as individual pupils took turns at the board.

Multimodal resources had most impact when their potential to enhance understanding rather than marshal attention had been clearly assessed and their use was treated as an integral part of subject learning.

The research suggested a less strong correlation between speed of delivery and effective teaching than the literature might suggest.

The ability of the technology to adapt to existing pedagogy at this stage in the implementation cycle suggests that judging any distinctive contribution that IWBs can make to pupil learning will be a long-term process dependent on on-going exploration of what the technology can best be used for.

6. Collaborative Curricular Development

Analysis of the in-depth case studies showed that the different curriculum demands of Maths, Science and English affected the ways in which teachers interpreted and used the facilities of IWBs. This has consequences for the range of features that were exploited in each subject area. For instance, the use of IWBs to visualise or dynamically represent abstract concepts in new ways has immediate relevance in Maths and Science but the contribution of this aspect of the technology to learning within the English curriculum is less immediately clear. Equally the capacity of the technology to speed the pace of classroom activity may not be universally beneficial. Its value depends upon the kind of curriculum knowledge being constructed, and this varies both according to curriculum topic and between subjects.

Observations for this project suggest that developing good materials for use with the IWB is not just a matter of solving a range of technical or logistical problems but also means considering more fundamentally which kinds of texts can most usefully be shared in this way.

7. How to Maximise Benefits from the Use of IWBs

More open-ended discussion between colleagues needs to take place about how IWBs can be used to support, extend, and transform existing practice. Each of these uses has a value under the right conditions. Teachers should be encouraged to consider when it is appropriate to use the technology for any of these purposes and which aspect of the technology might be most appropriate to achieve that aim.

There are potentially some drawbacks to the ways in which IWBs are currently being used. The technology can:

- Reinforce a transmission style of whole class teaching in which the contents of the board multiply and go faster, whilst pupils are increasingly reduced to a largely spectator role;
- Reduce interactivity to what happens at the board, not what happens in the classroom.

Those with responsibility for the rollout of the technology and training for best practice in its use need to be aware of these dangers and help refocus discussion amongst colleagues on their pedagogic aims so that teachers harness what the technology itself can do in the light of their broader pedagogic purposes.

Further research and exploration of how peripherals can mediate the focus on action at the front of the class, and create more space for pupil involvement in the creation of lesson content is needed. Amongst practitioners, this kind of exploration currently flows from teachers already committed to using any technology in this way, i.e. bending the technology to their own pedagogic intent.

This research is unable to resolve whether IWBs have more potential in the classroom than the use of data projectors and networked peripherals.

8. Teacher and Pupil Perceptions of IWBs

By and large both pupils and teachers are very positive about the technology, and often echo the claims made in the literature for the contribution IWBs can make to teaching and learning. In both interview and survey responses teachers and pupils highlighted as useful those aspects of the technology, which enhance the teacher's role at the front of the class and think the quality of the display can help clarify key teaching points. Pupils were far more cautious about the impact of IWBs on behaviour. Some were reluctant to go out to the front of the class to use the board.

Both teachers and pupils consider that IWBs help bring teaching up-to-date. More than two thirds of the teachers surveyed thought that using an IWB would help them in their career. However, the lack of critical perspective on the technology may make it harder to promote the necessary professional discussion of its relative strengths

and weaknesses that is needed to develop best use in the secondary sector.

9. Training

This research raises questions about the aptness of predicating formal training on a dissemination model that presumes that the pedagogic possibilities of the technology are both well defined and finite. In fact, classroom observation suggests that the real value of IWBs for teaching and learning in different subject areas of the secondary curriculum is not yet fully understood.

This research advocates more emphasis on the role of jointly facilitating mutual exploration of what the technology can do in context, with the aim of extending teachers' understanding of when and how IWBs can be most appropriately exploited for a specific pedagogical aim.

Comparatively low up-take for formal off-site training can be linked to teachers' preference for training on a "need to know" basis as they use the technology in their own classrooms. However, this may reinforce a relatively conservative use of the technology as teachers adapt it to their existing pedagogic style.

10. Impact of IWBs on Pupil Performance

Statistical analysis tested whether any changes in student attainment at KS3 and KS4 in the three core subjects between 2004 and 2005 could be attributed to the increase in the number of IWBs per student between the two years. The sample of schools studied was limited to those that had supplied data from timetables for 2003/4 and 2004/5 which linked pupils with the teacher who taught them.

Unfortunately a software upgrade, which adversely affected many schools, severely restricted the collection of the necessary administrative data. The analysis was therefore limited to just over 30 schools (9 per cent of London schools) and around 9000 students. Overall, the statistical analysis failed to find evidence of any impact of the increase in IWB acquisition in London schools on attainment in the three core subjects in the academic year 2004/5. However, given the variation in use documented in the case studies, this is in line with what we would predict at this stage in the policy cycle.

1. THE STRUCTURE OF THIS REPORT

This report consists of eight sections. Sections 2-7 report on the qualitative case studies and the survey data. Section 8 contains the statistical analysis of the impact of IWBs on pupil performance.

Sections 2 and 3 focus on the research brief and how it was fulfilled, giving details of the methods of data collection and analysis.

Section 4 describes the context of the implementation of the Schools Whiteboard Expansion (SWE) programme, with a focus on both the policy context and the local context of the schools.

Section 5 considers the impact of the introduction of IWBs on teaching and learning. This section is divided into three parts.

- Part One, **The Use of IWB Resources**, outlines the variation in use observed in the case studies and focuses on the range of resources which seemed to influence teacher and pupil interaction with the board;
- Part Two, **Developing Pedagogy and the Impact on Pupils' Learning**, explores the range of pedagogic practice observed with IWBs;
- Part Three, **Collaborative Curricular Development**, examines differences in the ways in which IWBs were used in each core subject area and the extent to which their potential may vary according to the particular curriculum topic as well as subject domain.

Section 6 discusses teacher and pupil perceptions of IWBs.

Section 7 focuses on teacher CPD and the effectiveness of the structures in place to guide project implementation.

Section 8 reports on the statistical analysis carried out as part of this study.

The Annexes. Annex A contains an overview of the methods used. Details of the literature review, the analysis of the baseline survey, teacher survey and pupil survey are given in annex B to E.

2. RESEARCH BRIEF

2.1 Aims of the Evaluation

This study was designed to evaluate the educational and operational effectiveness of the London Challenge element of the Schools interactive Whiteboard Expansion project (SWE). The SWE funding stream was intended to fully equip at least one core subject department in each London secondary school with interactive whiteboards (IWBs) and became available for this purpose in 2003/4.

To examine the impact of the introduction of IWBs to London secondary core subject departments as part of the SWE scheme, the evaluation employed a mix of qualitative and quantitative methods.

Detailed objectives

The detailed objectives of the research were to assess:

- The impact of interactive whiteboard use on teaching and learning, including an exploration of differences in whiteboard use in different subject areas, and in comparison to other technologies;
- The impact of interactive whiteboard use on teacher/pupil motivation, and pupil attendance and behaviour;
- The impact of SWE's approach to teacher CPD designed to foster effective uptake of the technology and the development of best practice;
- The effectiveness of the structures in place at LEA and school level to guide the project implementation in local settings;
- The impact of interactive whiteboard use on standards in core subjects at KS3 and GCSE.

2.2 Background

The literature review conducted for this study (See Annex B) considered the potential IWBs offer as part of current education policy, including its aim of producing an ICT rich environment in schools adequate to current educational needs; and as a specific technology which might have particular strengths and weaknesses in its own right. More specifically, the review considered:

- The main potential IWBs represent for improving pupil attainment and pedagogy as this is understood within the current policy cycle and in the literature more broadly;
- The main factors which might influence how that potential is realised;
- The extent to which the range of data collected for this study could either corroborate or extend existing lines of approach in the literature.

Whilst the policy literature on ICT in schools remains optimistic about the potential benefits of the new technologies in terms of improving the efficiency of teachers' work, the overall quality of teaching and learning and pupils' attainment, it also recognises that simply getting the equipment into schools is not enough to guarantee impact (Pittard et al

2003). Whilst many of the factors that are assumed to help or hinder good uptake are consistent with the principles of school improvement more generally (Jones, 2004; Scrimshaw, 2004), there is a broad consensus that good quality training is important and needs to provide teachers with a clear understanding of the pedagogical applications and advantages that ICT can bring (Ofsted, 2004).

To-date, much of the literature on IWBs as a specific technology has been produced by advocates of the technology, reflecting on the use of IWBs in their own classroom or working alongside colleagues. Until recently this has drawn on a relatively modest research base, comparatively little of which has appeared in peer-reviewed journals. Nevertheless, there is a broad consensus within this literature on the contribution that IWBs can make to improve teaching and learning. This can be summarised as follows. IWBs bring the functionality of the computer into whole class settings and promise more interactive and flexible use in that context through their touch sensitive screens allied with handwriting recognition systems. This combination of features solves some of the perceived difficulties associated with the previous deployment of PCs in schools and particularly the disadvantages associated with their location in dedicated computer suites.

In addition, the technology seems easier to integrate into existing pedagogic practice and may therefore aid the fuller use of ICT in subject learning. It can foster a more interactive style of whole class teaching through features that encourage pupil participation in this setting, through use of the touch-sensitive screen. It enables more flexible use of a broad range of multimedia resources as well as dedicated software that supports or enhances a wider range of learning styles. In some subjects, software that exploits the dynamic visual dimension of the medium can make it easier to model abstract ideas. If the facility to prepare and save materials is fully utilized, IWBs can increase the pace of teaching by making it easier to move between texts on screen as well as revisit materials deployed earlier. In line with the literature on ICT more generally, it is assumed that the adoption of IWBs in a whole school or department setting will facilitate resource sharing between teachers (see Annex B).

Whilst there is general agreement in the literature on the terms in which the benefits of the IWB are discussed, Smith et al, (2005) caution that some of these benefits are not peculiar to the IWB but could be achieved through other combinations of computer technology that relay the contents of the computer screen to whole class settings through data projection.

A more robust research literature that studies whether and how the potential of the technology can be realised in more diverse settings is still largely in progress (Somekh, 2005; Kennewell, 2004; Higgins et al, 2005.). With the exception of Glover and Miller's study of Maths teaching and IWB (Miller and Glover 2004), which incorporated active support for teaching with IWBs into its research design, initial findings from this work are much more cautious about the likely impact of the technology in changing classroom pedagogy.

3. DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

This section outlines the methods used, the data collected and how they were analysed.

3.1 Methods

This study used a mixed methods research design. It combined quantitative testing of hypotheses about the impact on pupil performance of fully equipping core departments with IWBs with qualitative data analysis that could explore practices and perceptions with respect to IWB use in classrooms and would therefore provide understanding and explanation of how IWB usage might impact on learning. The main methods employed were:

- (1) Case studies, collecting qualitative data on IWB usage that could assist in interpretation of reasons for differences in the use of interactive whiteboards between schools and between subject areas; whether and how use of the technology re-shapes pedagogic practice and the variables that influence outcomes in this respect, including training;
- (2) Survey data, on departmental IWB availability and usage; and on teacher familiarity with and expectations of the technology and its impact on teaching and learning;
- (3) Statistical analysis of pupil performance data, trying to recover any causal impact of IWBs on learning outcomes using statistical analysis of changes in pupil performance controlling for all observable factors that affect outcomes.

The following sections will comment in more detail on these three different strands to the research.

3.2. In-depth Case Studies: Data Sources, Collection and Processing

In-depth case studies were conducted in nine core-subject departments in London schools. These comprised three Maths departments, three Science Departments and three English Departments. Seven of the schools were recruited to the project on the recommendation of LEA ICT officers and two further schools were recruited through the baseline survey and contacts with an in-service provider. Each of the schools was selected on the basis that departments were fully equipped with IWBs and had the capacity to use them well. In each department data were collected from three Year Nine teaching groups, so 27 classes contributed to the study overall. This data collection occurred in two phases, phase one took place in the Autumn Term 2004/Spring term 2005 and phase two in the Summer Term 2005.

A range of data was collected in each of the case study sites in both phases. The data included:

- Two week-long periods of structured observation of the delivery of a curriculum topic in the core subject area equipped with IWBs;
- Video recording of two lessons from each teaching group during each period of observation;
- Collection of IWB texts used during these lesson sequences;
- Two days structured observation of curriculum delivery in other subject areas;
- Interviews with the head of the relevant core subject department;
- Interviews timed to coincide with each period of observation with the three core subject teachers whose Year 9 classes had been observed;
- Focus group interviews with pupils from each of the Year 9 classes observed;
- A pupil survey administered to each class observed;
- An extended teacher survey administered to each teacher whose class had been observed.

Classroom observation in each core subject area focused on a 'curriculum topic unit' delivered over a series of lessons that took place in the course of one week. This enabled the research team to examine the use of interactive whiteboards firmly in the context of the broader curriculum and thus avoid the problem of separating the technology from the learning context and its purposes. The in-depth case studies have yielded detailed rich data for the analysis of the impact of IWB use on teaching and learning, including an exploration of differences in IWB use in different subject areas, and in comparison to other technologies; and of the impact of IWB use on teacher/pupil motivation.

Analysis of the Data

3.2.1 Structured observation and video recording of lessons

A structured observation grid was used to observe lessons in the core subject areas. This recorded the physical context of the lesson, curriculum topic, information on student attainment and gender. It focused on three main areas for observation:

- Context: discursive and material/physical aspects that shaped the use of the texts used in the lesson;
- Texts in use: What kinds of texts featured in the lesson and how were they being used, teacher and pupil activity, with a focus on both ICT resources and non-ICT resources;
- Social relations: this mapped the configurations of relations in the classroom, e.g. whole classroom work, group or pair; who is at IWB; types of social interaction; teacher's position in class.

These protocols structured the classroom observations by the project researchers in different case study sites and provided detailed information about the social context including the social geography, the texts used, the role participants played in the

event and the interrelationship between these different elements. The observation grids were then analysed thematically, with a focus on emergent themes and patterns.

Following these observations two lessons were video recorded. Video was used as it is appropriate to document the changing screen content, linked to the micro contexts in which teaching and learning takes place. A time coded video log was compiled for each lesson recorded. These logs include a summary of the lesson, notes on the context, texts in use, and social relations of the classroom, as well as reflections on the data and comments on emergent themes for investigation. Video sequences of teaching were thematically identified using time coding identifiers.

Alongside the observation and video recording the texts used in the classrooms were recorded and where possible IWB texts were collected on USB flash drives.

3.2.2 Structured Observation Across the School Day

Structured observations of pupil participation in a sequence of lessons across the curriculum over the course of a day were undertaken. This was achieved by tracking one Year 9 pupil from each of the departments participating in the research throughout the length of a school day. This tracking mapped the range of literacy events in which students typically participate across different subject areas, the structure of those events, the use they make of different kinds of textual resources and the outcomes they lead to. This data was summarised in observation day logs to produce comparative analysis of teaching and learning in other subject areas either with ICT, including interactive whiteboards, or without. These logs also commented on emerging themes and areas for further investigation and analysis.

3.2.3 Teacher and Head of Department Interviews

The teachers and Heads of Department involved in the observation sequences were interviewed after the classroom data has been collected. A total of 27 teachers and 9 heads of department were interviewed.

- The Head of Department interviews focused on the history of IWBs' placement in the department and school and any training undertaken, as well as how teachers were using the IWBs;
- The teacher interviews in the first phase of the data collection focused on training, planning and resources, and teacher practices. The interviews were used to elicit reflection on whiteboard resources and how they are deployed in different contexts; teacher perceptions of what constitutes good practice in whiteboard use; impact on pupil interaction and learning and the extent to which whiteboard use has met their expectations;
- The teacher interviews in phase two of the data collection used examples of texts produced or used by the participants during the teaching sequences that had been videoed as prompts for reflection on teaching and learning in context. The interviews were audio recorded, transcribed and thematically analysed.

Details on the teacher survey administered at the end of the data collection period are given in Section 3.4 below.

3.2.4 Pupil Focus Groups

Focus group interviews were conducted with a maximum of six students from each class observed after the data has been collected. Examples of different texts observed in use, both those developed for and on the whiteboards, and a selection of alternative pedagogic resources seen in use in the schools were used as prompts in the pupil interviews. Interviews focused on students' response to the subject content and the purpose of the lesson, issues of motivation and learning style. The pupils were asked about the use of IWBs in relation to the lessons that had been observed by the research team to find out if what we had seen was typical, and to locate our observations in the wider experience of the pupils. The focus group also gathered data on who uses the IWB, when and how, as well as asking students about their views on IWBs and their impact on teaching and learning. The pupil focus groups were audio recorded, transcribed and thematically analysed.

3.2.5 Pupil Survey

A pupil questionnaire on pupils' familiarity with and expectations of ICT use in school was administered to all students in the Year group observed (included in annex F). The survey included questions on how often IWBs are used in the core subjects of Maths, Science and English, whether or not students interact with the boards, and if so what kind of activities they are engaged with. Pupils' views on the impact of IWBs on learning, motivation, participation, behaviour and the quality of teaching were also gathered.

3.3 Documenting the Training Environment: Data Sources, Collection and Processing

To track the structures in place to support implementation and provide appropriate training in the use of IWBs, researchers attended 3 LGfl Sector meetings where the SWE rollout was discussed and conducted 10 interviews with a range of key players who had varying degrees of responsibility for policy implementation and or IWB training in different settings. These included LEA officials with responsibilities for both developing and delivering policies for ICT; subject consultants working as part of the KS3 strategy teams; members of CLCs; and private providers of IWB training. Interviews focused on both the form of training provided and its content and what interviewees considered to have been its successes and or challenges. These interviews were transcribed and thematically analysed to identify general patterns in response.

This data yielded information on the pattern of training provision and how it changed over time in relation to a variety of factors. For the purposes of analysis this data was combined with the data on teachers' perceptions of their training needs, experience and priorities collected via the teacher interviews and survey instruments.

3.4 Survey Instruments: Data Sources, Collection and Processing

Two surveys – one basic, one extended - were administered during the lifetime of the project.

3.4.1 *The baseline survey*

The basic survey went to all London secondary schools in the autumn term 2004/5 and achieved a 41% response rate. It collected data on IWB and ICT resourcing; and on teacher familiarity and expectations of the technology in the three core subjects. The survey was issued to relevant members of the senior management team, HODs and administrators. (See Annex C for the full report on this survey.) A smaller number of schools (10.5%) also supplied timetable information for the core subjects which linked rooms equipped with IWBs to teaching groups in 2003/4 and 2004/5 for use in the analysis of pupil performance data. The lower response rate was largely due to problems associated with an upgrade to the main timetable software (SIMS), which led many schools to lose data for the relevant period.

The survey data were entered into SPSS. Analysis focused on the representative character of the sample of schools; the way in which SWE funds were deployed at school level; and differences between core subject departments including in training and in use (See Allen, 2005 in Annex C).

3.4.2 *The extended teacher survey*

The extended survey was administered to the staff that participated in the case studies. In addition, a sub-sample of the departments that had responded to the basic survey was contacted and those willing to participate further were issued with individual teacher surveys for their staff. The small numbers of schools involved (7% of London secondary schools) and their characteristics (see Annex D) mean that they cannot be treated as a representative sample. However, the teachers who responded were relatively evenly balanced between teachers new to the profession, relatively experienced and very experienced.

The survey took place in the summer and autumn of 2005, at the end of the first year of SWE. The survey collected data on teacher motivation, familiarity and usage of the IWB; on teacher perceptions of its potential to enhance teaching and learning, as well as any drawbacks associated with the technology; and on teacher's experience and evaluation of the available training. The questionnaire design was shaped by the provisional findings from the case studies. Altogether 113 staff in 27 departments replied.

The data were entered into SPSS. Analysis focused on the characteristics of the teachers taking part; the ICT environment in which they were working; the range of use made of IWBs; training; and teachers' perceptions of the impact of IWBs.

Survey instruments are included in Appendix F

3.5 Statistical Analysis of Pupil Attainment Data: Data Sources, Collection and Processing

A small scale study explored the impact of the increase in IWB acquisition on pupil performance in the core subjects using data on the number of IWBs in departments in October 2003 and October 2004 and timetable data collected directly from schools. These were combined with pupil-level attainment data from the National Pupil Database. This combination of data was successfully collected for 9% of London schools. The data were used in separate sets of regressions to analyse whether changes in the 'value-added' achieved at school level, at teacher level and by departments at KS3 and KS4 between 2003/04 and 2004/05 could be due to the increase in the number of IWBs in departments. The small scale study concluded that there was no evidence of any impact, positive or negative, of increased IWBs in subject departments on attainment at KS3 and KS4 in Maths, Science and English. This conclusion was corroborated by estimating the change in London schools' value added in these subjects between 2004 and 2005. The positive and negative changes in some of the subject value added estimates found in the small scale study mirrored the general trend in value added changes between the two years for London schools compared to schools nationally. Full details of the analysis will be found in Section 8

4. SWE IN ITS CONTEXT OF IMPLEMENTATION

This section examines the range of contextual factors that helped shape the introduction of IWBs to core subject departments in London secondary schools as part of the SWE scheme and identifies some of the key decisions taken at the outset of the scheme that influenced implementation. The section draws on both case study and survey data.

4.1 The Policy Context

Funding for the London Challenge element of the SWE scheme was announced in Jan 2004 by then Secretary of State, Charles Clarke (Clarke, 2004) with the money to be spent in that academic year. This added to monies already committed for the same purpose and announced by Stephen Twigg in Nov 2003 (DfES, 2004) as part of a wider move to invest in the infrastructure of London schools as part of the London Challenge initiative. The funding was designed to fully equip at least one of the three core subject departments of Maths, Science or English in each London secondary school with IWBs.

The SWE funding stream did not include money for training. Operational training was assumed to be available from suppliers at point of purchase; whilst pedagogical training was initially expected to be provided either by CLCs, as part of their role in leading teaching in an ICT rich environment; or by software suppliers (Becta, 2004b). KS3 consultants were intended to contribute to this overall pattern of support, but no monies were committed to training or equipping them as part of the SWE package.

It was anticipated that funding to pay for the necessary support would be available at school level as part of existing budgets for in-service training. In addition, schools became able to commit some of the standards funding for ICT to Hands on Support training from 2004/5. The impact of these assumptions on the pattern of support for IWB use will be explored in more detail in section 7 below.

4.2 Impact on Supply

Data from the baseline survey (See Annex C) show that the funding substantially altered the pattern of secondary school spending on IWBs in London. More precisely:

- SWE funding doubled the number of IWBs deployed in schools;
- SWE funding substantially increased the deployment of IWBs in Maths, Science and English. Without SWE funding, the vast majority of IWBs in schools would be deployed in other subject areas. (Figures 2 & 3 in Allen, 2005, Annex B);
- Maths and Science departments were the main beneficiaries of SWE funding, with English lagging some way behind;

- Reasons given for the choice of department to receive funding suggest that provision of IWBs in Maths and Science departments is seen by schools as more essential than in English departments, which tend to be equipped last;
- In schools where some boards were already in place, the SWE funding was able to fully equip more than one core subject area.

In all these respects, SWE funding has delivered on one of its primary objectives.

4.3 The Schools in their Local Context

4.3.1 Teacher expertise

Schools that were visited as part of the case studies and the schools that responded to the teacher survey at the end of the first year of implementation, reported a range of teacher expertise available in their core subject departments to support the use of IWBs. Teachers who described themselves as either experts or near experts in IWB use came from each of the length of service bands used in the survey analysis (new to the profession i.e. 3 years or less; relatively experienced teachers i.e. 4 to 10 years; and very experienced teachers i.e. 11 years and over. See Fig 9, Annex C) With the exception of a single reported case, all departments surveyed had access to at least one member of staff with these higher levels of expertise.

The survey showed that such expertise had been built up in a number of ways. In the case of NQTs this was through PGCE training or school placements; for more experienced teachers, through previous experience in departments which had already invested in IWBs prior to the SWE scheme; in some departments through extensive specialist training which had taken place prior to SWE; and in others via assigning responsibility for taking the lead in this area to individual teachers. The willingness of HOD's to argue the case for the use of the technology in their department appeared to have had a positive impact on its uptake and made it easier for staff to share expertise on a planned basis.

4.3.2 Resourcing

The majority of teachers in our sample worked in their own room. This greatly enhanced their capacity to make use of the IWB, as did access to the appropriate software at home so that they could plan for IWB use in this context. Generally the presence of the IWB was welcomed

'I mean theoretically, a lot of things that we are doing now we could have done before because we had a dept laptop, we had a dept projector....But it is amazing what a barrier just having to get the projector out of the cupboard and plug it in, it is amazing what a barrier that was...and so having the whiteboards installed has removed that barrier'

However, for some teachers technical difficulties continued to create problems, as did security worries over the equipment. Little direct advice to schools on the choice or procurement of peripherals meant that what was actually available, where, tended

to be driven by the interests and commitments of individual teachers and their ability to access the necessary funds.

4.3.3 Training

The amount and type of training varied across schools. In interview, teachers reported most favourably on opportunities for department-based training sessions focused on sharing and deepening departmental expertise and which could be tailored to their own immediate needs:

The Maths department undertook its own departmental meeting on a weekly basis. Teachers took their own laptops to the after school sessions and were led by the head of department in a session which was practical and which included activities which led to the planning of lessons. (Excerpt from Case study notes.)

Views on the helpfulness of whole school training sessions or off site generic training were more mixed. (See Section 7 below for a fuller discussion on this point.) The amount of formal training that staff had received was comparatively small. (See Annex D)

5. FINDINGS: THE IMPACT OF THE INTRODUCTION OF IWBs ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

This section examines the impact of IWBs on teaching and learning using data that was collected as part of the case studies (See section 3.2 above) and via the extended teacher survey issued towards the end of this project (See Annex D).

The research tools were designed to both capture and explore any differences in use of IWBs in the classrooms observed, including any differences between core subjects departments and/or between individual teachers, and in comparison to other technologies. Analysis focused on how the potential of the IWB technology was recognised and exploited in the classroom and the obstacles encountered and overcome in realising this potential. For the purposes of this report, the potential of the technology is taken to include: different ways of accessing and combining a range of textual resources (image, sound and writing); different ways of pacing their use; the possibility of enhancing techniques for interactive whole class teaching and/or student participation and control over their own learning; the emergence of new forms of text and text manipulation; the emergence of new modes of learning; and the possibility of re-shaping or enhancing the use of other technologies. The section is divided into three parts.

Part One, **The Use of IWB Resources**, outlines the variation in use observed in the case studies and focuses on the range of resources which seemed to influence teacher and pupil interaction with the board. This includes the kinds of texts that were displayed on the board, and the features they incorporated eg hyperlinks; text sequencing; animation. It also considers the range of peripherals we observed and the contribution they made to how the board was used, in particular the opportunities they gave for different kinds of classroom interaction.

Part Two, **Developing Pedagogy and the Impact on Pupils' Learning**, explores the range of pedagogic practice observed with IWBs with a particular focus on three key themes in the literature, widely identified as particular strengths of the technology: its capacity to enhance interactive whole class teaching; its capacity to increase the pace and efficiency of classroom delivery; and its capacity to harness a wider range of multimodal resources in order to facilitate pupil learning.

Part Three, **Collaborative Curricular Development**, examines differences in the ways in which IWBs were used in each core subject area and the extent to which their potential may vary according to the particular curriculum topic as well as subject domain. Whilst recognising that IWBs are still in an early stage of policy implementation, it identifies some of the key issues that need to be addressed if the technology is to lead to more efficient use of resources.

PART ONE: THE USE OF IWB RESOURCES

This section outlines the variation in IWB use observed in the case studies and focuses on the range of texts and peripherals which seemed to influence teacher and pupil interaction with the board. It considers the extent to which IWBs were being used to support, extend or enhance existing pedagogy.

5.1 Realising the Potential of IWBs: Variation in Use

There was considerable variation in the use of IWBs in the classrooms observed during the project. This variation can be represented along a continuum from the use of IWBs to 'support' or 'extend' existing approaches to teaching and learning to innovative uses of IWB technology that 'transform' pedagogy. (See Literature Review Annex B.)

Our findings show that at this stage in the policy cycle, IWBs were primarily being used to support existing pedagogy. There were some examples of teachers using the technology to adapt and 'extend' aspects of their pedagogy and some teachers did make innovative use of IWBs and peripherals in ways that appeared to 'transform' their pedagogy. By and large those teachers who were most innovative in their use of the technology had also been using the technology the longest, and had had access to boards prior to the SWE rollout. This is in line with the findings in the broader literature on the introduction of ICT to educational contexts and substantially reinforces the basic premise that adaptation of the technology to existing practice precedes any transformation in that practice through use of new technological features in innovative ways.

Analysis of the case studies suggests that three key factors underlie the extent to which the potential of IWB technology was recognised and exploited in the classrooms we observed:

- The teacher's pedagogic aims and practices;
- Their choice and use of texts in the classroom;
- The availability, choice and use of peripherals.

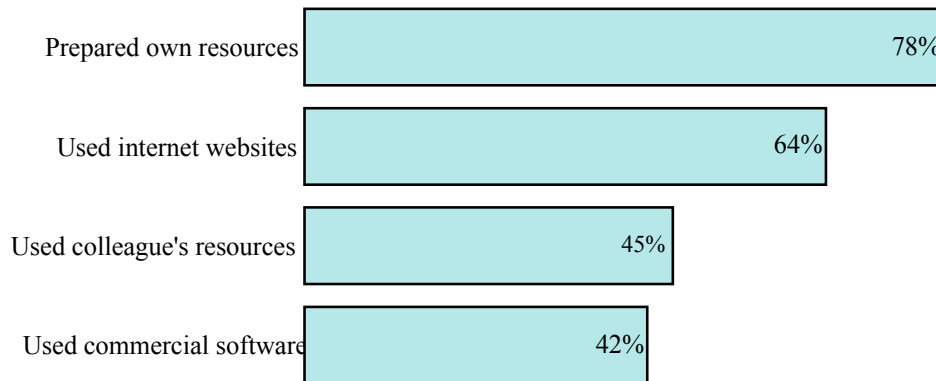
The variation that we saw in the pedagogic use of the IWB and peripherals and the variation in texts that we observed in the classrooms is discussed and illustrated via examples from the case studies in the sections that follow.

5.2 How the Available Resources Shape Technology Use: IWB Texts

Analysis of the teacher survey found that the majority of teachers (78%) report that they have created their own resources to use on the IWB (see figure 1). Roughly two-thirds of teachers (64%) reported that they used Internet websites as a resource. Less than half of all teachers (45%) are sourcing their IWB resources from other

colleagues or using commercial software. This suggests that the use of IWBs in departments still rests mainly at the level of the individual teacher, with less evidence of department-wide schemes of work or shared departmental resource banks being built up. However, this is consistent with the point in the policy cycle reached at the time of the survey.

Figure 1: Percentage of teachers using IWB resources



The teacher survey found that teachers who describe themselves as beginners are considerably less likely to have made use of the external IWB resources that are available. They are generally not yet accessing National Curriculum materials, subject specific software, search engines and subject websites. This suggests that beginners may be less confident in their use of ICT generally. The fact that they are particularly reliant on creating their own resources may lead to a more conservative use, and is consistent with the expectation derived from the literature that in the first instance IWB use will match onto existing pedagogic practice.

5.2.1 Subject Specific Software

Just under a third of teachers (30%) reported that they find it difficult to find suitable IWB resources (see figure 2a). The same number of teachers report that they find it easy to find resources. English teachers were most likely to find it difficult to access IWB resources. It is unclear however if this reflects a lower availability of IWB resources for English teaching or simply lower technological confidence amongst English teachers. In our sample, the Maths and Science teachers are most likely to report that they find getting IWB resources straightforward (see figure 2b).

Figure 2a: Ease of finding suitable IWB resources

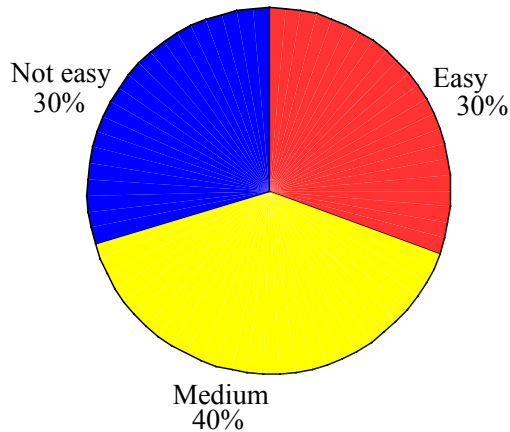
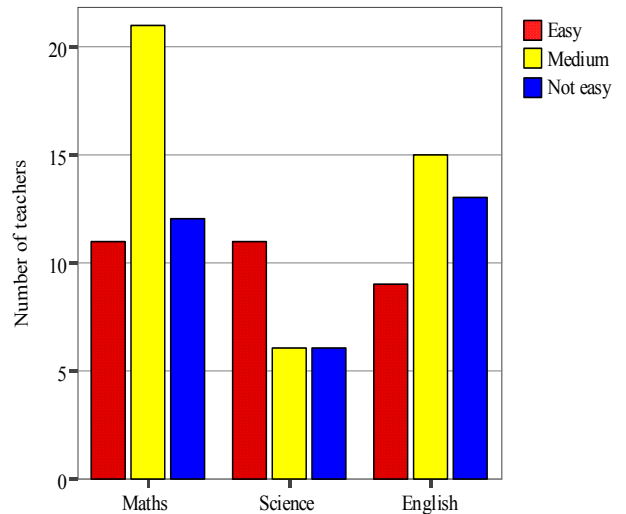


Figure 2b: Ease of finding IWB resources by teaching subject



5.2.2 Texts in Use

We observed considerable variation in the kind of texts used on the IWB in the case study classrooms. These could be characterised as follows:

- Teacher pre-prepared sequential texts using applications such as PowerPoint and ACTIVstudio;
- Texts produced through technologies of display in ‘real-time’ e.g. teacher use of a microscope or a scanner to throw an image onto the screen;
- Adapted texts produced by teachers or pupils in ‘real-time’ through adding and changing elements of a text e.g. through the use of annotation and highlighting;
- Emergent texts produced by teachers or pupils in ‘real-time’ e.g. texts created on the board during a lesson;
- Commercially made software with the form and function of traditional print texts such as textbooks or worksheets e.g. Boardworks;
- Subject specific software designed to fully exploit the interactive functionality of the IWB e.g. Geometers Sketchpad, Multimedia Science School;
- Generic software using applications such as spreadsheets, graphs, tables which can be used to input and organise data generated in a lesson;
- Sites that are accessible via the Internet and can be surfed in real time;
- Texts that exploit the relay and manipulation of digital materials.

As this overview shows, part of the flexibility of the IWB is that it can replicate the function of other technologies as well as produce something new. Thus it can be used to show the kinds of texts that could be displayed on the traditional blackboard, or via a television or computer screen. Moreover, some of the texts designed specifically for use with the IWB replicate the function of traditional text forms e.g.

textbooks or worksheets. This is true of many of the commercially available texts as well as the texts which teachers design for their own use.

Illustrative case study. Example A: The IWB used like a text book

Core Subject: Science

Topic: Convection

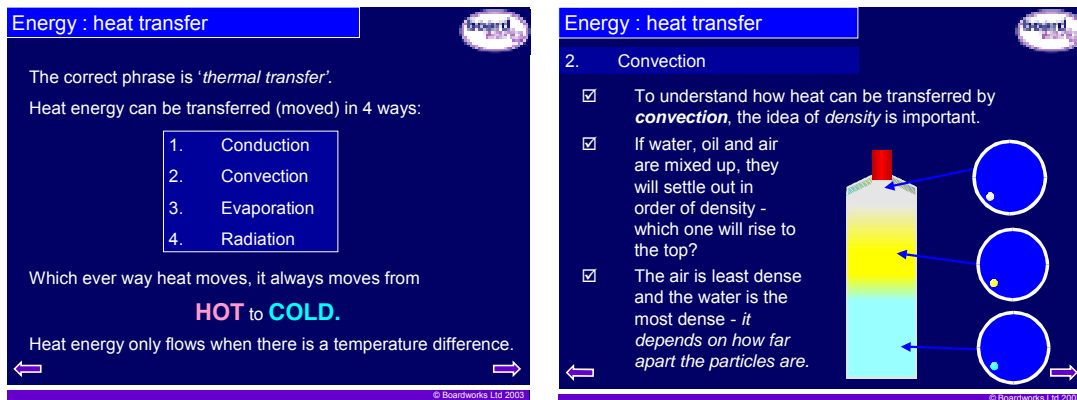


Figure 3: IWB texts used like a text book

In this physics lesson the teacher uses a commercially produced text displayed on the IWB in the same way as she might a textbook. She works through each page of the text with the class. She reads aloud the captions, indicates the drawings and tells children which aspects of these to attend to. The lesson is teacher led and the text is offered up as a definitive authoritative text. However, because the “textbook” has migrated from the desk to the screen, the IWB text re-focuses attention on the collective view of the same object – much in the way a ‘big book’ would in the primary school classroom. The text on the screen encompasses short animated simulation sequences that demonstrate the teaching points being made in visual form.

When the potential of IWBs was most clearly harnessed to producing new kinds of text or new forms of text design that could offer distinctive opportunities for learning and teaching, the most innovative practice included:

- The display, editing and annotation of short edited digital clips;
- Real time annotation of existing texts;
- Real time creation, manipulation and processing of texts.

The use of animation or visual representation to reinforce conceptual learning is most commonly found in Maths or Science.

Illustrative case study. Example B: Animation and Visual Representations

Core Subject: Maths

In a Maths lesson the teacher introduced a 'Box and Whisker Diagram' to the students. He used the animated and visual aspects of the graph. Having constructed a graph that compared the results on growth yields for two types of compost, the teacher then focused on how to interpret it by asking pupils whether certain statements written on the board were true or false. The teacher and pupils worked through this task together. At one point, the teacher asked 'What shows us the inter-quartile range?' and the pupils responded 'the boxes'. He then asked if the statement that 'Compost B seeds are taller' is true. This focused pupil attention on the diagram and the teacher was then able to use the dragging function to illustrate how the graph would change if the input values were different. The activity was strongly framed by the teacher who made good use of the graphics and animation functions to clarify his point and to demonstrate alternative possibilities

The use of digital media to facilitate learning and teaching is most commonly found in English.

Illustrative Case Study. Example C: The IWB used to Exploit the Potential of Digital Media

Core Subject: English

In an English lesson on 'Persuasive Speech Writing' the teacher used the students' recent PSHE work about healthy eating to structure the topic and make it 'relevant' to pupils' experiences. She showed two short clips: one downloaded from Channel 4's website entitled 'Jamie's School Dinners' and another clip from an American filmmaker's work called 'Super Size Me'. She used these to generate a very lively discussion in which the whole class was engaged and provided the basis for the lesson's written task. The IWB enabled this comparison to be effectively managed.

Summary

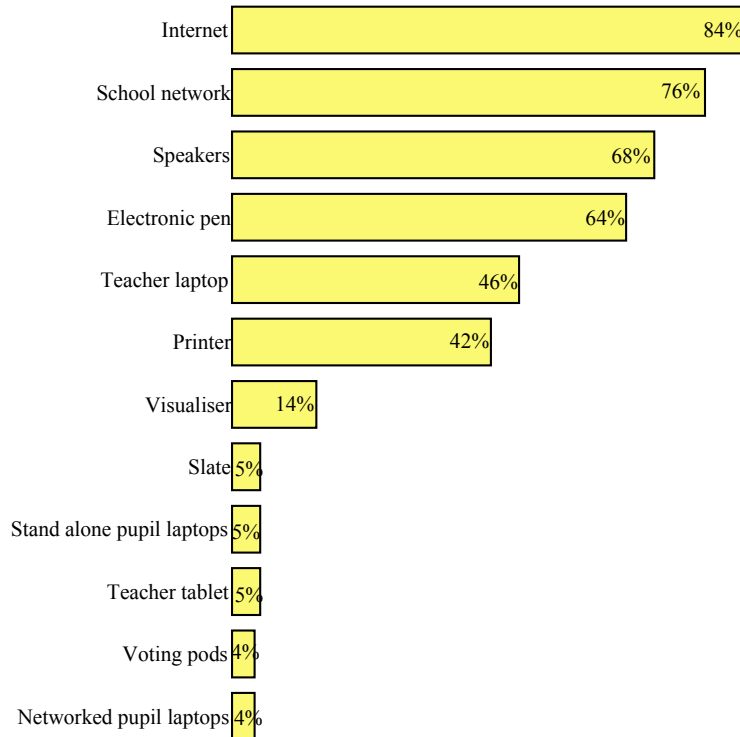
The above examples demonstrate some of the ways in which IWB technology re-iterates older forms of pedagogy and has the potential to open out a new pedagogic repertoire. The research suggests that both approaches to the technology have their place in the classroom.

However, it is notable that those externally produced packages which have most potential to transform pedagogy are often underpinned by considerable investment in research time and expertise and have been fully developed in relation to specialised areas of the curriculum (e.g. Geometer). Other commercially produced materials may be far less innovative. It is also true that many teachers struggle to incorporate principles of text design into texts they create themselves which can establish clear reading paths for pupils. This is not yet conceived of as part of IWB user knowledge. Yet the absence of such clear principles may make it much harder for teachers to create and share resources that can be used independently of their author.

5.3 How the Available Resources Shape Technology Use: IWB Peripherals

The most widely used peripherals are electronic pens (used by 64 per cent of teachers). Comparatively few of the teachers surveyed reported having access to other ancillary devices.

Figure 4: Percentage of teachers using ICT resources with IWB



We observed the following peripherals in use in the case study classrooms:

- Visualizer
- Slates
- Wireless mouse
- Laptops
- Scanners

Of the classrooms that had peripherals:

- Maths classrooms made most use of slates;
- Science classrooms made most use of laptops, visualizers, and slates;
- English classrooms made most use of scanners, and a wireless mouse.

In the remaining section we discuss the range of peripherals observed in use and whether they significantly enhanced the potential of the IWB.

5.3.1 Visualizer

A visualizer enables an object or a process to be seen 'close-up' in detail, including microscopic detail on the IWB. This makes full use of the display capabilities of the IWB. The use of a visualizer with an IWB has the potential to:

- Show an object or demonstration clearly to the whole class;
- Make whole class teaching more time 'efficient' and focused;
- Support collaborative thinking and dialogic discussion;
- Improve pupil understanding of a process.

Students and teachers commented on the excellent display capabilities of the IWB as helpful for learning, although some students expressed concerns that teacher reliance on this might reduce the opportunity for them to directly investigate phenomena in the Science classroom.

Illustrative Case Study. Example: The use of a Visualizer in a Science lesson

A teacher used a visualizer in the second lesson in a sequence of lessons on the topic of 'Acid Rain'. In the first lesson, students had carried out individual experiments using litmus paper to ascertain the PH value of a variety of substances that they recorded in their exercise books. In the second lesson, the teacher focused on the pollution and erosion of buildings and wanted to relate the findings of the previous lesson to how different substances would react on different types of stone. To demonstrate the potentially deleterious effects of 'Acid Rain', the teacher carried out an experiment at the front of the class whereby he poured three different types of acid onto three different types of stone. He used the visualizer to show the experiment in detail to the whole class. The visualizer enabled all of the students to see 'close up' the process and the effects of the acids on the substances. As he carried out the experiment, the teacher asked questions, encouraged speculative comments, hypothesis and generated a lively discussion.

5.3.2 Slate

A slate is a wireless-connect with the IWB that enables the contents of the board to be controlled from any position in the classroom. A slate enhances the interactive potential of the IWB by removing the necessity to come to the front of the class, and providing a writing surface that is easier for pupils to use. The use of a slate with an IWB has the potential to facilitate:

- A mobile teaching style within the classroom: the teacher can move from the front to the back of the class;
- Text annotation and manipulation from within the body of the class facilitating student interaction with the board;
- A space for the joint construction of knowledge between teacher and students;
- A use of technology, which fosters more student-centred learning.

Illustrative Case Study. Example: The use of a Slate in a Biology Lesson

In the lesson the teacher combined the use of a slate with the use of posters stuck onto the IWB. In the previous lesson, the students had been working in pairs designing a poster that focused on a particular type of drug (i.e. solvent, alcohol, painkillers) and their effects on the body. The posters were varied in style and used writing, 'cartoon-type' drawings of faces, or 'Graffiti/Tagging'-type writing for headings. In the lesson discussed here each pair of students were asked to secure their poster to the IWB with 'Blu-tac' and to point out the most important features to the rest of the class. The students presented their work to the class with the teacher prompting and asking questions from the back of the room. The teacher used the slate to select and highlight elements of the text and to annotate it in different colours as the pupils gave their presentation. He provided a 'visual commentary' to accompany their account. This had the benefit of allowing elements to be 'temporarily' highlighted without defacing the poster and making the students' work the central focus of the lesson.

The use of slates appeared to minimise the display of technical interaction and focus both students and teachers more clearly on conceptual interaction, precisely because there is no one up at the front of the classroom conducting events from that perspective. Slates (and wireless mouse) have the potential to usefully place the teacher at the back of the room.

5.3.3 Wireless Mouse

Like a slate, a wireless mouse enables teachers and students to interact with the IWB from anywhere in the classroom. This has advantages as although many students are prepared to go to the front of the class to work with an IWB, some students do not enjoy this aspect of the technology and in a small number of cases, refused to participate, whether out of embarrassment or for fear of getting something wrong. The data suggests that this may be a particular issue for students for whom English is an additional language. The use of a wireless mouse solves this issue.

The use of a wireless mouse with an IWB has the potential to:

- Facilitate a mobile teaching style within the classroom: both teacher and students can interact with the board from the body of the class;
- Make it easier for students to view the board whilst others manipulate its contents;
- Reduce the 'physical visibility' of students who are interacting with the board.

5.3.4 Laptops

Laptops can potentially support the use of IWBs by allowing activity to move from the board to the laptop on the desk and back again as pupils work on collecting, logging and sharing data for analysis in a common format. However, the use of laptops by students in the classrooms we observed seldom fully enhanced the use of IWBs in this way, largely because of logistical or technical problems in logging on or setting up which often wasted time. When laptops lacked wireless connect or network

facilities it was impossible to share and display data collected or created by students by moving it from laptop to IWB. This diminished the opportunities for learning.

Illustrative Case Study Example: The use of Laptops in a Science Lesson

Laptops were used in a lesson about 'Forces'. Students worked in pairs and carried out an experiment to compare the speed at which a 'truck' travelled down a ramp that was placed at different heights. The pupils used laptops to collate their results on a pre-prepared chart. When the experiment was complete it was not possible to display the different results from the groups onto the IWB because the laptops were not networked. The use of the laptops did not substantially add anything to the learning experience and the time taken transferring results into the pupils' books meant that at the end of the lesson there were no opportunities for discussion or feedback on the class's findings.

If laptops are all networked, the teacher could then bring up any students' work on to the IWB so that it could be shared with other pupils, different graphs and data compared across pairs, and this information could be used to generate discussion. This has advantages for student learning:

I don't think they really believe what you are doing when you draw the graph of their results. When you do it from Excel they know it is their result, they know the computer programme is doing it, and they know it is a true representation of their results that is going up on to the board.

To date comparatively little thought has been given to exploiting this potential either by policy makers or schools. This means that access to networked laptops is seldom seen as a priority for enhancing learning.

5.3.5 Scanner

Scanners "photocopy" a text into a digital image that can be viewed on a computer screen or IWB. Scanners enhance the presentational and interactive potential of the IWB as they can bring a text or artefact 'to life' in a lesson, making it easy to share as a focus for whole class discussion, and available to manipulate and annotate in new ways. The use of a scanner with an IWB facilitates:

- New ways of displaying students' work immediately to the whole class;
- New ways of annotating students' work in 'real time' thus enhancing whole class discussion;

Illustrative Case Study. Example: Using a Scanner to Share Work in an English Lesson

In this English class, the topic focused on the use of rhetorical devices in persuasive speech writing. The teacher scanned into her laptop one of the pupil's speeches which was then displayed on the IWB. This provided a focus for classroom discussion and for the pupil herself to comment on what she had written. In the same lesson, the teacher also showed the class another piece of work she had scanned in from a Year 10 pupil on a similar topic as an example of the sort of standard she wanted them to aim for. She read it through and then asked the pupils to comment on why this speech was successful and what sorts of devices had been incorporated

Summary

At a general level, the positive aspects of the peripherals seen in use were:

- To enable the teacher to move away from the front of the classroom;
- To reduce the potential for the IWB to be used as a focus for 'chalk and talk' style teaching in which the teacher dominated the classroom space both through talk and fast pacing of resource use;
- To enhance student autonomy and control in the classroom.

The negative aspects of the use of peripherals mainly related to the technical difficulties associated with the use of laptops. These included:

- The need to re-calibrate teacher laptops and the IWB at the start of each lesson when teachers frequently moved from class to class;
- Students' use of non-networked laptops which could not then interface with the board, or where it took them a long time to log on.

This discussion also highlights that in a secondary classroom the full potential of the IWB does not necessarily rest with its touch-sensitive surface, but rather with the size of the screen and the various ways in which the screen's contents can be manipulated. This kind of manipulation can be enhanced through judicious use of peripherals. However, to date there does not seem to be any clear policy advice on which peripherals enhance IWB use most effectively. Current patterns of use are often restricted to a particular school or department, rather than developed more widely. Most teachers do not seem aware of what is available and do not always know how to make full use of the peripherals they do have access to.

This review of the range of texts and peripherals seen in use demonstrates that the introduction of an IWB does not in and of itself transform existing pedagogies. The capacity of IWBs to support, extend or transform existing pedagogies depends upon the teacher's intent and the ways in which they exploit the resources they have access to.

PART TWO: DEVELOPING PEDAGOGY AND THE IMPACT ON PUPILS LEARNING

This section explores the range of pedagogic practice observed with IWBs, paying particular attention to pace, interactivity and multimodality all presumed benefits of the technology. It suggests a distinction between "surface" and "deep" understanding of these concepts which requires fuller exploration if IWBs are to be exploited to best effect.

5.4 How Technology Use is Shaped by Teacher's Pedagogic Aims

The range of use of the technology to support, extend or transform teachers' pedagogy is illustrated in the three case study examples, which follow. These are taken from three Maths classrooms based in three different case study schools to allow for fuller comparison, and also to demonstrate the range of practice observed within a single subject area. In each example the practices of the teachers, the texts they used, and the teacher's pedagogic intent vary.

The variation we observed in teachers' use of the IWB in the illustrative case studies below partly reflects a range of confidence in and familiarity with the use of IWB technologies. But it also reflects much more profound differences in teachers' pedagogic aims. Throughout the case studies we observed that the teachers' formulation of their pedagogic aims shaped how the potential of the IWB was recognised and exploited in the classroom. Sometimes their pedagogic aims encompassed practices associated with the use of other technologies which then shaped what they did with the IWB. However, when a teacher uses an IWB in ostensibly the same way as a traditional blackboard we consider that they are making a particular choice about what they want to achieve in the classroom, and exploiting the potential of the IWB to this end.

5.4.1 Illustrative Case Study. Example A

Core Subject: Maths

Topic: Polygon external and internal angles

Summary

In this lesson the IWB was used in much the same way as a traditional blackboard with the teacher at the front of the classroom. The teacher created the text displayed on the IWB in real time during the lesson. There was no electronic pre-preparation of the text. The content of the board was primarily hand written formula accompanied by some drawings.

Illustrative Case Study. Example A

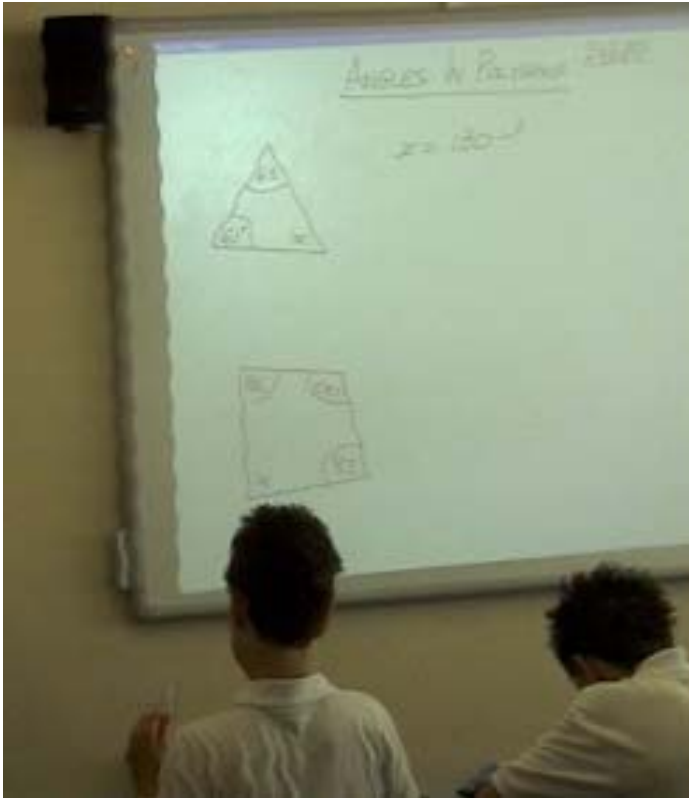


Figure 5: The IWB text in classroom A

The teacher wrote the date and the lesson title before the students entered the classroom. The teacher asked the students to copy the title, the date and two shapes that he has drawn on the IWB into their exercise books. As the students are doing this he writes the angles values onto the shapes and asks the students to copy these into their books. There is simultaneity between the actions of the teacher and the actions of the students throughout the lesson.

There is a lot of writing on the IWB all of which is simultaneously copied by students into their exercise books. The focus on writing combined with the meticulous rhythm of the teacher's speech creates a slow pace lesson. Throughout the lesson the same texts exist across the two sites of the IWB and the exercise book. There is little explicit reference to time in the lesson. The teacher rarely asks the students questions and only a few students ask questions. The students answered the teacher's questions but were otherwise quiet. The lesson ended with an exercise to practice algebra in which a few numbers were written on the board and students were asked to combine them with different operations (+, -, % and *) to create another number. During this exercise, students went up to the board to write their answers.

Commentary

The teacher worked with a total of seven ACTIVstudio slides in the lesson. The instructions for each task were spoken by the teacher and were not included in the text displayed on the IWB. This served to integrate the texts into the teacher's talk which acted as the main pedagogic vehicle. The teacher used three features of IWB technology: the facility to:

- Draw straight lines;
- Switch to the next blank screen without erasing;
- Go back to a previous slide.

The teacher recognised the potential of IWBs to behave like a traditional blackboard and adapted the technology in this light to his existing pedagogic practice.

5.4.2 Illustrative Case Study. Example B

Core Subject: Maths

Topic: Polygon external and internal angles

Summary

In this lesson, the teacher used an IWB text pre-prepared by himself in ACTIVstudio which consisted of a sequence of eight slides combined with three slides from Geometers Sketchpad, a software package that has been specifically designed for teaching mathematics. The text was a part of a larger sequence of 23 slides on the characteristics of external and internal angles of polygons that the teacher used across three lessons. In this teaching sequence, the teacher used these 11 slides as a linear organising structure for the lesson. This had the effect of strongly framing the content and the structure of the lesson.

The teacher's lessons followed a set routine. They began with a starter and finished with a plenary. In between there were slides (ideas, contents, exercises) that the teacher had pre-planned. The teacher quickened the lesson pace where necessary to get through the appropriate number of slides by the end of the lesson. The texts were pre-planned to include the answers to the questions posed during the lesson. These answers were displayed in the lesson through the actions of students and or the teacher using the cover and reveal or drag and drop facilities of the IWB. Occasionally the teacher annotated the board during the lesson to demonstrate a procedure.

Illustrative Case study. Example B

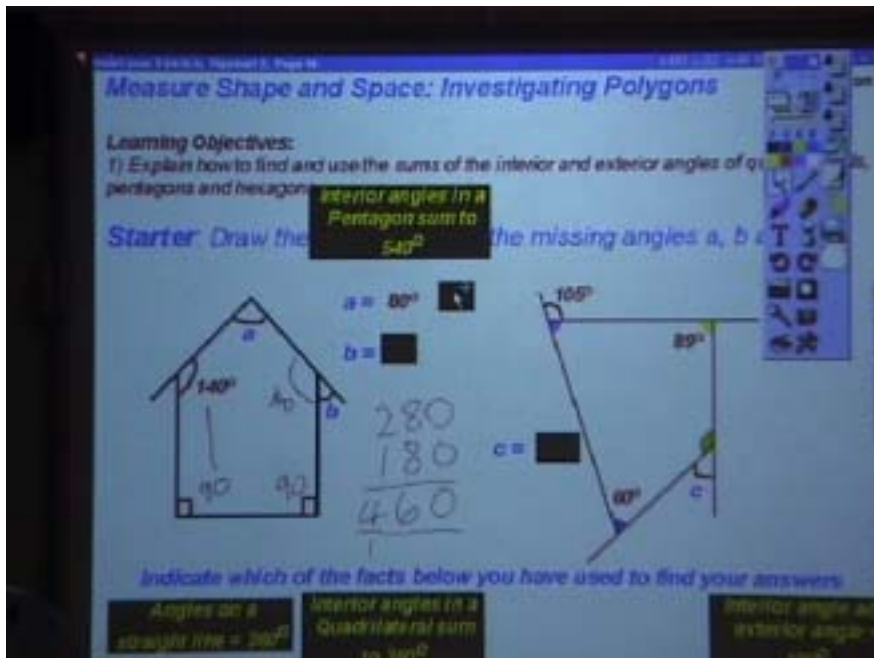


Figure 6: IWB text in classroom B

The teacher is at the front of the class, next to the IWB, and the room is darkened to enhance the IWB display. The lesson combines moments where the centre of attention is at the front of the class (focused on the IWB and the teacher) with moments of individual work. The lesson was fast paced and the teacher emphasised instructions and time in his comments, often repeating instructions and questions so as to quicken the class speed. He referred to the time given to do a task, the time left to finish the task, etc. Many of the questions were closed. The teacher sometimes asked a question and simultaneously pointed out the answer already written on the board. This added to the fast pace of the lesson.

Students were asked to choose from options to fill in tables displayed on the IWB, for example to match a polygon with the values of its interior and exterior angles. In each incidence of student participation and interaction with the board the answers could be found on the IWB. Elements of texts can be moved around but not created or transformed. Students are actively engaged in these tasks. Their participation is structured by the teacher's actions and by the pre-planned text. During whole class activities, students' verbal participation is guided by sequences of closed questions asked by the teacher. The teacher also guides students' physical interaction with the IWB. Students are asked to go to the front and use the board to demonstrate what they have done in their notebooks.

Commentary

This teacher is a very confident IWB user and uses many IWB features fluently. The teacher:

- Pre-prepares sophisticated flipcharts with hyperlinks, diagrams, graphs and tables;
- Makes use of the IWB's visual and dynamic potential;
- Combines different types of software seamlessly;
- Saves and recovers his work;
- Makes use of drag and drop, cover and reveal, annotation tools and uses features such as the 'covering blind'
- Makes use of applications for instance the calculator, etc.

The IWB texts created in advance by this teacher play a major part in structuring the lesson and driving its fast pace. The technology extends his pedagogic repertoire, in line with his pedagogic purpose to keep attention on the board and reinforce his control over the lesson content.

5.4.3 Illustrative case study. Example C

Core Subject: Maths

Topic: Algebra and Factorisation

Summary

This teacher used a pre-prepared ActivStudio flipchart text consisting of four slides. The content of the texts were used as open-ended prompts and as resources for exploring the processes of factorisation. The teacher positions herself at the back of the classroom for most of the teaching time. She and the students are able to use a slate to interact with the IWB from any point in the classroom.

The teacher encouraged students' oral and physical participation and pupils were very active in the lessons. The board was used to display students processes of thinking and ideas rather than what they had done or correct answers. Answers were realised through discussion and student participation in the lesson. Teachers and students together created the texts they jointly considered.

Illustrative Case Study. Example C

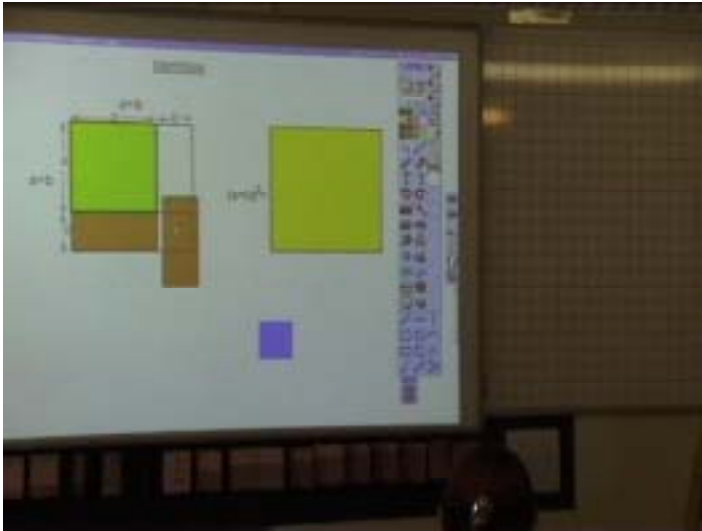


Figure 7: The IWB text in classroom C

While the students work with the slate to control the contents of the board, the teacher remains at the back of the classroom. During individual work the teacher circulates around the classroom. Teaching focused on the process used to find the area of the yellow square. Different students controlled the IWB text using a slate passed from one desk to the other to try and find out the area of the square. The teacher intervenes with comments, and the students suggest ways of solving the problem. The teacher summarises what they have learnt by asking questions to pupils and indicating the formula behind that process. When summarising the teacher refers to the insights that different pupils have made.

The teacher is open in relation to time and defines and re-defines the time frame for an activity as students are working. For example, a pupil uses the slate to manipulate shapes on the IWB to demonstrate that $(a+b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$ (see figure 7). As he moves the shapes the student talks aloud explaining what he is doing. The teacher occasionally asks open questions so as to make the process clearer to the rest of the class. In addition to working with the slate students went up to the board to show their workings out or worked with the teacher's laptop.

Commentary

The pedagogic focus is on the processes of co-constructing knowledge and the understanding of these processes rather than demonstrating correct answers. The teacher was a confident IWB user and made use of a range of facilities of the IWB in the lesson including the:

- Visual and dynamic potential of the board;
- Interactive potential of the board and slate;
- Possibility of moving away from the front of classroom and IWB offered by the

slate.

The pace of the lesson is slow, with each IWB slide comparatively sparsely filled out. The technology and its possibilities for use are exploited here to transform the pedagogic space of the classroom, and encourage conceptual thinking.

Summary

Each of these teachers uses the potential of the IWB in different ways and to different ends. The value of the pedagogy cannot be determined by counting the number of features of the IWB that are used. Nor is it straightforward to assess the contribution the technology itself makes to a particular teacher's pedagogy. Thus the third teacher uses the IWB to achieve what she once taught by using an OHP in a similar way.

Both the case study and survey data suggest that technology use varies within as well as between departments; that there is no single way of exploiting the technology which should automatically be preferred in all contexts; that teachers need to be aware of a range of ways of using the technology, and have opportunities to discuss with colleagues which kind of use is most beneficial or appropriate for what kind of topic. Such open-ended discussion should enable a department to consider when it is most appropriate to use the technology to support, extend or transform existing practice. The IWB can justifiably be used to achieve any of these.

Use expands with familiarity. Those teachers who were most adventurous in their use had had access to the technology for longest and had often been given specific departmental responsibility to develop subject teaching via the IWB.

5.5 The Capacity of IWBs to Transform or Accommodate to Existing Pedagogic Practice

IWBs received an overwhelming positive reception from the teachers interviewed as part of the case studies and who responded to the teacher survey. At least in part, this may be due to the fact that, unlike other new technologies that have been introduced into schools, IWBs have the capacity to be 'absorbed' into the space of the classroom without challenging the existing status quo. In many instances, interactive whiteboards were seen by teachers to fit:

- The spatial logic of the classroom – the board and teacher 'at the front';
- Existing pedagogic practices;
- Transfer and transmission models of learning'
- Whole class teaching and learning context of secondary school.

The capability of IWBs to fit the existing 'from the front' pedagogic space of the classroom allows some teachers to:

- Embed the IWB within their existing knowledge and practices;

- Familiarise themselves with the technology and its possibilities through their everyday use;
- Maintain existing styles of text-led whole class teaching.

Indeed, this capacity of the IWB to mimic other technologies explains why much of what we observed in the case studies looked like teaching in classrooms without IWBs.

The capacity of the IWB to be used to fit within existing pedagogic whole class teaching styles sits alongside its potential to be used to remake the classroom space. In general, how and when teachers used these potentials depended on their pedagogic aim rather than the technology. When teachers used IWBs effectively, in ways that seemed likely to improve teaching and learning, the potentials of IWBs were clearly allied with teachers' pedagogic aims. However, we also observed lessons that seemed to prioritise the use of technological features of the IWB above any clear pedagogic intent. This was particularly true of features associated with high interactivity. (See following section) When use of the technological tools took precedence over a clear understanding of pedagogic purpose, the technology was not exploited in a way that would or could substantially enhance subject learning.

5.6 Can IWBs Act as a Catalyst for the Development of Interactive Pedagogy?

Our analysis suggests that teachers in the case studies conceived of interactivity in different ways and that this impacts on the type of pedagogy that we observed in the classrooms. The interactive uses of the technology we observed can be categorised as follows:

- Technical interactivity – where the focus is on interacting with technological facilities of the board;
- Physical interactivity – where the focus is on 'going up to the front' and manipulating elements on the board;
- Conceptual interactivity – where the focus is on interacting with, exploring and constructing curriculum concepts and ideas.

How interactivity is understood and used in relation to the IWB in the classroom appears to be shaped by the pedagogic theories of learning that underpin particular teachers' practice, and circulate more broadly in a subject department or school. It also varies according to the:

- Demands of the subject and topic;
- Perceived ability of the students;
- Time available;
- Peripherals available.

Taken together all these elements help shape the teacher's own pedagogic purpose

and the use they then make of the IWB.

In some of the classrooms we observed IWBs were used to reinforce whole class teaching from the front, with limited dialogic episodes and little student interaction. Where there was interactivity in the classroom it was primarily technical. In other words interactivity was both discussed and measured in terms of technological skills, how often students came up to the board and how often they interacted with particular features (Drag and drop/ cover and reveal). In these classrooms, interactivity has come to stand for interacting with the board itself, not manipulating the concepts the teacher is teaching.

The focus on interactivity as a technical process leads to some relatively mundane activities being seen as 'good' with interaction with the board appearing to stand for 'learning'. This kind of emphasis on interactivity was particularly prevalent in classes with lower ability students. Lessons with higher ability students tended to be less focused on getting students up to the board and less concerned with being seen to be interactive.

There were some exceptions to the above picture where the whole class teaching was enhanced and spaces for interactive work; discussion and extended dialogue were opened up by the teachers' use of the IWB. These lessons and episodes were marked by:

- The display of texts for annotation, manipulation and collective discussion in new ways;
- A move away from using IWB features such as drag and drop, hide and reveal;
- The effective and focused use of digital texts embedded within a lesson;
- Using the board to enable students to do more than interact with pre-prepared answers;
- Less use of the board for direct 'mapping' and transmission of information into student exercise books through copying the contents of the board;
- The use of dynamic demonstration to reinforce learning;
- Creating opportunities for talk supported by technology-enabled manipulation of elements on the board.

When teachers used peripherals (e.g. slates) with the IWB to reposition the teacher at the back of the classroom and enable the students to engage with the board in new ways, this enhanced techniques for student participation and control over their own learning. How and when teachers used this potential depended on their pedagogic aim rather than the technology.

Summary

The use of an IWB does not of itself automatically alter the dynamic of whole class teaching in secondary core subject areas. It does offer up an opportunity to think about the strengths and weaknesses of whole class teaching and how else it might be organised. Where we observed best practice, departments or individual teachers

were aware of this dimension and had consciously set aside time to reflect on the most appropriate use of the technology in this context.

5.7 Can IWBs Enhance Learning Through the Use of Multimodality?

In many of the case study classrooms the teachers' use of IWBs did not significantly change the modes of representation in the classroom. Writing continues to dominate the board with some static 2D diagrams. These kinds of resources are easiest to make or obtain and are consistent with teachers' existing pedagogic aims.

However, some teachers' use of IWBs in the case study classrooms was beginning to facilitate the production of a range of new kinds of texts. These included:

- Combining image, sound and writing in a variety of media (including digital and the internet);
- Allowing the manipulation of texts in new ways;
- Supplementing writing with imported images (photographs) and the use of drawing tools;
- Hyper-linking to internet based dynamic texts;
- Incorporating short episodes of animation, using dynamic subject specific software (e.g. Geometer Sketchpad).

Illustrative Case Study Example: Multimodality and Learning

In the text discussed in section 5.4.3 (student slate text) about algebraic equations, for example, the potential of the resource lies not in the attractiveness of the multimodal representation or the pleasure of being able to move the shapes on screen. What is important for learning is how the design of the text reshapes curriculum knowledge. What is to be learnt and how it can be learnt become clearer. The images do not reinforce the algebraic representations offered in the lesson - rather the images and the opportunity to manipulate these images dynamically offer the students a different representation that is central to the learning task. This representation offers the possibility of making connections between the specialised knowledge of Maths and the everyday knowledge of space and design. It also enables them to draw on other knowledge and experiences and to connect them with mathematics, which in turn repositions them in relation to the production of knowledge.

However, our data suggest that this aspect of teaching with IWBs is to date little explored. There are few clear criteria in place for assessing when which kind of combination of resources works best to enhance which aspects of subject teaching (Jewitt, 2006).

Summary

Multimodal resources have most impact when their potential to enhance understanding rather than marshal attention has been clearly assessed and their use is treated as an integral part of subject learning.

5.8 Can IWBs Enhance the Pace and Speed of Learning and Teaching?

Although the potential of the technology to increase lesson pace is widely assumed to be of benefit, the research suggested a less strong correlation between speed of delivery and effective teaching.

One way in which the potential of IWBs to regulate the pace of a lesson was commonly realized was in the use of PowerPoint files that sequence and pace a lesson or part of a lesson. These texts are organised as a linear sequence of different slides that strongly frame the structure of the lesson, functioning as time management tools that control the class rhythm and pace. These increase the pace of whole class teaching through the:

- Ease of movement between screens - this is particularly the case in the use of PowerPoint and flipcharts where the teacher has pre-planned the lesson and moves through the lesson via screens;
- Ability to preload and then move between a range of different linked materials;
- Ability to move easily between a variety of applications.

We observed some very fast-paced lessons using IWBs. In most such lessons the teacher exclusively controlled the flow of materials on the board and, in this respect, dominated the classroom space. The effectiveness of such fast pace depended upon the teachers' broader purposes, and to some extent the nature of the subject matter they were covering in this way. For instance, "fast pace" seems particularly appropriate when teaching certain aspects of Maths. It has a less immediate application to substantive areas of English teaching.

One of the features of IWBs that is often associated with the fast pace of lessons is the potential to save and return to materials later on, either in the same lesson or subsequently. In fact we rarely observed this pattern of text use in the classroom and have little evidence of students being able to ask teachers to return to materials in this way. Yet the facility of the IWB to move on quickly through a succession of materials sometimes seemed to legitimize a speed that might well leave some students behind. On occasions, adopting a fast pace and speed seemed to be associated with behaviour management rather than enhancing learning:

"From a teacher's point of view, I feel the lessons - it has really taken the pressure off. Just flow through. I don't have to panic. And that is due to the interactive whiteboards. It is just there, it just flows through it..... If the pace

is not good, if the students aren't on task, some of them may be prone to play up a little bit. So the idea is keeping it flowing, keeping them on task, keeping them engaged. On the whole keeping the class in a bit better order, hopefully.” (Teacher)

The issue of pace is also interconnected with the issue of interactivity in the classroom as one way to increase the pace of a lesson is to limit and tightly control the space for students to act.

The question of pace, like multimodality, raises questions about pedagogy and about the control and the use of pace to manage effective learning. Whilst the technology clearly has the capacity to facilitate increased pace of delivery, there needs to be clearer consideration of when it is in the interests of teachers and learners to take advantage of this and when it is not.

Summary

Like multimodality and ‘technical interactivity’ a fast paced pedagogy is not necessarily good in and of itself. There can be as significant pedagogic value in slow board work, or real time board work, when it is used to realise a specific pedagogic aim. Indeed, it could be argued that real time text creation is easier to follow for a student than a pre-prepared text with no clear reading path.

The literature review suggests that pedagogies that are interactive – particularly employing technical and physical interaction with the IWB - multimodal, and fast paced are considered to be broadly beneficial. The case studies suggest that these aspects of IWB use cannot be treated uncritically, and that more attention needs to be paid to when, and under what circumstances such pedagogies improve learning.

5.9 Does the Technology Change the Nature and Quality of Pupil Learning?

In the majority of lessons observed the nature and quality of pupil learning was consistent with practice observed in classrooms without IWBs:

- In many instances the texts in use on the IWB replicated the features of texts associated with existing technologies (TV; computers; blackboard) and often shared the form and function of traditional textbooks and worksheets
- Patterns of pupil-teacher discourse were largely unchanged
- “Technical” or “physical” interactivity with the IWB was seldom harnessed to produce significant shifts in understanding.

For instance, the most common interactions expected of pupils with the board were to come to the front and write on it, as they would on a blackboard; to re-order items on the board by using drag and drop or by drawing lines between individual items; or to click to reveal hidden answers. These activities were often most widely used with lower ability groups.

“If there is the top class you don’t really want to spend too much time doing that because they have got quite a bit of work to get through. I just like to keep my top classes working really hard and getting through the work.” (Teacher)

Sometimes this kind of interaction seemed to slow the pace of classroom activity, as children waited to take turns at the board. This was particularly so if the teacher was not using the IWB to focus or initiate discussion involving the whole class. Sometimes those not coming up to the board became restless and lost focus.

Features and Uses of the IWB That Seem to Offer the Most Potential to Pupil Learning

5.9.1 Animation, Graphics and Visual Representations

Analysis of the pupil interviews and the observation data showed that the use of colour, animation and dynamic applications were the most frequently mentioned aspects of the IWB that pupils were positive about with significant numbers of pupils stating that it helped them to learn; allowed things to be seen in more detail; made things easier to understand in ways that would not have been possible before; and contributed to remembering and recalling information.

In Maths and Science, mention was made of the clarity and accuracy of diagrams produced through the use of ‘autoshapes’, pre-prepared pictures and specific software that could more accurately replicate the object under discussion in ways that teachers’ free-style drawings could not.

In Science, one pupil commented that their Biology teacher had used a pre-prepared picture of a body to explain how certain parts functioned and he had found this useful because the picture was more detailed than the teacher himself was able to produce.

A Science teacher mentioned the benefit of using simulations for understanding concepts such as the working of the kidneys and enzyme bonding. A Science HoD commented that in Biology whereas pupils would have to look at a book and imagine how things worked, animations and images can actually show things working.

Animations were also considered helpful in Maths, especially in speculative ‘what if’ scenarios; or to demonstrate to pupils why the answer they had given could not be correct; or when the teacher’s explanation could be supported by a visual aid which helped clarify the problem. In Maths we saw numerous examples where the visual aspects were extremely helpful in supporting pupils’ understanding of abstract concepts. In some instances, this was related to specific software such as Omnigraph and Geometer Sketchpad which were in use in all of our Maths case study schools.

5.9.2 Teachers' use of Multi-Media

The ability to show small clips of films on the IWB, when used imaginatively, can create lessons that are varied, engaging and that encourage whole class discussion.

Illustrative Case Study Example: The Use of Digital Clips in a Science Lesson

In a Science lesson about 'Forces', the teacher had edited a short clip from the film 'The Matrix' which he played at the beginning of the lesson. After he had shown the 4 minute clip, he asked the pupils why they thought he had shown it to them. He asked them to consider specific moments from the clip and then used these to demonstrate how 'forces' work. Not only did it generate interest because of the content of the film itself, but the teacher was able to highlight its relevance to their SATs topic and make meaningful connections for the pupils.

5.9.3 The use of the IWB to Encourage Purposeful Whole Class Discussion

The capacity of the IWB to capture pupil attention when combined with teacher strategies to encourage whole class talk about the contents of the board can lead to productive contexts for learning.

Illustrative Case Study Example: Whole class discussion in Maths

In a Maths lesson a pupil is asked to go up to the IWB and write down the equation that is used to work out the angles of a triangle. He does so and then draws a right angle triangle that he labels incorrectly. The teacher asks the class if this is correct. From the various suggestions made the pupil at the IWB writes in the correct answer. The teacher then takes over the discussion and says 'I really, really liked your correction' pointing to the girl who has called out. 'You said c is the long one. The other way we can think about it is to say c is the *longest* one. What do we also know about c and its position?' Several pupils call out saying things like 'it's opposite the square'. The teacher points to the angle (referred to by the pupils as 'the square') and asks them what it is called. Several call out 'the right angle'. She then draws the pupils' attention back to the longest line and asks them to name it. Many rightly call out 'the hypotenuse'. During this sequence she uses the image on the board to focus the whole class discussion and picks up on pupils' comments to use these to develop thinking. What the technology also enabled her to do was save each of the flipcharts as she went along which she later referred to when working on a class exercise.

Summary

The literature on IWBs suggests that pedagogies that are interactive, multimodal, and fast paced are broadly beneficial and can be put in place by employing technical and physical features of the IWB. The case studies suggest that these aspects of IWB use cannot be treated uncritically, and that more attention needs to be paid to when, and under what circumstances such forms of pedagogy will lead to the transformation of whole class teaching in ways that can improve pupil learning.

PART THREE: COLLABORATIVE CURRICULAR DEVELOPMENT

This section examines differences in the ways in which IWBs were used in each core subject area and the extent to which they currently contribute to efficient work management.

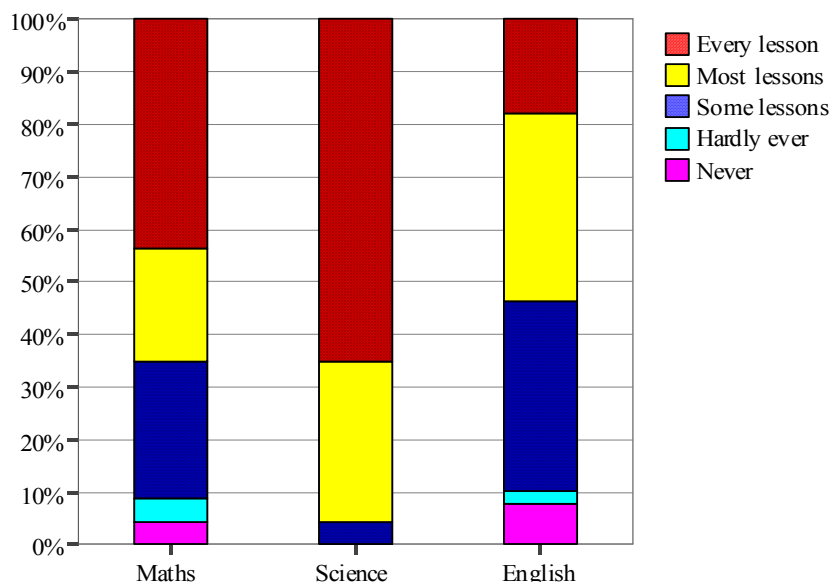
5.10 The Role Interactive Whiteboards Play in Reshaping Curricular Knowledge in Different Subject Areas

5.10.1 Patterns of IWB Usage Across English, Maths and Science

The baseline survey showed that Maths and Science departments were the greatest beneficiaries of the SWE initiative, with English following some way behind. Underpinning this pattern is an assumption that IWB technologies offer most benefit to Maths and Science rather than English. Patterns of usage within each subject domain reinforce this point, with more Maths and Science departments recording using the board most or every day. The relative weak uptake of the technology in English was a consistent finding across all of the research instruments – baseline and extended surveys and case studies. The case studies suggest that the relevance of IWB technologies was more easily recognised and realised in Maths and Science than in English, where the benefits of the technology seemed less immediately apparent.

The relatively low up-take and use of the technology in English recorded in the teacher survey is consistent with these findings (see figure 8).

Figure 8: Frequency of using IWB by subject



(Although the Science teachers taking part in this survey appear to be the highest users of IWBs, we can not be certain that this particular group are representative of Science teachers as a whole.)

5.10.2 Different Curriculum Demands

Analysis of the in-depth case studies shows that the different curriculum demands of Maths, Science and English make different demands on pedagogy and these affect the ways in which teachers in the classrooms tended to interpret and use the facilities of IWBs.

This can be mapped onto the recorded use of peripherals with the IWB in each subject domain. In Maths the peripherals were used to demonstrate the potential for abstract knowledge to be physically and verbally realised and then manipulated by teacher and students and for this process to be displayed and so made available to the whole class. In Science the peripherals were used to make core processes visible to the whole class, including collating and manipulating data to produce a shared data set. In English peripherals were used to facilitate collaborative spoken interaction, or written annotation of the texts displayed.

There was also variation in the kinds of subject specific software that we observed in the classroom. Maths and Science classrooms made most use of subject specific software that could visually represent abstract ideas; English made most use of software that allowed the manipulation of digital images and sound.

5.10.3 Pace

The case studies show that while the resources of the IWB that realise pace were frequently taken up by Mathematics and Science teachers these were less often used in the English classroom.

- Maths classes were typically faster than Science and English lessons. The pedagogic function of repetition characteristic of Maths and Science is not a key feature of the English curriculum of classroom, and this difference shapes the use of IWB resources that realise a fast pace.
- The use of repetition combined with speed enables patterns to be implicitly shown in the Maths classroom. A key part of learning in Mathematics is students' realisation and identification of such patterns – which in turn is a move from the concrete and the particular to the generalisable and the abstract. This pedagogic move is also a central feature of Science. With the exception of learning word-endings, and some grammatical elements, repetition and a fast pace have little pedagogic function in the English classroom.
- The potential of IWBs to speed up (and improve the quality of) the teacher's work of drawing diagrams in the classroom either before or during a lesson is a useful feature for Maths and Science, but again has little place in the English classroom.
- The English classroom regularly involves shifts between work as a whole class, small groups, pairs, and individual work with an emphasis on individual expression. The emphasis placed on personal response in the English classroom makes a steady flow of pre-prepared slides in English less essential to the good conduct of the subject.
- The boundaries and phases between teacher time and student time also tend to be less distinct in the English classroom than they are in the Maths and Science classroom. This makes different demands on the time and pace of a lesson. While the pressures on time in the English classroom are acutely felt and experienced by both teachers and students, the regulation and flow of learning in the English classroom differs from that in the Maths or Science classroom.

Summary

In general, IWBs enabled all teachers to move relatively easily and smoothly across curriculum topics using pre-prepared files (e.g. in power point and flipchart files), or move between hyper-linked files and a variety of applications. However pace appears to be less relevant or pedagogically useful to the English teacher. This is connected to the kind of curriculum knowledge being constructed.

5.10.4 Multimodality

The curriculum requirements and demands of English, Maths and Science make quite different uses of the multimodal facilities of IWBs. A key factor in this difference is that the primary canonical form of school English remains writing, (though this is accompanied by a range of other modes) while Science and Maths are more clearly visual and multimodal.

- The ease of visualization enabled by IWBs has clear uses in the Maths and

Science classroom that map onto existing pedagogic practices, but this is less the case in the English classroom. There are canonical visual representations and demonstrations in the Maths and Science curriculum which the visual features of IWBs, such as drawing software and peripherals like visualizers, can enhance leading to new forms of display and collective analysis.

- The IWB can represent concepts dynamically – rotate objects, represent objects moving in relation to one another, show process of change - in ways that overcome some traditional learning problems that have been produced by the static character of images in the Science and Maths classroom. This potential can enable concepts to be represented in ways that help students to see something newly and differently and in doing so shift the curriculum focus. For example dynamic representation of states of matter can enable students to engage with representations of the process of transformation of one state of matter to another (e.g. a liquid to a gas) in the Science classroom. The potential for dynamic representations to contribute to learning within the English curriculum is less clear, except in relation to the analysis of dynamic texts (e.g. films) and media concepts related to film and animation.
- In the English classroom the focus is on the display of dynamic texts rather than their manipulation as is the case in Maths and Science. Often the work of the English curriculum is to ‘translate’ the visual and multimodal into written forms. Concepts may be represented in a variety of forms. The use of image in the English classroom occurs most often in lower ability classes – in which the visual is seen as a pedagogic tool for engaging less linguistically literate students: for example lower ability students may be shown the film of a play and read one or two acts of the play while higher ability students are more likely to read the whole play and be shown one or two acts on film. In this way the curriculum that is made available to students is intimately tied to the forms of representation of the classroom.

Summary

The question of what mode is ‘best’ for what purpose depends on the curriculum subject. This is key to understanding how the multimodal facilities of the IWB are taken up across the curriculum subjects and topics and applied according to the teachers’ perception of the abilities of the students.

5.10.5 Interactivity

The type of interaction and interpretation required in the English, Maths and Science classroom are different in character.

- The stress on investigation, demonstration and physical manipulation as ways of engaging with concepts place different demands on learners in Maths and Science compared with English.
- The dominant focus on writing in the English classroom means that the texts that students make often come to stand for the student and represent their work and the end product of a process of learning. This provides a context

where such texts may be later worked on in a whole class context, via annotation and discussion by the teacher using the display facilities of the IWB.

- In Maths the focus is on students' real time construction of a text. It is therefore rare for a teacher to go over students' work once it is completed. It is more common for a student to 'narrate' and physically demonstrate a problem solving process in the Maths classroom and to be asked to use the IWB to achieve this.
- Technical and physical interactivity by students at the IWB featured in all subject areas. Often such activity seemed to offer limited opportunities for conceptual thinking. Technical and physical interaction with the board was more common within:
 - The Maths classroom;
 - Lower ability classes in all subject areas.
- Conceptual interactivity, that is to say, interactive pedagogy that opened up new spaces for extended dialogue in the classroom, was relatively rare in Maths, English and Science. When present, this form of interactivity was often associated with the use of different peripherals but also drew on different features of the IWB according to subject: in English, its capacity for digital display; in Maths, for dynamic manipulation; in Science, for visualisation.

Summary

The pedagogic potential of IWBs (as with any technology 'new' or 'old') is not absolute but differs for Maths, Science and English as well as according to the topics covered within each of those subjects. The distinctive curriculum demands of Maths, Science and English shape different pedagogic practices, as well as teachers' choice and use of texts, which lead in turn to different uses of IWB technology

5.11 The Extent to Which IWB Technology Contributes to Efficient Work Management and Collaborative Resource Use

The majority of teachers surveyed reported that IWBs made some aspects of their teaching and classroom management more efficient, in particular the repetition, re-explaining and summarising of teaching points (88 per cent) and whole class teaching (70 per cent). Over half of teachers surveyed (62 per cent) state that lessons using IWBs take longer to prepare. This is not surprising at this stage in the policy implementation given that new resources need to be sourced and developed and many teachers are developing their own new resources rather than using resources developed by others.

Almost all of the teachers (97 per cent) who participated in the survey agree that building up a bank of IWB resources to share with colleagues will save time in the

long run. Few teachers however currently use a centrally stored bank of resources or have had training in how to develop one. The teacher survey found that only around a quarter of teachers (26 per cent) report that they regularly download materials directly from the school network although around three-quarters of teachers (76 per cent) reported their IWB is connected to it. Although some teachers may well be storing their materials directly on their laptop or a memory stick, case study data showed that procedures in some schools made it difficult to use the school network to store and retrieve data in ways which would facilitate developing a resource bank. The case study data also suggested that there may be further difficulties in developing centrally shareable resources because of the way in which the materials teachers devise for their own classrooms are so clearly tied to the particular sequence of activity they have in mind. This may make them idiosyncratic in design, and less susceptible to sharing with those who are not so fully conversant with the teaching purposes for which the texts were intended.

Possibilities of using the IWB interface to share texts made in class with students via the school intranet were not yet fully in place or being exploited during the period of data collection.

Summary

Observations for this project suggest that developing more efficient use of materials created for the IWB is not just a matter of solving a technical problem but also means addressing more fundamentally which kinds of texts could most usefully be shared in this way.

Different features of the IWB seem to have more or less relevance to different core subjects and curricular topics. At this stage of policy implementation it is too early to fully assess the potential of the technology to contribute to efficient work management.

6. TEACHER AND PUPIL PERCEPTIONS OF IWBs

This section explores teacher and pupil perceptions of IWBs drawing on both case study and survey data. Both teachers and pupils were broadly positive in their response to IWBs. The terms in which they expressed their enthusiasm were also broadly similar, and in general repeated key themes identified in the literature as the salient benefits of the technology.

In both interview and survey responses teachers and pupils highlighted aspects of the technology that enhance the teacher's role at the front of the class, including the ability to repeat and explain key points taught. Pupils generally considered that teachers' lessons with IWBs were better prepared and organised.

'I think they fit more parts of subjects into the lessons because they can do more than one thing, where they have got it written up already, and they can just click to the next screen and it is all there for you.' (Pupil)

Pupils were particularly likely to express enthusiasm for the visual aspects of teaching with IWBs:

'When the teachers are saying it, it is one thing, but when you actually see it, it goes into your head. Because some people learn from pictures more than others.' (Pupil)

Both groups generally considered that IWBs make learning more interesting and that they help bring teaching up-to-date.

'Yeah, it has improved the system because technology is moving forward and we want to be moving with it...Some people still use chalkboards in other schools. This is modern.' (Pupil)

'I think students want to learn when they feel they have been given new technology. A lot of students come to school and they go 'This school's rubbish, the computers are budget!' That kind of attitude to their school, I think, is detrimental to their learning, so I think if they can see that their learning environment is appreciated and that money is invested, that they are a lot more willing to engage with their learning...' (HOD)

Pupils were far more cautious about the impact of IWBs on behaviour. When asked, 'Do you think students behave better with IWBs', for example one pupil answered:

'They did at the start but now nobody cares. It is just like an ordinary thing now.'

Less than a third of those surveyed agreed with the statements: *'I would work harder if my teacher used the IWB more often; or I think students behave better in lessons with IWBs.'*

On the negative side, a sizable minority of students reported disliking going out to the front to use the board (18%). Roughly one third of pupils and teachers thought IWBs often broke down and a similar number of teachers report it is hard to get help when this happens. A small number of teachers appear to find the IWB to be quite restrictive in the way they can interact with the class, reporting that teaching is likely to be more didactic, that it is harder to improvise or that it is harder to constantly keep an eye on the class when using the IWB. All these features are associated with teaching from the front of the class, and difficulties associated with this role.

'..a lot of stuff you end up preparing with an IWB is very teacher-led...[There is] a little too much whole class teaching and perhaps that isn't best for all our students' (Teacher).'

Nevertheless, more than two thirds of the teachers surveyed thought that using an IWB would help them in their career.

Summary

Whilst overall the impression of the boards was generally favourable within both groups, IWB use is most closely associated with a traditional, front of class pedagogy in which the main gains are from the increased quality of the display. The terms in which teachers' and pupils' perceptions of IWBs are discussed largely repeat the perceived advantages of IWBs as recorded in the literature. The kinds of issues the case studies raised through analysis of lesson sequences involving IWBs are less immediately apparent to either teachers or pupils. This suggests a role for CPD in steering a more focused discussion on the strengths and weaknesses of the technology, built on direct experience of their use rather than their anticipated benefits.

7. TEACHER CPD AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STRUCTURES IN PLACE TO GUIDE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

This section reviews the challenges involved at different stages of the policy cycle and how these impacted on the structural arrangements put in place to support IWB use in schools via the appropriate training. It explores the ways in which those responsible for SWE rollout at local level as well as teachers and schools reacted to the initial difficulties encountered.

7.1 Impact of the Tight Timeframe on Provision and Training

The short timeframes for action associated with the SWE scheme did create some difficulties in the initial stages for the supply and installation of the equipment as providers struggled to find the capacity to meet demand.

'The short timeframe that the suppliers had to work to, ... caused major problems in some schools'

Procurement on this scale in this tight time frame also tested the limits of the available advice. At the start of the scheme there was limited recognition of the problems that could be posed by the incompatibility of some of the system specific software that came with different kinds of boards. In fact this makes the logistics involved in training more complex, and can impact negatively on resource sharing within schools and LEAs. It also has the potential to restrict the commercial development of curriculum materials unless and until there is a common platform. In the initial stages there was also comparatively little stress placed on the need for additional security systems to be introduced along with the technology in order to prevent theft. In fact by spring 2005 Becta had established a security forum which "brought together members of the police, manufacturers, installation companies, the government and LEAs" to address this problem (Becta, 2005).

Whilst it was always clear that the introduction of IWBs would generate training needs, there was some initial confusion about exactly how the costs would be met and who was best placed to offer what kind of support. To some extent these problems reflect unresolved questions in the secondary sector about the coordination of policy development across a range of levels in a complex field, with lines of responsibility split between various key players including the DfES; LEAs; CLCs; KS3 Strategy consultants; and schools themselves. This can lead to a lack of mutual clarity about who is really in a position to make what happen within what timescale in a context where it is not always immediately obvious who should really take the lead on which aspects of policy development or meet its associated costs.

'When the money was released people already had their school development plans in place, so it was sort of bolt-on without any training provided or planned for'.

These kinds of difficulties can be compounded if potential stakeholders feel they have not been fully involved in either planning for or prioritising a new policy direction. In fact LEA based officers with responsibility for roll-out reacted very quickly to this state of affairs and worked very hard to find solutions.

7.2 Training for IWB use

Training for IWB use as part of the SWE roll-out was planned to encompass both pedagogical as well as technical aspects of IWBs. In the original plan, the DfES looked variously towards CLCs, KS3 consultants and the private sector to provide the necessary training, with the main emphasis in pedagogical training falling on the CLCs, and in operational training falling on the private sector. As noted in earlier sections, uptake of the CLC-led training was relatively modest (Section 4.3.3). We think this is less to do with the specific issues surrounding the training offer in this case than with some more general underlying predicaments in defining what appropriate training should be when a technology is relatively new and untested.

The contrast between technical and pedagogical training is now well understood. However, it can be more difficult to find the appropriate level of pedagogical expertise, or even state with any certainty what it would look like in the abstract, when teacher use is focused always on the specific case, and the kind of learning demands a particular subject area makes on pupils. Several of our interviewees indicate the difficulties here. Although they stressed the importance of drawing on good practitioner-based expertise in order to demonstrate how the technology could be best adapted to meet a variety of pedagogical objectives, they were less certain how that need could be met:

'it is more important to get a good subject practitioner delivering as they actually use that board with their class, so they really know what they are talking about and they can talk from experience. As opposed to some of the training I have seen where you get somebody who has worked out how the board works, but if you put them in front of a class and talk about how you fit it into the syllabus and engagement and how you cope with classroom management and all that kind of bit. It is much wider.'

In fact the speed of the technology roll-out had left little time to enable a strong cohort of proficient users to emerge whose knowledge and experience could be fully drawn on in this way. Support from the LEA level was initially hampered by the fact that neither LEA officers nor KS3 consultants necessarily had access themselves to IWBs, nor had been trained in their use. Moreover, difficulties in offering high quality support across the range of core subject areas in the secondary sector had perhaps been underestimated:

'They need to be a teacher and have constant contact with teachers through delivering inset. And they obviously have to be able to show the board at it's most creative. And they have to be able to have an understanding of all subjects. And who are these people? Well, they are few and far between.'

Somekh et al (2004) make some similar reflections on the difficulty of supplying good quality training in the primary context even though as a sector it was much more geared to the expansion of the technology, having enjoyed a longer stretch of prior use in many more schools, and with clearer structures of support for training in place. They point out that trainees by virtue of using the technology every day swiftly move beyond the level of advice that trainers can offer.

We would argue that the problem here is not so much an adequate supply of sufficiently expert users who can show others what the technology can do, but rather with the lack of certainty about the best application of the technology to enhance pupil learning in specific subject areas. We think this is an inevitable stage in the roll-out of the technology, which will primarily be addressed through use. However, unless training providers are themselves clear on this, there is a danger of reducing what is on offer via training to the lowest common denominator in terms of what the technology is meant to do. This can feed into the kind of surface use of the technology we have highlighted above, focused on pace and interactivity at a relatively superficial level, where the use of the technology itself rather than the quality of pupil learning dominates.

7.2.2 The Training Offer to Support IWB Use.

Initially providers targeted training sessions according to: type of board; level of expertise (beginner/intermediate/advanced); subject area; or role of trainee (leading teachers; managers; KS3 consultants).

This description of a three-session training course gives a good idea of the range of possible content:

‘the first thing would be – this is the tool, try it and see what it does. The highlighter, the pen, the camera for capturing images. Then the next thing would be how we put them into their context, relevant to their subject area. So the next course, we would have sub contracted trainers who are subject specialists, (...) So that it is no longer just a highlighter but good use of a highlighter (...) That is how we saw the stages of the evolution and then the third stage, when we accredit them would be that they show us resources that they made for their curriculum area, which would show these tools in the context that they are teaching’.

The sequence described here is from acquiring operational knowledge of what the board can do, to understanding how to apply that knowledge in a pedagogical context, to the teacher taking ownership of the technology for their own purposes. The first two are relatively easy to deliver in a finite time frame, whilst the last requires far greater input from the trainee, as they begin to adapt the technology to their own context.

The different training needs that might be associated with this third aim have been recognised by trainers in different ways. Some targeted their initial training on “lead teachers” or “whiteboard champions” who could then operate as a catalyst for

change in their own setting. Others spread the training out over an extended period – in some cases as long as a year - so that they could offer on-going support for teachers' development. Some decided to give more intensive support in a shorter time period (for instance, one whole week) targeted at a whole department.

Our research suggests that best use of the technology occurs when key individuals within departments have been given the time and responsibility to explore the technology as they teach with it and use their growing understanding to inspire others within their departments to go on to explore the potential of the technology together. This has happened when there is the active support of Heads of Department and with time regularly committed to talking about the technology as part of the department's more general discussion of teaching and learning. This means integrating exploration of the technology into the regular work of the department, rather than treating it as a separate and finite commitment.

7.2.3 Monitoring and Adjusting the Training in the Light of Experience

Whilst the initial training offer might in some respects have been uneven, LEAs have played a crucial role in monitoring what was going on and adjusting their plans in the light of that information. Exceptionally, some LEAs were able to persuade all of their secondary schools to commit time to training staff early in the autumn term 2004. More often LEA officers with a remit for ICT played a crucial role in spotting any difficulties schools experienced in accessing appropriate training and where necessary deciding what to do to improve the training offer. One net result was that the pattern of support for teachers on offer over the year continued to evolve in the light of new evidence. In some cases KS 3 consultants were asked to take on an increasingly large role in supporting the use of IWBs in core subject teaching as part of their existing commitment to improving practice over the longer term. Where this route has been most widely pursued, provision has been made to train and equip the KS3 consultants from non-SWE funds. LEA officers have been well-placed to monitor development across a number of schools and departments. This has often been crucial to the on-going development of the initiative.

7.3 Training: The School Perspective

One of the factors driving the evolution of training for IWBs during the academic year in which the technology was introduced was the relatively poor take-up for many of the training sessions on offer. This was demonstrated in the initial baseline survey issued in November 2004 which showed that only a minority of respondents in any core subject had already undertaken basic training on IWBs at that stage, whilst many still regarded it as a high priority.

The extended teacher survey issued at the end of that academic year continued to show a relatively modest contribution of formal training to teachers' knowledge of the IWB and its features (Annex D, Figs 17, 18.). When formal IWB training had been undertaken, it predominantly focused on using the IWB's key tools and/or basic familiarisation with dedicated IWB software. Only one in ten teachers answering the survey said that they had received training in the more complex features of the IWB.

It is notable that very little of the formal training respondents attended seems to have provided a forum for teachers to think about how the use of the IWB could potentially alter their pedagogical teaching style in more fundamental ways.

This research concluded that poor up-take in formal training was only partly a result of the difficulties in supply of the kind outlined in the preceding sections. It can also be explained by the preference of teachers for training on a “need to know” basis as they use the technology in their own classrooms. Indeed, whilst roughly one third of the respondents to the extended survey reported receiving no training in pedagogical aspects of the IWB, a larger number described themselves as self taught or informally trained in these areas (See annex D, Fig 18). When respondents were asked, “Which are the most useful ways of finding out how to use an IWB?”, most specified “trial and error” or “ask a colleague” with three-quarters of teachers also nominating department-based training in IWBs to be useful (See annex D, Fig 19).

In expressing these preferences teachers may well be opting for support which is geared to the specific issues they face when adapting the technology for their own pedagogic purposes as against formal training where the issues covered may not be regarded as immediately relevant. However, this preference could also weaken the likelihood of the introduction of the technology in and of itself changing teachers’ practice, if formal training represents the arena most likely to act as a catalyst for change. We think that LEAs would do well to review the on-going support they can offer to departments, including reviewing how they can make best use of teachers who categorise themselves as either expert or near expert in IWB use.

7.4 Recommendations for Training

Given the diversity of classroom use for the technology and the difficulties of foreseeing its full potential at this stage (see section 5), our own research raises questions about the aptness of predicating formal training on a dissemination model where the pedagogic possibilities of the technology are presumed to be both well defined and finite.

We would advocate more emphasis on the role of jointly facilitating mutual exploration of what the technology can do in context, with the aim of building teachers’ understanding of when and how IWBs can be most appropriately exploited for a specific pedagogical aim. We would envisage that such an exploration would be less tied to the dissemination of a specific set of IWB techniques such as drag and drop, but more open to exploring teachers’ own pedagogical purposes, and the role the IWB might play in achieving them. We see individual teacher’s commitment to exploring the potential of the technology as an important resource for colleagues that could act as a catalyst for change if it were well supported. KS3 Consultants could play a key role here in integrating discussion of IWB use into departmental discussion of how to support pupil learning more broadly.

The question of whether or how training might enable departments to build up centrally-held resources for the IWB that could be shared either internally or amongst

a number of schools is for us a secondary question. It should follow on from rather than precede exploration of the learning objectives which different kinds of uses of IWBs might best help meet. If it becomes an end in itself at this stage of the policy cycle, this kind of resource sharing may simply reduplicate existing resource banks with little net gain in the quality of the resources and with few advantages over existing materials already commonly available such as worksheets, or textbooks. The design of materials for the IWB, including the incorporation of clear reading paths, poses teachers with a challenge which could usefully be addressed in training.

We think the advent of IWBs should encourage departments to review the range of texts they currently produce and use, and identify their respective strengths and weaknesses in supporting different kinds of pupil learning. The potential of IWBs to contribute something new here should be considered in this light. Any such discussion needs to take into account the specific demands of particular areas of study, and the pedagogic priorities associated with different subject areas. Before creating centrally –held resources schools should take these issues into account .

We are aware that the use of IWBs in secondary schools may look very different from the predominant uses of IWBs found in primary schools, particularly in relation to the amount of control pupils are invited to exercise over the technology. We think that KS 3 Consultants might benefit from working with KS 2 consultants to identify both similarities and differences in use so that this can feed into CPD in both areas.

8. THE IMPACT OF THE INTRODUCTION OF IWBs ON PUPIL PERFORMANCE

Two forms of statistical analysis of pupil performance data were used in trying to recover any causal impact of IWBs on learning outcomes. The first, *The Effect of Interactive Whiteboards on Pupil Outcomes*, is a small scale study based on data on the number of IWBs in departments in October 2003 and October 2004 and timetable data that were collected directly from London schools. It is supported by the second analysis, *Multi-Level Regression Analysis Of The Examination Outcomes Of Secondary School Pupils In 2004 and 2005*, which considers whether attainment in Maths, Science and English improved more for pupils in London schools than for pupils in other parts of England between 2004 and 2005.

8.1 The Effect of Interactive Whiteboards on Pupil Outcomes

Introduction

This paper carries out a statistical analysis of whether the increase in interactive whiteboard (IWBs) availability in London schools has increased pupil performance in Key Stage (KS) tests. It forms part of the DfES-funded study to evaluate the educational and operational effectiveness of the London Challenge element of the Schools interactive Whiteboard Expansion project (SWE). This is a government initiative designed to support London secondary schools in acquiring and making effective use of IWBs in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science. The SWE funding stream was intended to fully equip at least one core subject department in each London secondary school and became available for this purpose during the academic year 2003/04.

Data on the number of IWBs in departments in October 2003 and October 2004 and timetable data collected directly from schools is combined with pupil-level attainment data from the National Pupil Database to analyse changes in the 'value-added' achieved by teachers and departments at KS3 and KS4 between 2003/04 and 2004/05. Three methods for analysing this relationship are reported in this paper: a school fixed-effects difference-in-differences model; a teacher fixed-effects difference-in-differences model; and a school fixed-effects between-departments model.

8.1.1 Description of sample in relation to all London schools

Timetable and IWB data was successfully collected for 36 schools, representing 9% of all London schools. Not all this data is complete for every school, so the sample on which parameters are estimated varies slightly for each regression in this paper. The sample differs from the population of London schools in certain key respects, as summarised in Table 1. First, there are no Church of England schools in the sample and there are fewer voluntary-aided schools overall. Second, there are more grammar, secondary modern, foundation and girls only schools in the sample. Third, the levels of free school meal eligibility and SEN status are slightly lower in this sample than in the London schools population.

Table 1: Key School-Level Statistics for the Sample compared to all London Schools

	Schools in sample = 36			All London schools = 412		
	Obs	Mean / %	Std. Dev.	Obs	Mean / %	Std. Dev.
Roman Catholic	36	14%		403	17%	
Church of England	36	0%		403	7%	
School has Sixth Form	36	58%		403	59%	
Grammar schools	36	6%		403	4%	
Secondary modern	36	8%		403	2%	
Gov: Community	36	58%		403	51%	
Gov: Vol Aided	36	17%		403	29%	
Gov: Foundation	36	25%		403	19%	
Boys only	36	11%		403	15%	
Girls only	36	28%		403	21%	
GCSE 5A*-C 2002	36	53%	23%	388	49%	21%
FSM eligibility in 2001	36	23%	15%	393	27%	18%
% SEN with stat in 2001	36	3%	2%	393	3%	2%
% SEN w/out stat in 2001	36	18%	10%	393	20%	10%
% white ethnicity in 2001	36	55%	28%	393	56%	26%
FTE pupils in 2001	36	1,084	322	393	1,016	311

Note: these statistics are not weighted by pupil numbers in schools

Description of sample

Table 2 and Table 3 describe the key statistics for the data used in this study. There are four cohorts of pupils in total: pupils completing KS3 in 2004; pupils completing KS3 in 2005; pupils completing KS4 in 2004; and pupils completing KS4 in 2005. The test scores in English, Maths and Science for KS2 and KS3 are calculated directly from actual marks achieved on KS papers, and are calibrated as fractional level equivalents. The GCSE outcome score is the (best) grade achieved in English, Maths and Science separately. A value of 8 indicates an A*; 7=A, and so on....The reported levels of IWB installations in departments in October 2003 and October 2004 are calculated. The rationale for choosing these dates is that, provided an IWB is in a classroom by October, it can be used for the vast majority of the academic year. The number of IWBs in the department is adjusted for the size of the school. So, a value of 4 on the scale means that there are 4 IWBs in the department per 1,000 pupils in the school.

Both tables show the very large increase in IWB installation in English, Maths and Science departments between October 2004 and October 2005. This increase is largest for Science and Maths departments, with English departments only having about half the resource level of the other core subjects by October 2005.

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics for Sample in Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3 Analysis

	2004			2005		
	obs	mean	s.d.	obs	mean	s.d.
% eligible for FSM	5,646	26%		5,773	26%	
% female	5,665	55%		5,809	56%	
% black ethnicity	5,519	17%		5,677	18%	
% indian ethnicity	5,519	12%		5,677	10%	
% pakistani ethnicity	5,519	6%		5,677	7%	
% bangladeshi ethnicity	5,519	2%		5,677	2%	
% asian other ethnicity	5,519	5%		5,677	6%	
% other ethnicity	5,519	9%		5,677	9%	
% EAL	5,646	38%		5,773	39%	
% SEN with statement	5,646	3%		5,773	3%	
% SEN without statement	5,646	19%		5,773	18%	
KS3 English score	5,333	5.58	1.18	5,499	5.68	1.13
KS3 Maths score	5,503	5.91	1.39	5,665	6.00	1.38
KS3 Science score	5,501	5.46	1.20	5,649	5.51	1.14
KS2 English score	5,093	4.45	0.78	5,216	4.41	0.82
KS2 Maths score	5,153	4.40	0.89	5,261	4.45	0.88
KS2 Science score	5,165	4.68	0.64	5,281	4.70	0.69
IWB in English per 1,000 pupils in Oct	5,134	0.18	0.69	5,245	2.27	2.49
IWB in Maths per 1,000 pupils in Oct	5,134	0.58	1.12	5,245	4.84	2.69
IWB in Science per 1,000 pupils in Oct	5,134	0.43	0.83	5,245	5.35	2.95

Table 3: Descriptive Statistics for Sample in Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4 Analysis

Variable name	2004			2005		
	obs	mean	s.d.	obs	mean	s.d.
% eligible for FSM	5,380	24%		5,590	23%	
% female	5,395	55%		5,661	54%	
% black ethnicity	5,292	17%		5,500	16%	
% indian ethnicity	5,292	14%		5,500	12%	
% pakistani ethnicity	5,292	7%		5,500	6%	
% bangladeshi ethnicity	5,292	2%		5,500	2%	
% asian other ethnicity	5,292	5%		5,500	5%	
% other ethnicity	5,292	9%		5,500	9%	
% EAL	5,380	41%		5,590	39%	
% SEN with statement	5,380	3%		5,592	3%	
% SEN without statement	5,380	17%		5,592	17%	
KS4 English score	5,395	4.68	1.92	5,661	4.66	1.86
KS4 Maths score	5,395	4.46	2.07	5,661	4.46	2.02
KS4 Science score	5,395	4.35	2.07	5,661	4.32	2.05
KS3 English score	4,937	5.59	1.21	5,202	5.44	1.26
KS3 Maths score	5,071	5.85	1.44	5,312	5.90	1.40
KS3 Science score	5,064	5.49	1.20	5,316	5.56	1.19
IWB in English per 1,000 pupils in Oct of ac. Year	4,849	0.15	0.53	5,040	2.26	2.49
IWB in Maths per 1,000 pupils in Oct of ac. Year	4,849	0.59	1.08	5,040	4.87	2.66
IWB in Science per 1,000 pupils in Oct of ac. Year	4,849	0.41	0.67	5,040	5.33	2.92

8.1.2. Difference-in-Differences (School Fixed Effects)

By using data from before and after the installation of IWBs as part of London Challenge, we can compare changes in pupil outcomes for departments that experience large increases in IWB availability, and departments that did not. The advantages of this methodology are that any constant factors, observable or unobservable, that may affect overall school performance are eliminated. We do require the assumption that any unmeasured time-varying factors affect departments with a large increase in IWB installation (we can think of these as the treatment group) as much as they do departments with little increase in IWB installation (these could be thought of as the control group of schools).

This approach estimates the effect of the installation of IWBs by exploiting different growths in IWB availability between October 2003 and October 2004 across schools in the sample. Consider the following equation of school achievement in a single subject:

$$y_{st} = \gamma_s + \lambda_t + M_{st}\beta + \varepsilon_{st} \quad (1)$$

where y_{st} is the average achievement in school s in period t ; γ_s is a time-invariant effect of school s on pupil outcomes; λ_t the school-invariant trend in pupil outcomes and β is the estimate of the effect of the level of IWB installations, M_{st} , in the department at school s at time t .

If we assume that trends in achievement would have been the same in the absence of our treatment (the increase in IWB installations in *some* departments) then we can exploit between school differences in installation patterns to estimate the effect on pupil outcomes:

$$\Delta y_{st} = (\lambda_t - \lambda_{t-1}) + (M_{st} - M_{st-1})\beta + \varepsilon_{st} \quad (2)$$

This basic first difference equation sets up the principle behind the difference-in-differences (DID) approach, used throughout this paper to estimate the effect of IWB installation on pupil outcomes. However, because we might be concerned that changes in the pupil populations at schools is confounding estimates, a pupil level model is estimated, even though the intervention is a school-level treatment. We do not have observations for pupils at both points in time (2003/04 and 2004/05), so we use school fixed effects rather than a first difference approach. Expected pupil outcomes are conditional on a vector of pupil level characteristics X_{ist} , including prior attainment. All school characteristics and inputs are assumed be time-invariant, except for the treatment M_{st} and the year group composition Z_{st} :

$$y_{ist} = \lambda_t + M_{st}\beta + Z_{st}\chi + X_{ist}\delta + \gamma_s + \varepsilon_{ist} \quad (3)$$

The equivalent model in a multi-level framework is a random effects model, which parameterises the distribution of the school effects by assuming they are normally distributed. The equivalent equation is:

$$y_{ist} = \lambda_t + M_{st}\beta + Z_{st}\chi + X_{ist}\delta + u_{ist}, \quad \text{where } u_{ist} = \eta_{st} + \varepsilon_{ist} \quad (4)$$

In certain circumstances this would be the more efficient approach. However, our sample of schools is quite small here, so the normality of school effects assumption might not be valid. We test the validity of the random effects (multi-level) estimates by comparing them to the fixed effects model in equation (3) using a Hausman specification test. The results indicate that the random effects approach is inappropriate for the English regressions and so is not reported.

Results – School Fixed Effects

Table 4 shows the results of the regressions that analyse the effect of IWB installations on the change in performance in Key Stage 3 of Maths, English and Science departments in our sample of 32 schools. All time-invariant characteristics of the school are controlled for via a set of school-level dummies (a random-effect replaces the dummies in the multi-level version). The change in peer group at the school is controlled for, as are the characteristics of the individual pupils in each year group.

The regressions show no significant effect of the IWB installations in Maths and English for Key Stage 3. The random-effect regression is not reported for English since it fails the Hausman test. In Science a significant positive effect is found in the random effects specification, but not in the fixed effect specification, so it is unlikely to be a robust estimate. The magnitude of this effect is quite small: it indicates that for a secondary school with 1,000 pupils, the installation of one extra IWB in the department between October 2004 and 2005 would produce 0.01 of a level increase in the mean achievement of pupils in the year group.

Table 4: School Fixed Effects – Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3

	Maths Fixed effects	Maths Random effects	English Fixed effects	English Random effects	Science Fixed effects	Science Random effects
IWB treatment	-0.003 (0.005)	-0.000 (0.005)	0.007 (0.005)		0.005 (0.006)	*** 0.014 (0.005)
Time dummy	0.025 (0.031)	-0.005 (0.024)	0.010 (0.027)		0.011 (0.028)	-0.040 (0.025)
School level peer controls	YES	YES	YES		YES	YES
Pupil controls, incl. KS2 score	YES	YES	YES		YES	YES
R-sq within groups	69%	69%	56%		56%	56%
R-sq overall	73%	76%	14%		53%	65%
Obs	9,035	9,035	8,796		9,048	9,048
Number of groups	32	32	31		31	31
Hausman p>chi-sq		1		0 - Fails		0.31

Note: ***=significant at 1% level; **=significant at 5% level; *=significant at 10% level.

Table 5 sets out the same type of regression for the same schools over Key Stage 4. Here some small, yet significant, estimates of the effect of IWBs on department performance are found. We find a negative effect for Maths and Science and a positive effect for English.

Table 5: School Fixed Effects – Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

	Maths Fixed effects	Maths Random effects	English Fixed effects	English Random effects	Science Fixed effects	Science Random effects
IWB treatment	** -0.017 (0.007)	*** -0.018 (0.006)	** 0.014 (0.007)		** -0.015 (0.007)	*** -0.019 (0.006)
Time dummy	0.032 (0.007)	0.050 (0.037)	*** -0.112 (0.043)		0.023 (0.043)	0.021 (0.041)
School level peer controls	YES	YES	YES		YES	YES
Pupil controls, incl. KS3 score	YES	YES	YES		YES	YES
R-sq within groups	68%	68%	53%		63%	63%
R-sq overall	69%	74%	27%		57%	69%
Obs	9,189	9,189	8,980		9,174	9,174
Number of groups	30	30	30		30	30
Hausman p>chi-sq		0.12		0 - Fails		0.88

Note: ***=significant at 1% level; **=significant at 5% level; *=significant at 10% level.

Explaining the coefficients on the GCSE models

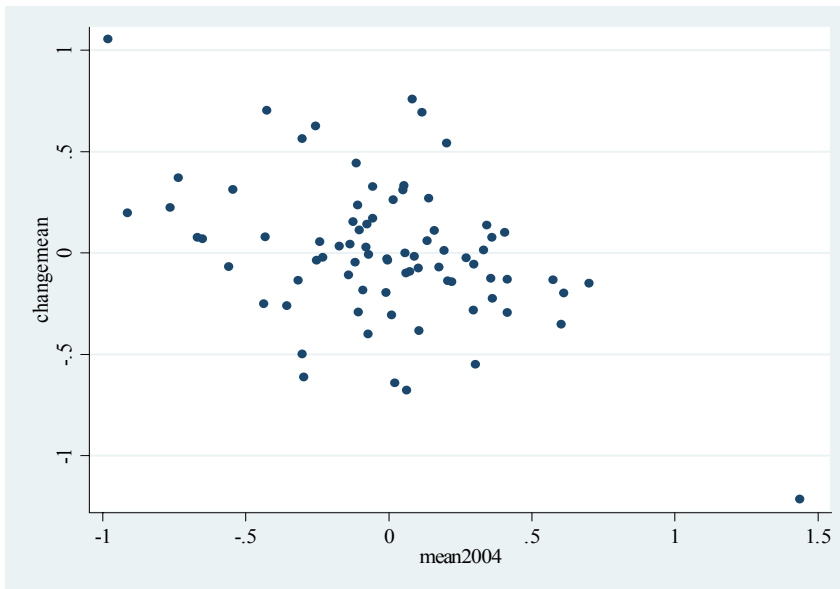
The school fixed effect regressions reported in Table 5 show a negative relationship between pupil GCSE grades and the installation of IWBs in Science and Maths. It is possible that this is a genuine causal relationship, meaning that the installation of IWBs in these departments has, because of the disruption to teaching methods, reduced pupil performance in GCSEs. However, this seems unlikely so several possible alternative explanations are discussed here:

Type II statistical error. Coefficients are generally reported as significant at the 5% level, giving a 95% level of confidence that the relationship is genuine. However, this means that in 1 in 20 cases, an absence of a causal relationship between two variables produces a statistically significant coefficient by chance. Because of this, we should only consider relationships between IWB installation and pupil performance to be causal if they are robust across *all* the model specifications reported in this paper.

Non-random deployment decision. We know little about why schools installed their additional IWBs in one department rather than another, but it is likely that the decision was not entirely random. So, for example, if schools systematically tended to deploy IWBs in English departments that were improving in their effectiveness over time (for other reasons), this would result in a positive coefficient on our treatment variable for reasons unrelated to the IWB installation. It is impossible to test fully whether this was taking place, but one reason why departments will tend to improve or decline in effectiveness from one year to the next is just simple reversion to the mean; i.e. a department with a high 'value-added' score in 2004 would be more likely to have a fall in value-added between 2004 and 2005.

This mean reversion leads to a negative correlation ($\rho = 0.45$) between a department's performance in 2004 and the change in their performance between 2004 and 2005. Figure 9 shows the association between a department's GCSE performance in 2004 and the change in effectiveness between 2004 and 2005, with both measured (as a z-score) via the mean pupil performance in the department, having adjusted fully for the prior attainment and socio-economic characteristics of the intake.

Figure 9: Possible Mean Reversion of Departmental Effectiveness



Assuming mean reversion explains a significant part of the change in a department's 'effectiveness', if the mean score in 2004 is positively correlated with the increase in IWB installations, this would explain the negative coefficients for Maths and Science. However, the correlation between changes in IWB levels and 2004 effectiveness for Maths is actually negative and the correlation for Science is positive, but small ($\rho = 0.05$), so this does not seem a likely explanation for our negative treatment coefficients.

Censoring on the distribution of GCSE scores. If the increase in right-hand censoring of Maths and Science GCSE scores in departments where the IWBs were installed was more serious than for those departments where few or no extra IWB were installed, this would explain the negative coefficients on the Maths and Science estimates. This censoring occurs because there is a maximum high score of an A* for students, and results where a student who achieves an A* might have achieved a higher grade were one available.

There is *some* evidence that censoring of the GCSE scores affects the schools that had a greatest installation of IWBs between Oct 2003 and 2004 the most. The correlation between the change in incidence of A* grades in the department (indicating increasing risk of censoring) and the change in IWB installations is $\rho=0.17$ in Maths. However, there is also a significant correlation of a similar magnitude in English, yet the coefficient on IWB installation is positive in this case. Furthermore, there is no significant correlation in Science departments. Therefore, overall it is

unlikely that right-hand censoring is capable of explaining the mixed negative and positive coefficients in our regressions.

Outliers Unduly Influencing the Results. By excluding the department with the greatest increase in mean performance between 2004 and 2005 from our sample for each subject, the negative coefficients on the Maths and Science regressions become insignificant and the positive coefficient on the English regression remains positive and significant. Therefore, the influence of one outlier school is capable of explaining the counterintuitive negative ‘effect’ of IWBs on departmental performance.

8.1.3 Difference-in-Differences (Teacher Fixed Effects)

The analysis for the within-school effects of the change in IWB installations over time was based on the following regression:

$$y_{ist} = \lambda_t + M_{st}\beta + Z_{st}\chi + X_{ist}\delta + \gamma_s + \varepsilon_{ist} \quad (5)$$

However, the achievement of pupil, i , in any one subject largely depends on the teacher they have for the years between the two Key Stage tests, rather than on the school they attend. Assuming pupil, i , in school, s , at time, t , is taught by teacher, r , in a classroom with peer group characteristics, W_{rst} , the model of pupil achievement becomes:

$$y_{ist} = \lambda_t + M_{st}\beta + Z_{st}\chi + W_{rst}\phi + X_{irst}\delta + \eta_{rs} + \varepsilon_{irst} \quad (6)$$

In equation (6) η_{rs} represents the time-invariant effectiveness of teacher r and we assume that teachers are not differentially effective for different ability classes. Ideally we would like to know whether each individual teacher has an IWB in the classroom where they teach, but this information was not provided by enough schools. Therefore M_{st} – the number of IWB per 1,000 pupils in the department at time t – reflects the relative probability that the teacher is using an IWB during his/her lessons.

For this analysis we can only use teachers who are present and identifiable in both the 2004 and 2005 dataset. This means there is a risk we introduce a selection bias in our estimates because we systematically exclude all teachers who leave the school at the end of 2004 (either because they retire/leave the profession or take a job at a new school) and all teachers who are new to the school in 2005 (having arrived from another school or as a newly qualified teacher). The bias may affect our estimates if, for example, new teachers at a particular school are assigned particular types of classes (e.g. classes with/without known problems).

Results – Teacher Fixed Effects

For the Key Stage 3 regressions (in Table 10) we find that the installation of IWBs is statistically significant in English classrooms, but not in Maths or Science classrooms. The size of the effect is still quite small but larger than those found in the school fixed-effect regressions: the addition of one extra IWB in the department for a school with 1,000 pupils is estimated to increase achievement by 0.03 of a Key Stage level.

Table 10: Teacher Fixed Effects – Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3

	Maths	English	Science
	Fixed effects	Fixed effects	Fixed effects
IWB treatment	-0.000 (0.006)	*** 0.027 (0.007)	-0.000 (0.007)
Time dummy	0.032 (0.028)	-0.021 (0.031)	0.002 (0.035)
School level peer controls	YES	YES	YES
Classroom peer controls	YES	YES	YES
Pupil controls, incl. KS2 score	YES	YES	YES
R-sq within groups	67%	51%	53%
R-sq overall	78%	20%	47%
Obs	8,073	8,016	7,936
Number of groups	225	233	216

Note: ***=significant at 1% level; **=significant at 5% level; *=significant at 10% level.

For the Key Stage 4 (GCSE) regressions in Table 11 we find small negative, though significant, estimates for Maths and Science, with no effect for English. Once again, removing a single school from these regressions makes these negative coefficients insignificant, so it seems reasonable to dismiss them as a null effect.

Table 11: Teacher Fixed Effects – Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

	Maths	English	Science
	Fixed effects	Fixed effects	Fixed effects
IWB treatment	*** -0.021 (0.007)	0.011 (0.007)	*** -0.050 (0.008)
Time dummy	0.072 (0.047)	-0.064 (0.044)	** 0.139 (0.057)
School level peer controls	YES	YES	YES
Classroom peer controls	YES	YES	YES
Pupil controls, incl. KS3 score	YES	YES	YES
R-sq within groups	51%	44%	52%
R-sq overall	69%	60%	58%
Obs	8,225	7,961	8,381
Number of groups	237	232	232

Note: ***=significant at 1% level; **=significant at 5% level; *=significant at 10% level.

8.1.4 Difference-in-Differences (Between-Departments Effects)

The final approach to evaluating the effect of the installation of IWBs is to test whether the department in the school that saw the largest increase in IWB installations between 2004 and 2005 also achieved the largest gains in pupil performance (compared to the other core subjects). This requires us to compare changes in the effectiveness of the Maths, English and Science departments in a school, and so we need to adjust the pupil test scores to reflect the fact that the exam sat in each subject is measured on a different scale.

The first stage is to calculate an adjusted achievement score for each child, which reflects the child's achievement in a subject relative to the mean child with the same prior Key Stage mark and socio-demographic characteristics:

$$\text{adjusted } y_{ist} = y_{ist} - X_{ist} \hat{\delta} = M_{st} \beta + Z_{st} \gamma_s + \varepsilon_{ist} \quad (7)$$

school fixed effect dummy

Twelve separate regressions are run to calculate the adjusted pupil achievement = 3 subjects x 2 years of data x 2 Key Stages. The adjusted pupil achievement is then standardised for each of the 12 regressions as a z-score with mean of zero and a standard deviation of one.

The school mean adjusted achievement, y_{dst} , for each subject, d , in each cohort is calculated as the average of the pupil adjusted achievement z-scores. y_{dst} reflects the departmental effort and any benefit from time-invariant resources in the department (γ_s), any benefit from a cohort peer group effect (Z_{st}) and any benefit from IWBs (M_{st}).

We compare the change in mean adjusted achievement in the three departments in the school with the change in IWB installations that the department experienced using the following first difference model:

$$y_{ds,t} - y_{ds,t-1} = (M_{ds,t} - M_{ds,t-1})\beta + eng + sci + (Z_{s,t} - Z_{s,t-1})^{eng} + (Z_{s,t} - Z_{s,t-1})^{sci} \quad (8)$$

$$+ (M_{ds,t} - M_{ds,t-1})^{eng} + (M_{ds,t} - M_{ds,t-1})^{sci} + \gamma_s + \varepsilon_{dst}$$

Equation (8) allows us to identify the effect of the treatment, controlling for changes in the school characteristics between 2004 and 2005 using school fixed effects. It allows for time-trends to vary by subject using English and Science dummies, though we expect them to be zero since z-scores were created for each subject. It also allows any effect of a change in peer group in the school between the two years to differ by subject and allows for the possibility that the effect of the change in IWB installation on pupil outcomes differs systematically between subjects.

A much simpler model is also tested, where the effect of a change in IWB installation is assumed to equal across subjects, as is the change in peer group:

$$y_{ds,t} - y_{ds,t-1} = (M_{ds,t} - M_{ds,t-1})\beta + eng + sci + \gamma_s + \varepsilon_{dst} \quad (9)$$

Results – Between-Departments Effects

Table 11 shows the regressions for Key Stage 3 for the specifications shown in equation (9) and equation (8). The effect of the change in IWB installations has no significant relationship with the relative progress in effectiveness of a department, compared to other departments in the schools who did not experience the large increase in IWB installations. In the more complex regression it is possible to see

weak evidence of the positive effect of IWB installations in English departments, but it is not statistically significant at 10%.

Table 11: Between Departments with School Model – Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3

	School Fixed effects	School Fixed effects
Change in IWB treatment	-0.009 (0.015)	0.013 (0.029)
English dummy	-0.029 (0.095)	-0.178 (0.169)
Science dummy	0.020 (0.090)	0.137 (0.215)
English * change in IWB treatment		0.063 (0.042)
Science * change in IWB treatment		-0.024 (0.042)
English * change in cohort FSM%		-0.347 (1.386)
Science * change in cohort FSM%		-0.347 (1.382)
Constant	0.025 (0.092)	0.044 (0.141)
R-sq within groups	1%	13%
R-sq overall	0%	9%
Obs	78	78
Number of groups	26	26

In the GCSE regressions, no relationship can be found between the change in IWB installations in a department and their change in effectiveness, relative to other departments in the school (see Table 12).

Table 12: Between Departments with School Model – Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4

	School Fixed effects	School Fixed effects
Change in treatment	0.006 (0.014)	-0.024 (0.027)
English dummy	-0.056 (0.088)	-0.021 (0.161)
Science dummy	0.041 (0.083)	-0.194 (0.203)
English * change in treatment		0.043 (0.039)
Science * change in treatment		0.051 (0.040)
English * change in cohort FSM%		1.393 (1.215)
Science * change in cohort FSM%		-0.178 (1.216)
Constant	-0.019 (0.085)	0.113 (0.134)
R-sq within groups	4%	12%
R-sq overall	1%	2%
Obs	78	78
Number of groups	26	26

8.1.5 Discussion

Overall, this statistical analysis of the relationship between IWB installation levels and pupil performance has failed to find any evidence that the increase in the installation of interactive whiteboards (IWBs) in London schools has increased pupil performance in Key Stage tests. Although positive effects were found for installations in English departments between October 2003 and 2004, the size of the effect was small and was not consistently established across alternative specifications.

Furthermore, several negative coefficients of the effect of IWB installations in Maths and Science were measured in more than one specification. Though these were likely due to one outlier school observation in each case, their presence does lend weight to the overall conclusion of 'no effect'.

It is possible that IWB installations have had a genuinely positive and significant effect on pupil performance in Key Stage tests in 2004/05, but that this study simply failed to uncover this relationship. There are several reasons why this might have happened. First, the sample is not particularly large at between 30 and 32 schools (depending on exact specification). Second, we were not able to collect more specific information on whether a particular teacher actually had an IWB in the classroom where they taught. As a result the IWB installation variable was measured at the department level and may have dampened any positive association taking place at the classroom level. Third, the LC initiative allowed schools to choose which department and which classrooms received the IWBs, and could not therefore be analysed as a proper experiment. Throughout this analysis the main concern was one of endogeneity in the assignment of IWBs to classrooms (and indeed teachers to classes).

Given the findings from other parts of the evaluation of SWE in London, it is more likely that IWBs in particular departments *did not* cause pupils completing a Key Stage tests in 2004/05 to achieve higher marks than those completing in 2003/04. This is a very short time period over which to evaluate a project, and teachers almost certainly need more time to develop familiarity with the technology.

8.2 Multi-Level Regression Analysis Of The Examination Outcomes Of Secondary School Pupils In 2004 and 2005

Introduction

This report summarises the findings from a large-scale multi-level regression analysis of the examination outcomes of secondary school pupils in 2004 and 2005. The objective is to look at attainment in each of Maths, Science and English to see whether, after controlling for a wide range of factors, attainment improved more for pupils in London schools than for pupils in other parts of the country between 2004 and 2005. Of course, if any such improvement were to be found, it cannot be assumed that the introduction of white boards was in any way a causal factor.

Nonetheless, this large-scale statistical exercise can at least provide some preliminary information on whether there were any improvements and in which subjects they occurred. The analysis also provides a context for the more detailed but much smaller scale analysis done using data provided by the survey of IWB usage of a sample of London schools. (See the report on The Effect of Interactive Whiteboards on Pupil Outcomes).

8.2.1 Method

The method used in this study is multi-level regression analysis. Regression is necessary in order to control for a range of factors influencing exam outcomes such as prior attainment, gender, ethnicity, type of school attended and so on. A multi-level framework is required to allow for the clustering of pupils within schools and the clustering of schools within local education authorities (LEAs). Pupils who attend the same school will experience the same teachers and school environment and so will tend to be more similar to each other than pupils from different schools. Multi-level modelling can allow for these within-school and within-LEA correlations (Goldstein, 2003). This principle is well-established within educational research nowadays.

In order to model attainment, allowing for clustering at the school and LEA levels, a three-level random effects model was fitted. The simplest such model which allows the regression intercept to vary randomly across schools and LEAs (Snijders and Bosker, 1999: 63-66) was used.

Variables and Data

The dataset consisted of 1,096, 470 year 11 pupils, with 552,059 pupils in 3, 008 schools for 2004 and 544,411 in 2,995 schools for 2005. The schools were located in 147 LEAs in each year. The mean scores at GCSE in each subject were slightly higher in 2005 than in 2004. For example, in Maths the mean score was 4.2 in 2004 increasing to 4.3 in 2005 and there were similar small increases in English and in Science. Key Stage 3 scores were adjusted to allow for the fact that pupils are entered in tiers. Mean attainment in KS3 Maths was 5.74 for the 2004 cohort and 5.90 for the 2005 cohort; in Science mean attainment was 5.42 in 2004 and 5.61 in 2005, while in English mean attainment was marginally higher in 2005 at 5.50 compared to the 2004 figure of 5.46.

Both cohorts were fairly evenly divided between males and females; the ethnic breakdown of the sample was also similar in each year, with about 86 per cent of white ethnicity. Around eight per cent of each cohort did not have English as a first language and about 13 per cent were eligible for free school meals. The proportion classified as special educational needs (SEN) was a little higher in 2005 than in 2004. This category includes both pupils with statements of special educational needs and those who were classified as SEN Action/Action Plus. Almost 12 per cent of pupils attended schools in London.

Variables at the school level were also very similar for each cohort. Mean school size was just over 1,000 pupils per school but with much variation around that mean

figure; the mean percentages of pupils per school eligible for free school meals and classified as SEN were more or less unchanged from 2004 to 2005. In each year just over five per cent of schools in the sample were grammar schools, four per cent were secondary modern, about one per cent were other school type, so that roughly nine in ten were comprehensive. Most schools were mixed by gender, with six per cent boy-only schools and seven per cent girl-only schools. Most schools were non-denominational but more than ten per cent were Roman Catholic and nearly five per cent Anglican. Nearly two-thirds of schools had a particular subject specialism and over half of schools in the sample had sixth forms.

8.2.2 Results

Because of the huge size of the full dataset a random sample of 500,000 pupils was selected and multi-level regression models of pupil attainment at GCSE were run on this sample. In the models the dependent variable was the highest result achieved by the pupil in that subject with 8 points for an A*, 7 points for an A grade and so on down to zero for no pass at that subject. Each dependent variable was standardised before inclusion in the regression analysis so that it has mean zero and standard deviation of one. The major influence on GCSE attainment is likely to be prior attainment. The Key Stage 3 score in each subject was used to measure prior attainment. This means that the results can be regarded as value-added models, taking account of previous attainment. Because pupils are entered in tiers for Key Stage 3 tests it was necessary to adjust these to ensure that the scores for each pupil were comparable. These variables were also standardised in order to make it easier to run the models in the MLWin statistical software package. A range of pupil level controls, such as gender, ethnicity, eligibility for free school meals and whether or not the pupil's first language was English were also included in the models. At the school level the type of school such as comprehensive, grammar, secondary modern, whether or not it was single sex, its religious denomination and a range of other factors were also included as control variables.

As might be expected pupils with higher key stage 3 scores in each subject did better in the subject at GCSE also. Girls scored more highly than boys in each of the three subjects while SEN status and eligibility for free school meals were negatively associated with attainment at GCSE. Relative to the base category of white ethnicity, pupils from most ethnic minority backgrounds improved more between Key Stage 3 and GCSE, as did pupils whose first language was not English.

At the school level grammar school pupils achieved higher GCSE grades in each subject for a given level of prior KS3 attainment. Pupils in girl-only schools also scored more highly at GCSE for given prior attainment than did pupils in mixed schools. The coefficients for boy-only schools were also positive for each of the three subjects but only marginally significant in GCSE English and insignificant for Maths and Science. Pupils in schools which were either Roman Catholic or Church of England religious denomination tended to attain higher grades at GCSE after controlling for other factors as did pupils who attended specialist schools. Pupils in schools which had a sixth form, or where there were higher proportions of pupils with SEN or eligible for free school meals tended to score less well in GCSE exams again after controlling for other characteristics including prior attainment. These results seem reasonable and are in line with previous research.

As far as this evaluation project is concerned the key variable of interest is the London/year 2005 interaction term. This variable tells us whether or not, after controlling for a range of other factors, pupils who attended schools in the London area saw improvements in attainment in 2005 which were larger than those observed elsewhere. The results for this variable are summarised below.

Table A: Estimated coefficients for the London school/year 2005 interaction term

	Coefficient	Standard Error	Significance Level
GCSE Maths	-0.100	0.005	Significant at 5%
GCSE Science	-0.002	0.005	Not significant
GCSE English	0.035	0.006	Significant at 1%

Notes: Estimates from multi-level models of GCSE attainment. Each model controls for prior attainment at Key Stage 3. Additional controls at the pupil-level are gender, ethnicity, whether first language is English, SEN status and eligibility for free school meals. Controls at school level: school type (comprehensive, grammar, secondary modern, other), school gender, religious denomination, whether specialist school, whether school has sixth form, school size, statutory lowest age of pupils, urban area, per cent pupils FSM, per cent SEN, whether school in London and year (2004 or 2005).

These results show that, for GCSE Maths, pupils in London in 2005 improved by less than pupils in other parts of the country after controlling for other influences on attainment and that this effect was statistically significant. There were no significant differences between the 2005 improvement in London and that observed elsewhere for GCSE Science. For GCSE English, however, the improvement in London was markedly greater than that in other parts of the country, and this effect was highly significant – with a statistical significance level of less than one per cent (i.e less than a one per cent probability that these results occurred randomly). Of course, on the basis of these models alone it is not possible to say anything about the causes of this improvement in English attainment in London.

Conclusion

The larger scale survey of changes in the performance of London schools compared to other regions in England finds results that largely replicate the small-scale difference-in-differences study. First, that English is the only subject where some positive improvements in London schools from 2004 to 2005 compared to other regions were seen. Second that the improvement in Maths was lower than in the rest of the country. Third, that London showed no different trend in Science to other regions.

The larger scale study therefore supports the conclusions of the small scale study that there is no evidence of any impact of the increase in IWB usage in London schools in the academic year 2004/5 on attainment in the three core subjects.

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Annex A

Research Methods Summary

This study used a mixed methods research design. The main methods employed were:

- Case studies;
- Survey of departmental IWB availability and usage;
- Statistical analysis of pupil performance data.

In-depth case studies

Case studies were conducted in nine core-subject Departments in London schools: three Maths Departments, three Science Departments and three English Departments. Each of the schools was selected on the basis that Departments were fully equipped with IWBs and had the capacity to use them well. In each Department data were collected from three Year Nine teaching groups, so 27 classes contributed to the study overall. This data collection occurred in two phases, phase one took place in the Autumn Term 2004/Spring term 2005 and phase two in the Summer Term 2005.

Data collection in each phase consisted of a week-long period of structured observation of the delivery of a curriculum topic in the core subject area equipped with IWBs, video recording of two lessons from each teaching group, collection of IWB texts used during these lesson sequences; and interviews with the head of the subject department and/or teachers observed. In addition, the research team also conducted focus group interviews with pupils and administered a pupil survey

Survey Instruments

Two surveys – one basic, one extended - were administered during the project.

The baseline survey: The basic survey went to all London secondary schools in the autumn term 2004/5 and achieved a 41% response rate. The survey was issued to relevant members of the senior management team, HODs and administrators. The survey data were analysed using SPSS.

The extended teacher survey: The extended survey was administered in the summer and autumn of 2005, at the end of the first year of SWE. The survey collected data on teacher motivation, familiarity and usage of the IWB; on teacher perceptions of its potential to enhance teaching and learning, and on training. A total of 113 staff in 27 departments replied, including staff in those departments which had participated in the case studies. The data were analysed using SPSS.

Statistical Analysis of Pupil Attainment Data

To test whether the increase in interactive whiteboard (IWBs) availability in London schools had increased pupil performance in Key Stage (KS) 3 and 4 tests, a small scale study explored the potential impact of the increase in IWB usage on pupil performance in the core subjects using data on the number of IWBs in departments in October 2003 and October 2004 and timetable data collected directly from

schools. These were combined with pupil-level attainment data from the National Pupil Database. The data were used to analyse changes in the 'value-added' achieved by teachers and departments at KS3 and KS4 between 2003/04 and 2004/05. This combination of data was successfully collected for 9% of London schools. Because of the small sample size, a large scale study considered whether attainment in Maths, Science and English improved more for pupils in London schools than for pupils in other parts of the country between 2004 and 2005.

Annex B

Literature Review

'Although, as yet, ICT is by no means at the heart of our education system, it is now widely recognised as an essential tool for learning in the twenty-first century. Indeed, it is vital that today's children are enabled to take advantage of lifelong learning if they are to survive the constant pattern of change that is likely to mark their working lives. This means not only being comfortable with ICT as a medium, but also being able to exploit its potential to the full and understanding the ways in which ICT can make learning more effective.' (Ofsted, 2004, p6)

'A number of commentators have suggested that we can look at responses to the impact of ICT as falling into two broad camps. The first sees ICT primarily as enabling us to do things we have previously done better, e.g., more quickly, more efficiently, in greater depth or breadth. The second views ICT as enabling us to do qualitatively new things which fundamentally change the nature of old ways of thinking, including our underlying conceptions and purposes.' (Bonnett, 2001)

Introduction

The aims of this literature review are to:

- Review existing research literature on the impact of ICT use in pedagogic settings, factors that help determine variation in its uptake and current understandings of best practice.
- Review existing literature on the policy context for ICT use in schools, including the range of policy initiatives which have advocated or sponsored ICT use in the secondary sector, the funding streams in which they have been embedded and any previous evaluations undertaken.
- Review current developments in the hardware and relevant software, which shape interactive whiteboard use in schools.

The primary purpose of such a review is to establish links between the conceptual framework of the Interactive Whiteboard, Pedagogy and Pupil Performance Evaluation and work already undertaken in the fields outlined above. The review provides the detailed background to the day-to-day operation of the research, and equips the research staff with a fuller understanding of what is at stake for whom in the introduction of interactive whiteboards (IWBs) to schools at the current time. Whilst the main focus of the literature review rests on the introduction and use of IWBs in particular, this is understood as the latest manifestation of a more general policy for ICT in schools. The turn towards new technologies is explored in relation to three distinct communities: government and the agencies it has sponsored to foster uptake of the new technologies in school, the private sector which provides the

relevant hard and software and the research community with an interest in the potential role of ICT in school settings.

The choices made in approaching the literature review in this fashion stem from the perspectives the co-directors of the project bring to the proposal. On the quantitative side, these encompass long-standing interests in the impact of resources on attainment, and the methodological issues involved in being able to demonstrate such an impact (Levačić, 2000). On the qualitative side, they are shaped by ethnographic perspectives which see technology use as intimately shaped by the social contexts in which such use occurs, as well as the affordance and resistance the technology itself offers to being exploited in one way rather than another (Jewitt, 2002; Moss, 2003). From an ethnographic perspective, the literature review maps out who understands the technology in what ways, and how the claims made for the technology and its value in turn influence what happens as the technology rolls out in different settings.

As one of the main aims of the project is to contribute to ongoing policy debates about the best ways of encouraging the most appropriate use of new technologies in school, the review starts with a summary of the “grey” literature which outlines the main policy context in which IWBs have arrived in school and indeed, through which this project itself has found funding.

The policy context for the introduction of IWBs

The second phase of the London Challenge element of the Schools interactive Whiteboard funding stream (SWE) has been designed to provide sufficient funding for all London secondary schools to fully equip a core subject department with interactive whiteboards by autumn 2004. In some cases this funding has topped up monies schools had already committed to purchasing IWBs. (Findings from both Ofsted and the *ICT in schools survey*, conducted annually by the DfES (2003a), show that the provision of ICT, and the precise form that provision takes continues to vary substantially between schools. Some schools, particularly those whose sites have recently been rebuilt with funding from PFI, or who operate in EAZs or are specialist schools, may have already substantially invested in IWB’s using other funding streams.)

IWBs are comparative newcomers to school settings. In the *ICT In Schools Survey* (DfES 2003a) they are listed as “ICT peripherals” alongside digital cameras, digital projectors, DVD players, video-conference facilities and digital televisions, as opposed to desktops, laptops and palmtops, which are treated as a separate and more central group of hardware, and come first in the survey. Their uptake has been uneven, pioneered in some areas and in some schools but by no means all. The SWE funding stream, now in its second phase, represents the first time the technology has been rolled out centrally via DfES rather than through local purchasing decisions. Bulletin boards hosted by BECTA show that there is on-going discussion amongst practitioners as to the respective merits of different kinds of whiteboards, and that there continues to be professional disagreement over whether they are a more useful ICT resource than, for instance, a data projector and tablets

(handheld, network connected instruments which individual pupils can use to interact with a central computer), or a better solution than laptops. Despite strong advocacy by committed proponents the precise role the technology can most usefully play in the classroom remains uncertain. Thus in the primary sector they are more frequently championed as a means of supporting whole class interactive teaching, whilst in secondary schools they are more likely to be welcomed as supporting a more conventional teacher role at the front of the class. To understand why the technology has attracted a separate funding stream so quickly, despite IWBs relatively recent arrival on the scene, and the continuing uncertainty over their best use, this review will consider the ways in which ICT policy more generally has been developing over recent years.

ICT in schools since 1997

When New Labour came into office in 1997, they introduced a series of policies designed to increase the spending by schools on ICT. These initiatives established an educational entitlement to a minimum level of ICT infrastructure in every state school (in the first instance spelt out in terms of internet connection, a dedicated computer suite, and sufficient resources to provide at least one computer in each classroom). Further resources were directed to ensure a minimum entitlement to ICT know-how on the part of pupils and teachers. Thus a variety of policy levers were introduced to increase the use of ICT across the curriculum in different subject areas, as well as increase the time spent by pupils studying ICT as a separate subject. In addition the government funded a sequence of initiatives designed to capacity-build the necessary competence, which teachers require to use ICT well within education. These initiatives take various forms¹

From the perspective of New Labour, the introduction of ICT to schools is about modernising the public sector through investment. Such an investment is justified if it re-vitalises the school infrastructure, modernises working practices and equips children more specifically for what lies ahead in an increasingly technologically driven society. Current pronouncements from the DfES signal a further increase in spending in this area, and reinforce this general policy direction (DfES 2003b). Their avowed aim is to strengthen the work already undertaken in building the infrastructure, and further invest in strategies designed to facilitate best pedagogic use of ICT, whilst simultaneously enabling workforce reform (DfES 2003b).

1

For example, arms-length government agencies which foster the use of ICT via a range of different kinds of activity (BECTA, NfGL, now known as ICT in schools); an increasing use of ICT on the government's part to facilitate the exchange of information (for example, the DfES webpages carrying the latest research evidence on ICT); online resources for teachers (Curriculum Online; teachernet; London Grid for Learning); funding for different kinds of research into best practice using ICT (Best Practice Research Scholarships; The Review Project, Hull); outreach practitioner forums (National Whiteboard Network); or programmes of inservice training for teachers. A detailed outline of many of these initiatives is included in Ofsted, 2004.

Within government generally, where there is investment, there are also the means for measuring whether or not the investment has proved worthwhile. ICT policy is no exception. Indeed, the policy is being taken forward in a sector, which finds itself increasingly responsive to a succession of centrally sponsored initiatives of different kinds, each competing to secure funding streams. This policy environment is characterised by a complex mix of policy levers, which simultaneously offer new freedoms and new forms of constraint. If there are new freedoms to innovate, then one of the abiding constraints on schools' freedom of action derives from the ways in which they are much more visibly held to account for what they do. Forms of accountability include the close monitoring of pupil performance using data collected annually, and the processes of Ofsted inspection, which operate, at the level of the LEA as well as at the level of the school. The combination of pressure and support applied by the array of different policy levers in education are the hallmarks of New Labour policy across the public sector as a whole (Newman, 2001). The rollout of ICT to schools takes place within this broader policy context, as does the introduction of IWBs.

ICT in schools: measuring the return on the investment

The programme of funding for ICT in schools has been accompanied by a process of evaluation designed both to assess the usefulness of the investments made so far and establish the basis upon which future funding should be channelled. Some of this work has been undertaken in-house as part of the routine work of government (e.g. the focus on ICT as part of the Ofsted inspection process²); some has been especially commissioned by government through its own agencies (e.g. the *ICT in Schools* survey; or *the Big pICTure*, a DfES-sponsored review of the available large-scale research evidence (Pittard et al, 2003)). A further stream of studies has also been commissioned from within the academic community (Harrison et al, 2002; Passey et al, 2003). Much of this work has been made available on the DfES or Becta websites.

A key preoccupation running through much of the commissioned research is whether or not ICT has impacted on standards of pupil attainment, and if so how? The most robust evidence for the positive impact of ICT on standards of pupil attainment derives in large part from secondary analysis of inspection data collected by Ofsted alongside QCA data on schools' performance in national tests. Some of the most robust analysis in this area has been conducted by Becta which used these datasets to explore the relationship between quality of ICT use and attainment in both the primary and secondary sectors (Becta, 2003a, Becta, 2003b). The DfES' own review of this range of research came to the following broad conclusion:

School standards are positively associated with the quality of school ICT resources and the quality of their use in teaching and learning, regardless of socioeconomic characteristics. (Pittard et al, 2003)

2

Ofsted began collecting this data in June 1999, shortly after the first investment streams were established for ICT.

This conclusion has been reached by looking at the following evidence:

- The differences in pupil achievements between schools with high and low ICT
- The difference in pupil achievements between high or low ICT schools in the same socioeconomic group
- The impact of good ICT resources measured against the quality of leadership
- The relationship between good use of ICT in a particular subject area and pupil performance outcomes

Two caveats recur in the analysis:

- That the analysis is based on statistical association and therefore cannot prove causality
- That the effect of ICT depends on much more than its mere absence or presence in the classroom, but crucially on how it is used there.

Becta's study of ICT and attainment in primary schools (2003a) argues that good ICT learning depends upon a combination of five critical factors: ICT resourcing; ICT leadership; ICT teaching; school leadership; and general teaching. "The analysis shows that each of these five ICT enablers is necessary, but each is not sufficient by itself to provide good ICT learning opportunities."

This focus for large scale quantitative research builds on earlier findings from Strand 1 of the ImpaCT2 study, commissioned by the DfES from a team of researchers based variously at the Universities of Nottingham, Manchester Metropolitan, Leicester and the Open University and published in 2002 (Harrison et al, 2002). They had reached broadly similar conclusions about the impact of ICT use on pupil attainment using a different form of analysis. Drawing on a statistically representative sample of 60 schools this study demonstrated a positive relationship between level of ICT use, measured through pupil self-assessment, and relative gain score in all but one Key Stage subject. Though once again the researchers include some caveats: "There is no consistent relationship between the average amount of ICT use reported for any subject at a given Key Stage and its apparent effectiveness in raising standards. It therefore seems likely that the type of use is all important." (Harrison et al, 2002). They also commented that the proportion of lessons involving ICT was generally low over the data collection period. Certainly both the uneven resourcing and quality of use of the available technology within and between schools remains a concern to government.

Nevertheless, the research referred to above has done enough for the government to conclude that the investment in ICT is justified. As *Fulfilling the Potential* says:

"ICT and e-learning have a massive contribution to make to all aspects of this reform agenda... ICT can make a significant contribution to teaching and learning across all subjects and ages, inside and outside the curriculum."

(DfES 2003b, p 13)

Yet if there is little doubt in policy circles that the technology “works”, then it is also clear that simply equipping schools with the hardware and letting them sort out for themselves what to do with it is not enough:

“The massive improvements we have seen in the basic ICT-enabled infrastructure for learning now need to be paralleled by a transformation in the use of ICT as a powerful tool for learning, teaching and institutional management - enabling the learning process to be enhanced, extended and enriched. This will require every school to become ‘e-confident’.”

(DfES 2003b, p 16)

The difference in use: the search for the ingredients, which deliver good practice with ICT.

Although policy-makers may have identified some clear patterns in the available data, it is far harder to tease out precisely what underlying factors actually explain any improvements associated with ICT use. As the authors of *The big pICTure* comment on the findings from *ImpaCT2 Attainment*:

‘It did show .. That generally something positive happened to attainment in the case of (relatively) high ICT users ... There could be a range of reasons for this - it may be that ICT use served as a general motivational trigger for learning, it may be that pupils who utilised ICT learning opportunities were more likely to be keen learners, or it may be that exposure to ICT in subject learning in itself helped reinforce subject understanding, or a combination of reasons..... like all good studies, it raises as many questions as it answers and suggests directions for future research’ (Pittard et al, 2003, p6-7)

This uncertainty has been addressed in different ways. A small quantity of government-funded research has explored whether there is a correlation between gains in attainment associated with ICT and the kinds of factors identified as important in the school improvement literature more generally, such as school organisation and leadership. Might these have a decisive impact, either positively or negatively, on the quality of ICT use in particular settings? Becta’s secondary analysis of the national statistical data falls into this camp (Becta, 2003a, 2003b). Other strands of government-sponsored research have focused on pupil or teacher perceptions and experience of different aspects of the technology in an attempt to identify the conditions which might favour its high or low use and the quality of its application (DfES, 2001). Key variables explored include: the amount of access teachers or pupils have to the relevant resource; their familiarity with the available hard and software; their confidence in and competence with the technology; and their perceptions of the value and relevance of the technology as well as its impact. Some of the earliest research focused on a perceived technology gap between home and schools; as well as between different segments of the pupil population (Hayward et al, 2002; Somekh et al, 2002). The capacity of the new technology to be intrinsically motivating or helpful to specific subsets of students has also been explored (Hayward et al, 2002; Passey et al, 2003). In addition, the government has commissioned and published four substantial literature reviews grouped under the

following themes: *ICT and Attainment* (Cox et al, 2003a); *ICT and Pedagogy* (Cox et al, 2003b); *Barriers to the uptake of ICT by teachers* (Jones, 2004); *Enabling teachers to make successful use of ICT* (Scrimshaw, 2004). These reviews have drawn together the available research evidence in an attempt to lay the foundations for the most profitable directions for future policy.

One emerging theme which has helped shape policy evolution is the importance of the amount and quality of appropriate in-service and technical support available for teachers (Ofsted, 2004). There is a general consensus that training in the technical skills required to work the technology needs to be combined with a clear understanding on teachers' part of the pedagogical applications and advantages that ICT can bring. Yet in many respects, precise understanding of the pedagogical applications and advantages of different forms of ICT remains elusive. In part this is because the technology itself continues to develop in new directions, and successively suggests new possibilities for use. IWBs are a good case in point.

IWBs: technologies in search of an application

Becta define an interactive whiteboard as:

'a large, touch-sensitive board, which is connected to a digital projector and a computer. The projector displays the image from the computer screen on the board. The computer can then be controlled by touching the board, either directly or with a special pen'.

(Becta, 2003c)

In fact, interactive whiteboards have their roots in the development of two separate technologies:

1) Touch sensitive computer screens. The technology which facilitates touch sensitive computer screens was first developed back in the 1970s as curved glass screen, or a transparent "skin" which could be placed on top of a computer monitor (Brown et al, 2004). The advantage of the touch sensitive screen was that it carried some of the functionality of a mouse, without requiring a separate peripheral. This made them ideal in contexts where any peripherals would be hard to house, or where a limited range of interactions were anticipated between user and machine. In public access terminals, for instance, the technology represents a way of navigating the user through a limited number of choices each of which can require more than one screen to display. The technology is still used in this form to offer information from a given menu in public settings such as libraries and tourist offices.

2) Digital projection. This emerged separately as a means of projecting and therefore displaying the contents of a computer screen onto a surface and at a size more suitable for viewing by a larger audience than could comfortably cluster round a single computer terminal. This development has been exploited in different ways. For instance, Microsoft developed PowerPoint as a software capability, which would enable users to write and then display a series of "slides" to large audiences. PowerPoint keeps the entire operation within a computer environment, without the need to resort to a separate technology for display such as a slide projector or

overhead projector (OHPs) (Though, interestingly, PowerPoint continues to mimic the capability of a slide projector by following a fixed sequence, chosen and pre-loaded in advance).

3) Combining touch sensitive screens with digital projection opens up new possibilities. In terms of audience presentation, the combination of digital projection and a touch sensitive screen allows the presenter to operate from the screen itself without having to go to the computer. Using a hand or pen on the screen like a mouse, the user can then move about within that environment with exactly the same kind of functionality associated with mouse use at a computer terminal: clicking, dropping and dragging, or scrolling. This makes it possible to exploit different kinds of computer software and the choices they offer whilst any presentation is in process, including making use of the internet by moving around and between websites; as well as using the full potential of the tool bar and its menus to zoom in and out on images, cut and paste within documents and open up new windows. In this way, new texts can be created from the board as the display proceeds.

How IWBs have evolved over time

The first interactive whiteboard to “provide touch control of computer applications and annotation over top [sic] of standard Microsoft Windows applications” (Smart, 2004) was designed by Dave Martin at SMART, a Canadian company already involved with digital projection. The board went into production in 1991. As the market has grown, so competing versions of the touch sensitive technology have emerged, many using hard rather than soft boards, alongside pen-driven systems of on-screen control.

The SMART company homepage comments on the product launch that: “In those early years no one knew about an interactive whiteboard, much less why they might want or need one, so sales for SMART started slowly. In those days it took a substantial effort to let people know about the product and the benefits that they could enjoy from using them.” (Smart, 2004) SMART’s first sales were into Higher Education at the University of Nevada, where IWBs were used for distance learning in combination with video conferencing software. This allowed screen texts to be shared simultaneously by groups in different locations. However, SMART’s own account of the history of the product suggests that the potential of the technology really developed in relation to two different elements: a slightly different context for use (meetings or presentations organised as part of corporate management) and the technological development of handwriting recognition systems (These were incorporated into the SMART board interface in 1999). In effect this re-wrote the potential of the technology from that of a more efficient form of text presentation, to something more akin to a computerised flip chart - a system of both creating and storing texts on the computer in real-time, and in a context where the texts themselves can be shared with an audience whilst they are in the process of being created. This crossover in functionality between education, training and business environments becomes much clearer in this description for a product launch by one of SMART’s competitors:

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, June 13, 2001 - Calling it the next great advance in real-time interactive communications, PLUS® announces the immediate availability of PoinTech™, the world's first whiteboard that allows business leaders, teachers, trainers, and communicators to combine spoken and written presentations with PCs and the Internet in one seamless communications tool..... Under development for the last two years, PoinTech actually allows communicators to record and save, in one integrated file, their every spoken and written presentation in sequence - presentations that can be distributed on disk and played back later. What's more, information written in freehand on the whiteboard's surface is automatically captured in a compact data file on the connected PC, where it can be saved, printed, or distributed over the Internet. Finally, PoinTech allows communicators to project computer software applications onto its screen surface - and then operate the software application by touching the screen with a special Stylus Pen that is included with the system. (plus-america, 2001)

Adapting the technology for flexible use in this kind of social setting has meant developing new and more dedicated software, which can store a range of texts and allow users to easily move between them, as well as annotate them in real time. Any new texts created during use can be saved on the computer.

As IWB producers target the school market more particularly, interest is turning to the specific kind of content the technology carries. Some manufacturers have begun to encourage practitioners to “publish” and share materials they have developed using the technology with specific curricular goals in mind (Smart); whilst others are beginning to venture into producing school-focused content for use with their own platforms (Promethean). To-date this side of the business remains under-developed, though in some respects it may prove crucial to getting fuller up-take.

As this brief review of the development of the technology makes clear, the technology adapts to meet the needs of the contexts in which it becomes deployed. The particular combination of touch sensitive technology and digital projection which IWBs represent are finding their niche, not in the context of the lecture theatre - where the size of the screen required for visibility would prohibit touch sensitive control - but in the medium-sized space of the seminar room, the meeting room or the classroom. Here they compete against older forms of technology - the blackboard, whiteboard, flipchart or overhead projector - as well as newer forms of technology such as networked PCs, laptops, or tablets combined with digital projectors. As the precise niche they might best fill becomes more apparent, so the technology can begin to adapt and respond to the requirements of that context.

The uptake of IWBs in UK schools: why the technology seems to fit here right now

Although the technology has certainly been promoted elsewhere, the UK has become the first school-level market to substantially invest in the use of IWBs. The reasons why this should be so can in part be linked to the stage now reached in the life cycle of educational reform in the UK (Earl et al, 2003). For instance, ICT policy has now reached a point when some of the drawbacks as well as the advantages of the earlier phases of investment have begun to emerge. As an example, the

intention to equip all children with a minimum of ICT skills and experience led to the decision to invest in ICT suites in both primary and secondary schools so that a whole class could simultaneously interact with the technology and gain enough hands-on experience. But whilst such banks of computers make access possible at the level of the individual, they also create less than ideal conditions for teaching. Sight lines may be poor, it is hard for teachers to monitor pupil activity and purposefully intervene, teaching moves to the level of the individual rather than resting with the group. On a practical level, there may be difficulty booking the facility. Time using it is rationed amongst staff. This in itself reinforces the notion that ICT use stands apart from rather than integrates into the normal work of the class and a particular subject area (Ofsted, 2004). As the disadvantages to one technological solution become apparent, the potential of other technologies becomes more possible to identify.

At this stage in the policy cycle, IWBs seem to provide an alternative way of facilitating ICT use in-group settings whilst allowing for clearer teacher control over the shape and direction of that interaction. The nature of the technology makes IWBs relatively easy to install in individual classrooms with minimum disruption to the use of the existing space. (The best ways in which to do this have been established through a process of trial and error - the relevance of the size of the board and its positioning, the best place for the digital projector, the respective merits of mobile versus fixed systems, have all emerged through rather than ahead of use. See Becta, 2004) In contrast with early phases of technology roll-out, the increased feasibility of equipping individual classrooms with IWBs opens up the possibility of integrating technology more fully into teaching and learning in every curriculum subject, an aim which has become increasingly important in policy discourse and fits with current policy priorities. For as more experience with the technology has been gained it has become clearer that teaching children the skills necessary to interact with a particular platform and the particular range of software it carries can only be part of the policy goal. Ofsted now refer quite explicitly to the “dichotomy between ICT as a set of skills, knowledge and understanding on the one hand and as a tool for learning on the other.” (Ofsted, 2004). They argue that schools have a duty to “offer an entitlement to both aspects”, whilst observing that many have made far less progress in delivering on the latter rather than the former. This assessment, and the stress they put on integrating ICT into the broader curriculum, re-sets the policy objective for ICT use. Finally, at least at primary level, the reform of teacher pedagogy heralded by the introduction of the National Strategies for Literacy and Numeracy has provided a context in which the capacity of IWBs to support interactive, whole class teaching can be immediately exploited. The technology seems to answer an existing need. In these various different ways schools in the UK now seem to provide a context that matches what the technology offers.

The research literature on IWBs: feeding the policy cycle, inside and out

The research literature on IWBs is still relatively underdeveloped, much of it small-scale, and a good deal the result of action research conducted by advocates of the technology either in their own classrooms, or working alongside colleagues during the early stages of implementation (Coghill, 2002). Relatively little has been published in peer-reviewed journals. Most papers are to be found on the Internet,

some on sites linked to the DfES or other educational agencies. Not all papers describe their research methodology in any depth, the quantity of data collected or how they were analysed. A few consist largely of personal testimony from individual users (Smith, 1999; Bell, 2002). For the purposes of this review the literature will be considered in two parts: research that focuses on the potential of IWBs as a technology; and research that tracks its use in specific settings.

The potential of the technology

Advocates of the technology identify the following positive features of IWBs:

Teaching

The facility of the interactive whiteboard is well adapted to whole class teaching (Glover and Miller, 2001) and encourages an interactive approach in that setting (Ball, 2003). IWBs make it easier to incorporate and use a range of multimedia resources in lessons including: written text; pictures; video; sound; diagrams; online websites (Levy, 2002). They can quicken the pace of lessons through the use of pre-stored materials, which reduce the need to write on the board (Ball, 2003; Miller, 2003). When connected to an intranet they encourage resource sharing amongst staff, which can reduce teacher workload (Kennewell, 2004). IWBs are easy to use and are more likely to find favour with teachers who otherwise struggle to incorporate technology into their classrooms (Kemeny, 2004, Smith, 2001). The high production values of the resources are attractive to both teachers and children (Smith, 1999; Ball, 2003; Kennewell, 2004).

Learning

IWBs are well able to support a range of different learning styles, including: visual, auditory and kinaesthetic (by physical movement) (Graham, 2003; Ball, 2003). The interactive software available for use on IWBs enables teachers to model abstract ideas and concepts in new ways so that the pupils can respond to the activities and deepen their understanding (Kemeny, 2004; Miller 2003; Richardson, 2002). The facility to save and then re-use materials, which have been created or annotated in lesson, time can reinforce and extend learning over a sequence of lessons (Glover and Miller, 2002).

Drawbacks

Drawbacks identified tend to be of a practical or logistical nature: IWBs can be more expensive to purchase than other technologies which might share much of the same affordance (Twining et al, 2005); they may prove difficult to maintain and are difficult to substitute for when out of use; there are difficulties in placing them at the right height for use by both children and adults (Smith et al, 2005); the mobile versions are time-consuming to install (Brown, 2004; Becta, 2004b).

The terms in which both the potential of the technology (and its drawbacks) are described are generally consistent across the available body of work. These features are then summarised and endorsed in the government literature devoted to the technology and made available on official websites (DfES, 2004; Becta, 2004a). Promotional material about IWBs which suppliers provide refers to the benefits of the

technology in much the same terms (SMART technologies inc, 2004), as do the descriptions of in-service courses designed to encourage the professional uptake of IWBs and their application. There is a commonsense convergence across these fields on very similar notions of what the technology can do. Two further reviews of the literature undertaken by Smith et al (2005) and Glover et al (2005) bear this out, as do literature reviews carried out for the DfES as part of evaluation projects based at Manchester Met (Somekh et al, 2005) and Newcastle University (Higgins et al, 2005). Only Australia provides a significantly different language in which to describe the technology's potential, using the phrase "digital hub" to capture their expectations for teaching and learning with IWBs:

IWBs can be used as simple whiteboards, as interactive whiteboards, as large screen digital convergence facilities and when in the hands of an expert teacher, with an appreciation of the many roles the technology can perform, as a digital teaching and learning hub. In the next few years as the IWB and related digital technology develops at pace, the teachers' mastery and expectations of the technology grows and the concept of the digital hub becomes clearer so too will there be the opportunity to enhance the quality of teaching and the level and appropriateness of student learning. (<http://www.iwb.net.au/public/content/ViewCategory.aspx?id=2>):

The realisation of the technology in context

At the current moment in time a much smaller research literature is available which studies whether and how the potential of the technology is realised through use in everyday classroom teaching. Data collection extends beyond a self-selecting sample of teachers who have specifically chosen to work with the technology to focus on a broader range of staff who have access to the technology within a particular setting. Methods employed include classroom observation and survey. To-date most of these case studies are modest in scale, involving either brief periods of observation or survey data collected from a comparatively small sample. Some larger scale studies underpinned by a more robust methodology are either in the process of reporting, or on going.

Of the small scale studies, looking across this body of work as a whole, there is far less consensus over what the best use of the technology turns out to be in practice than the literature about the technology's potential might lead one to suppose. Coghill (2002), for instance, found considerable variation in use across the sites she looked at (5 teachers in two primary schools). She comments:

'The teachers in this study were all using the interactive whiteboard in different ways and had different views and interests in its potential.... The participants' pedagogical approach to using the interactive whiteboard varied considerably.' (Coghill, 2002. 7.1)

Indeed, part of the point that she makes is that for these teachers it was relatively easy to accommodate the technology to existing ways of working, rather than transform ways of working to accommodate to the technology.

One of the main reasons given for championing the technology is its potential to directly support interactive whole class teaching (DfES, 2004; Becta, 2004a), however, findings from the existing studies are mixed in this respect. Latham (2002) conducted a small-scale study of the introduction of IWBs to a Maths teaching programme in North Islington Education Action Zone. She reported that in 4 out of 5 lessons observed, “whiteboards were used to produce appropriate, highly visual, interactive lessons that addressed all the pupils present”(Ibid, p5). But in the one exception, the IWB was being used like a traditional chalkboard to present a series of examples. Both Coghill (2002) and Knight, Pennant and Piggot (2004) observe that IWBs are not necessarily used interactively, and indeed, without positive intervention, Knight, Pennant and Piggot (2004) argue that IWBs can reinforce a teacher-centred style of delivery. Interestingly, from this point of view, Beeland (2002) conducted an evaluative study of interactive whiteboard use, which found that those lessons where pupils were most positive about the use of IWBs were lessons in which teachers made least use of the interactive potential of the IWBs and most use of their facility to relay multimedia resources.

So far, few studies have tried to systematically explore the impact of IWBs on attainment. Currently the most comprehensive study in this field, conducted by Newcastle University, has failed to demonstrate any sustained impact on attainment (Higgins et al, 2005). Many more do report on the attitudes of both staff and pupils to the boards, though only Beeland attempts to correlate attitudinal measures with observed practice (2002). In all the studies where they are measured, attitudes are generally positive. Smith (2001) demonstrates that both students and teachers consistently see IWBs as “modern” and “cool” alike; Latham (2002) finds that both pupils and teachers respond positively to their use.

Of the large scale studies in the UK, Derek Glover and Dave Miller from Keele University have recently completed a study of IWBs in secondary Maths teaching, which was funded by the Nuffield Foundation. This study was conducted over a two year period and combined an intervention into the secondary Maths curriculum, through the development of software and pedagogic topic guides designed to exploit the interactive potential of the boards, with an evaluative study of these materials in use. Methods included classroom observation, teacher and pupil surveys and two attainment tests designed to assess the impact on pupil learning.

From their review of the data, Miller, Glover and Averis (2004a) identified “six common techniques, or ‘manipulations’ that are used in the course of lessons with an IWB to enhance interactivity between teacher, material and pupils.” They list these as

- Drag and drop....
- Hide and reveal...
- Colour, shading and highlighting....
- Matching equivalent terms....
- Movement or animation....
- Immediate feedback...

In some lessons with IWBs these techniques were clearly used in a positive way to support learning. But this wasn't inevitably the case, and in a second paper the team conclude:

'In short it would appear that the effective use of the IAW [IWB] in enhancing attainment hinges upon the progress made by teachers in harnessing the additional power of the technology to prompt analysis of the learning process in the teacher, and appreciation of the concepts and applications by the pupil.'
(Miller et al, 2004b)

Good teaching remains good teaching with or without the technology; the technology may enhance pedagogy but only if teachers and pupils engage with it and understand its potential in such a way that the technology itself is no longer viewed as the ends but as another pedagogic means. The project concluded that reaching this point in use takes time. They conceptualise it as a three-step process:

There appears to be a three stage pedagogic development in establishing effective teaching with IAW technology:

*a. **Supported didactic** where the IAW is used to enhance traditional board focused didactic teaching*

*b. **Interactive** where the teacher recognises some of the additional benefits of the technology and endeavours to stimulate interactivity by questioning and involvement of pupils*

*c. **Enhanced interactive** where the teacher moves from the instructional to the involvement role and uses the technology to stimulate, integrate and develop interactive learning. (Miller and Glover, 2004)*

From their study of the supported introduction of IWB use to the secondary Maths classroom, they consider that the necessary time to conclude this process is something in the region of two years. The conclusions they draw about the likely sequence involved in the effective appropriation of a new technology mirrors similar conclusions reached elsewhere, in particular the difficulty of developing innovative practice with ICT. (See Scrimshaw, 2004; Ertmer et al, 1999; Hooper and Rieber, 1995)

The Keele University team sought to identify, then handover and finally evaluate a range of approaches to exploiting the potential of IWBs within one particular curriculum area (Maths) and age group (11-16). By contrast, in a smaller scale study in Wales, which has now received further funding from the ESRC, Steve Kennewell from Swansea University examined the impact of the introduction of IWBs to Welsh primary and secondary schools by focusing on their use across the curriculum in two schools covering the 7-9 and 11-12 age group respectively. Kennewell identifies IWBs as "technologies which seem to be more teacher-oriented" than other forms of ICT because of the ease with which they can be used in whole class contexts (Kennewell, 2004). Starting from the list of potential advantages, which the DfEE had identified, that ICT can bring to educational settings (DfEE, 1998), and then expanding this list through analysis of classroom use, Kennewell characterised the following features of IWBs as potential affordances or constraints on teacher and pupil action in whole class settings:

- Speed: making processes happen more quickly than other methods
- Automaticity: making previously tedious or effortful processes happen automatically
- Capacity: the storage and retrieval of large amounts of material
- Range: access to materials from a wider range of sources than otherwise possible
- Provisionality: the facility to easily change something which has been produced
- Interactivity: the automatic provision of feedback in response to an action by the user
- Clarity: the display is easy for pupils to see or interpret;
- Authenticity: the tools and resources are the same or similar to those used by professionals in the field;
- Focusability: the drawing of pupils' attention to particular aspects of a display or idea
- Accuracy: items are constructed with greater precision than is realistic manually
- Multimodality: the facility to switch between visual, aural, and textual display
- Availability: the scope of resources which can be accessed in practice
- Selectability: the facility to make a choice of resources or actions easily implemented
- Collatability: the facility to bring together a variety of items from different sources into a single resource
- Shareability: the facility to communicate and interchange resources and ideas easily with others
- Templating: the provision of a standard outline structure for individuals to add their own ideas

(Kennewell, 2004)

The study found that there was much greater commonality in the pattern of use of IWBs in the primary classrooms observed than in the secondary classrooms. In the latter, subject teachers' selected different aspects of the technology, which "reflect(ed) the differences in subject culture and pedagogical practices associated with each curriculum area" (Ibid 2004). Thus the Maths teacher highlighted the provisionality of the technology, the MFL teacher its focusability and the Science teacher its automaticity and clarity. Kennewell concludes that "teachers decide what affordances they will make available and what constraints they will impose in order to facilitate and structure pupil activity and maintain an appropriate learning gap. It is the process of orchestrating the affordances and constraints of the features to match pupils' needs in relation to the intended learning which is the key to developments in pedagogy which lead to improvements in learning" (ibid). The study as reported so far does not identify what enables or constrains teachers from using the technology to best pedagogic effect.

Exploiting the potential of ICT: Are IWB's simply another case in point?

The research undertaken so far is mixed. Whilst there is a clear consensus on what the advantages of IWBs might be in the abstract, observation of the technology in

use shows considerable variation in the approach teachers take to the technology and consequently the likely benefits for users. In many respects, the pattern of use with IWBs seems to replicate the pattern observed with other technologies (Jones, 2004; Scrimshaw, 2004). The clear advantage IWBs seem to have in terms of uptake - that their use fits quite easily with existing patterns of whole class pedagogy – may also be their weakness. Their introduction into classrooms does not guarantee that their potential becomes either immediately apparent to their recipients, nor that it is easily exploited.

The model of technology adoption put forward by Hooper and Rieber is a useful reminder here. They suggest a model of adoption with five steps: Familiarization, concerned with initial exposure and experience; Utilization, when the teacher tries out the technology with only a limited commitment to its use; Integration when a teacher begins to rely more fundamentally on the technology to steer what they do in the classroom; Reorientation when teachers begin to reconsider and reconceptualise the learning environment of their classroom in the light of the new technology; and Evolution when teachers accept that their pedagogy will continue to grow and change to meet new challenges (Hooper and Rieber, 1995).

Twining et al (2005) make use of a similar scale to describe teachers' changing use of tablet PCs. They suggest teachers gradually move through these stages:

- Support – increasing efficiency without changing the curriculum
- Extend – the curriculum is changed, but this could have been achieved without Tablet PCs
- Transform – the curriculum is changed, and this could not have been achieved without Tablet PCs.

(Twining et al, 2005)

Similarly Haldane and Somekh adapt Hooper and Rieber to suggest a five-part typology of teacher uptake of IWBs in a paper presented at BERA 2005. They suggest teachers gradually increase their confidence in use of the technology as they move through the following stages from *foundation* to *formative* to *facility* to *fluency* to *flying*.

Given the general consensus on the time it takes for teachers to adapt to the technology and then adapt the technology itself to create new pedagogic uses, it may simply be too early to say what the lasting benefits of IWBs will be. In reviewing the introduction of ICT to educational settings, both Bonnett (2001) and Noss and Pachler (1999) point out that the potential of ICT may be harnessed either to do old things better or to do new things. Noss and Pachler argue that historically the former invariably precedes the latter. If they are right, then one would indeed expect both the potential and the limits of IWBs to emerge relatively slowly, through use, and for the true potential of the technology to take a while to be recognised. Users work within the limits of what they are able to imagine a technology will do. The research outlined above cautions against conflating the resource, whatever its technological potential, with the pedagogy, which finds a use for it. It also argues the case for finding teachers the time and the space to experiment with the technology under conditions which make it worth their while to do so. It remains to be seen whether

the point that has been reached in the policy cycle will facilitate or hinder this objective.

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Annex C

Analysis of the IWB Baseline Survey

Introduction

This report presents an analysis of the baseline survey sent to schools in October 2004. Data on departmental IWB availability and usage, teacher familiarity and expectations of the technology have been collected. This report analyses the salient differences in current levels of ICT provision, decisions about which department received the IWBs funded by the London Challenge and the current needs of Maths, English and Science departments with respect to IWB training.

The report forms part of the DfES-funded study to evaluate the educational and operational effectiveness of the London Challenge element of the Schools interactive Whiteboard Expansion project (SWE) a government initiative designed to support London secondary schools in acquiring and making effective use of interactive whiteboards (IWBs) in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

Description of sample in relation to all London schools

200 schools returned all or part of the survey sent to London secondary schools. This represents 49% of schools, which is a fairly low return rate. However, as shown in Table 6, we can be reasonably confident that the sample is a random sub-sample of all London schools because the key parameters describing school type are very similar in the population and the sample.

Table 6: Key School-Level Statistics for the Sample compared to all London Schools

	Schools in sample = 200			All London schools = 412		
	Obs	Mean / %	Std. Dev.	Obs	Mean / %	Std. Dev.
Roman Catholic	196	17%		403	17%	
Church of England	196	8%		403	7%	
School has Sixth Form	196	61%		403	59%	
Grammar schools	196	6%		403	4%	
Secondary modern	196	3%		403	2%	
Gov: Community	196	49%		403	51%	
Gov: Vol Aided	196	31%		403	29%	
Gov: Foundation	196	19%		403	19%	
Boys only	196	18%		403	15%	
Girls only	196	23%		403	21%	
FTE pupils in 2001	193	1,002	204	393	1,016	311
GCSE 5A*-C 2002	195	52.5	22.3	388	49.2	21.2
FSM eligibility in 2001	193	23.0	16.0	393	26.6	18.0
% SEN with stat in 2001	193	2.5	1.5	393	2.7	1.6
% SEN w/out stat in 2001	193	19.0	10.3	393	20.0	10.4
% white ethnicity in 2001	156	57.5	25.6	393	56.1	25.6

IWBs in London Schools Today

As part of the survey, schools were asked to list the number and room location of IWBs in their school. 200 schools in the survey reported having 3,936 IWBs in total. This works out as an average of 19.7 per school. The ratio of the number of pupils in a school divided by the total number of IWBs gives an indication of the intensity of IWB provision. The median intensity ratio in our survey group is 53 pupils per IWB. If we assume that the average class size is about 30 and classrooms are used over 90% of the time, the ratio tells us that the average pupil in a London secondary school is now taught in an IWB-equipped classroom for about half of all lessons.

Differences in IWB resource provisions between subject areas

Approximately half of all IWBs in schools can be found in Maths and Science departments, as shown in Figure 1. Over one-third appear to be deployed in subject areas outside the three key National Curriculum subjects, particularly ICT and D&T. This 'other' group also includes IWBs placed in general areas in the school such as large lecture rooms and mobile IWBs. These figures differ slightly from the Becta survey, which reports that Maths departments have about 30% more than Science and English departments.

Figure 1: IWB deployment in schools by department

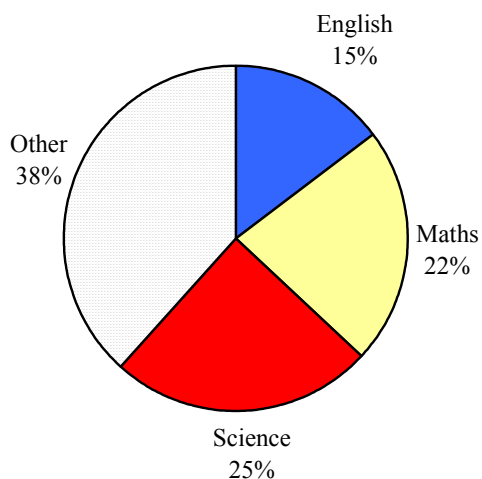


Table 7 shows the significant increase in IWB provision across all three core departments, with relatively few departments still reporting that they have no IWBs today. There are clear differences in the patterns of IWB installation by department. English departments have a mean average of only 2.81 IWBs, compared to an average of 4.25 and 4.68 IWBs for Maths and Science departments, respectively.

Table 7: Number of IWBs by Department

	English	Maths	Science
Total IWBs reported (including those with installation date missing)	561 (average 2.81 per school)	850 (average 4.25 per school)	935 (average 4.68 per school)
Number of departments with no IWBs in Oct 2003	176	156	154
Number of departments with no IWBs in Oct 2004	62	45	50
Number of departments with IWBs installed in Oct 2003	24 schools (with average of 1.75 IWBs)	44 schools (with average of 2.36 IWBs)	46 schools (with average of 2.11 IWBs)
Number of departments with IWBs installed in Oct 2004	138 schools (with average of 3.78 IWBs)	155 schools (with average of 5.03 IWBs)	150 schools (with average of 5.66 IWBs)

How have schools funded the purchase of IWBs?

Schools were also asked the funding source for each IWB in the school and the results are set out in Figure 2. Prior to London Challenge funding for IWBs being made available, over half the IWBs were being purchased using general schools funds – this source *may* include money raised by parent-teacher association fundraising. LC funding has doubled the number of IWBs deployed in schools. Becta estimate (via surveys of LEAs) that 11 IWBs per school have been placed in core departments using London Challenge funding.³ This is broadly consistent with our view that schools have an average of 20 IWBs in total.

³ Becta's survey includes Pupil Referral Units and Special Schools, which may explain the discrepancy.

Figure 2: Funding sources for IWBs

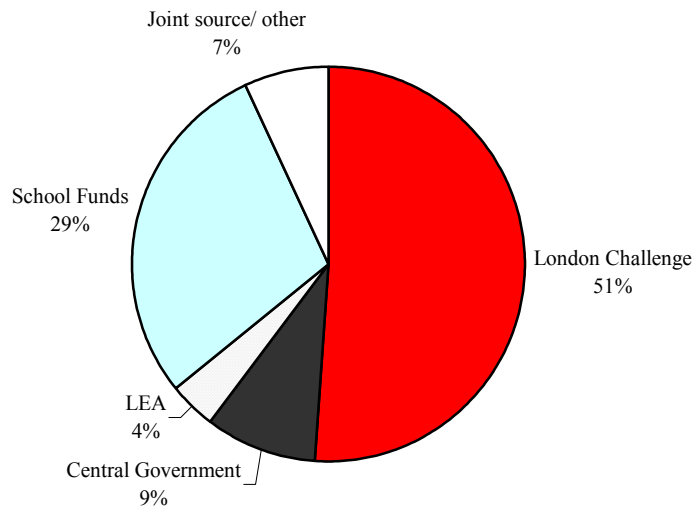


Figure 3 shows the great extent to which LC funding has increased the deployment of IWBs in English, Maths and Science. Without LC funding, the vast majority of IWBs in schools would be deployed in other subject areas⁴. This particular survey data does not reveal exactly where these other IWBs are currently deployed and it would be interesting to find out what motivated the decision to install IWBs in the non-main subject areas. The most likely reasons would seem to be that: (1) teachers in areas such as ICT, D&T, and business studies felt confident or were trained in using the new technology and therefore requested the IWBs; (2) the school decided that teaching would be most enhanced by IWBs in subject areas such as ICT and D&T; or (3) many of the IWBs in this category are actually in general use areas of the school or are mobile IWBs.

⁴ It is of course possible that the LC funding for the 3 main curriculum areas has ‘crowded out’ the purchase of IWBs in those areas that would have taken place in 2004/5 using money from other sources.

Figure 3: Funding source by subject

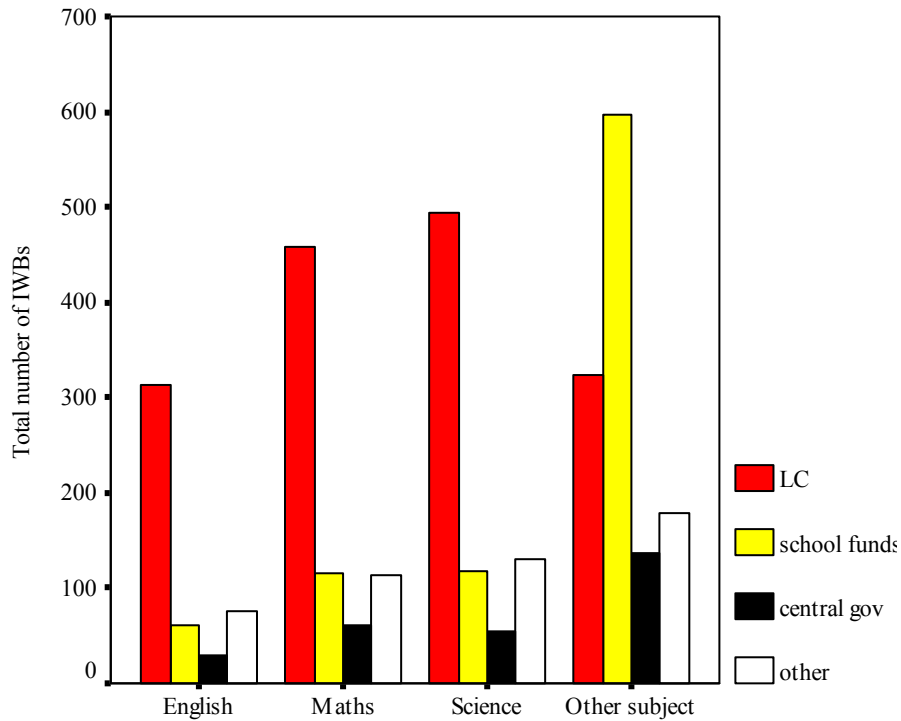
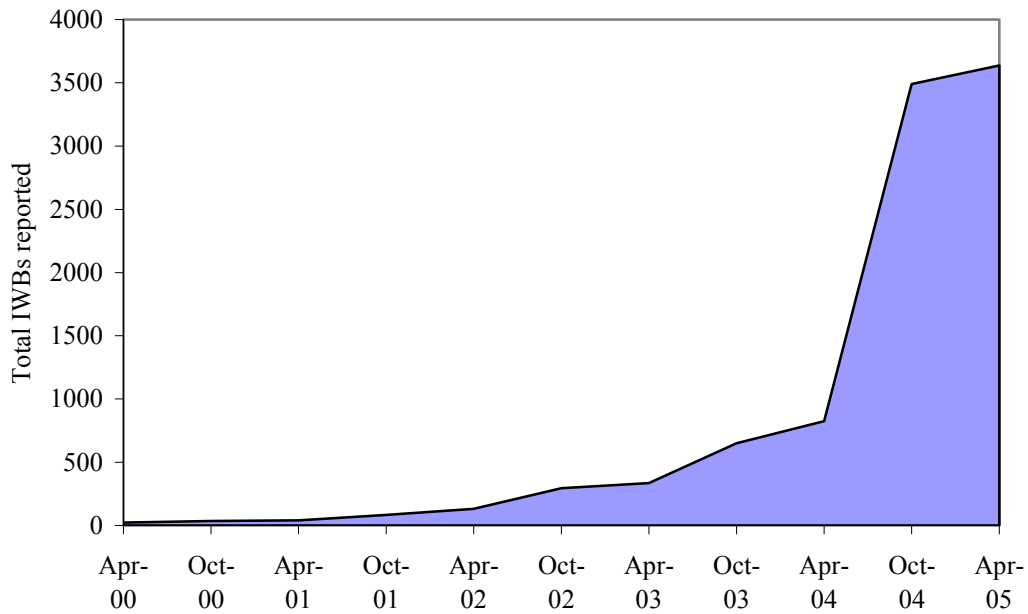


Figure 4 shows the slow and consistent growth in IWB installation in schools prior to the availability of LC funding in summer 2004.

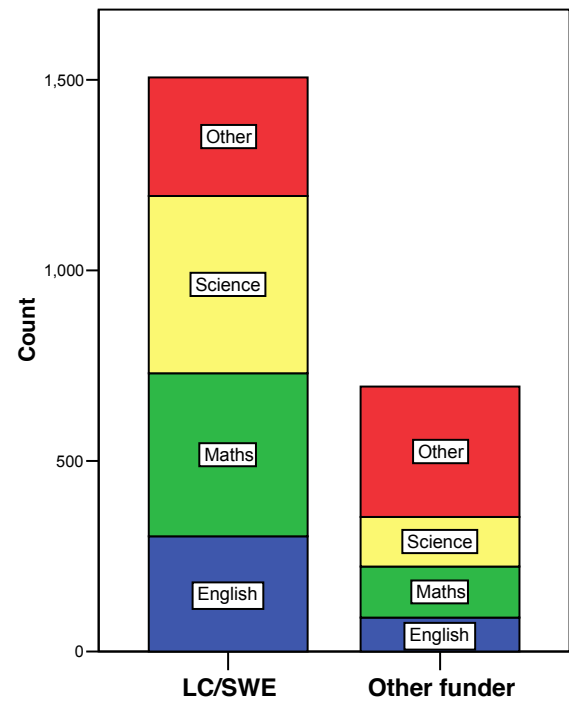
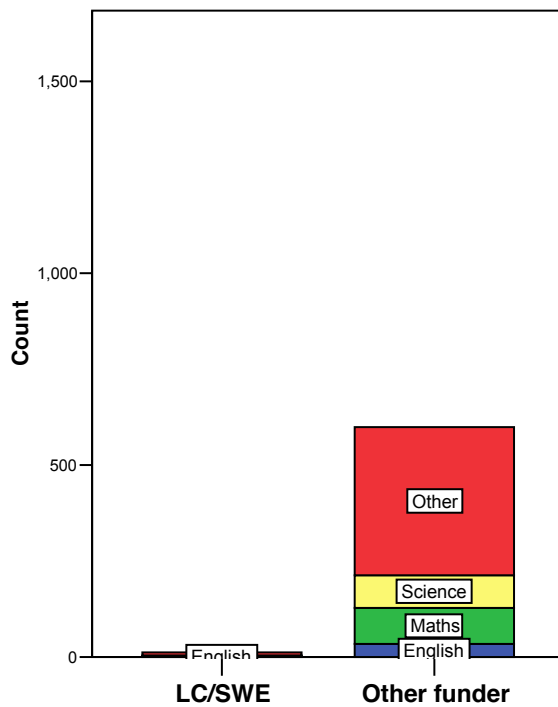
Figure 4: Deployment of IWBs over time



It is very difficult to assess the extent to which the London Challenge funding has 'crowded-out' funding from other sources. Figure 5 shows the majority of early funding going into non-core curriculum areas. Despite the London Challenge funding available, Figure 6 shows schools continuing to place other resources into funding IWBs during this period. Not surprisingly, about half this alternative funding was spent on IWBs in non-core departments.

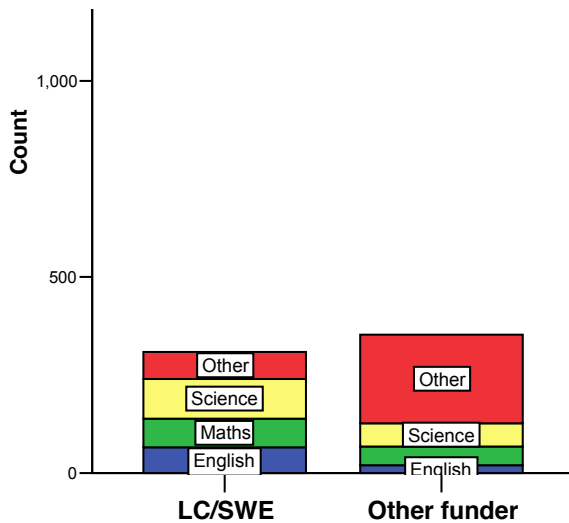
Figure 5: Source of Funding pre-Jan 2004

Figure 6: Funding between Jan and August 2004



This survey work identifies relatively little money being spent on IWBs from September 2004 onwards, with half of the recent purchases of IWBs being funded by London Challenge money.

Figure 7: Sources of funding after September 2004

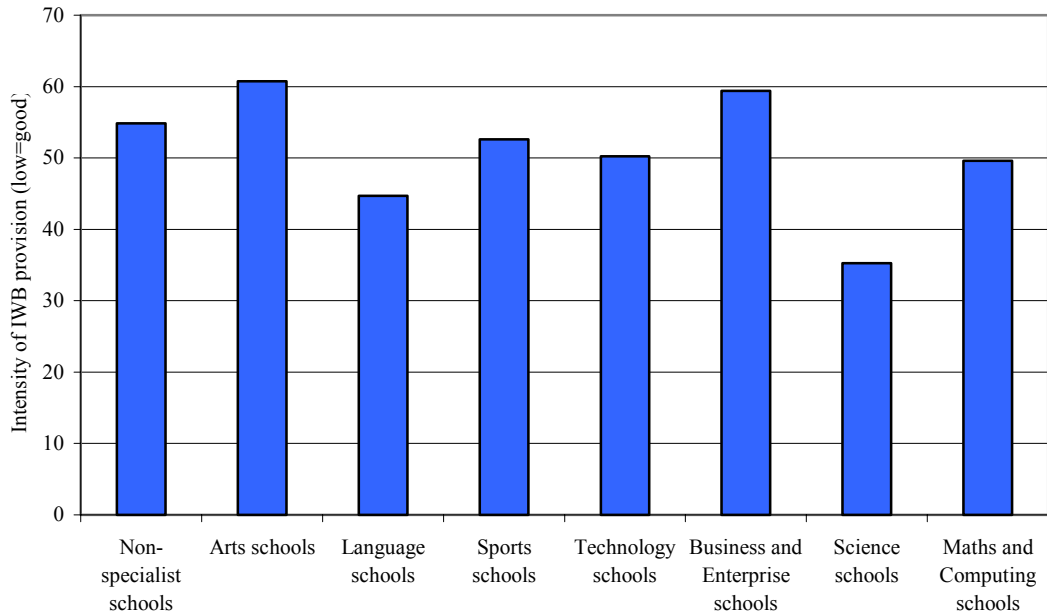


Can Overall IWB Provision be explained by School Type?

It might be assumed that certain types of schools are more likely to have greater IWB provision – as measured by how small the pupil/IWB intensity ratio is⁵. For example, schools with a technology specialism might be expected to have used part of their capital grant for specialist designation to purchase IWBs. However, Figure shows there is surprisingly little difference in IWB provision between specialist types: the only group with notably better IWB provision is the Science specialist schools. The fact that technology schools IWB provision is almost identical to that at non-specialist schools could be explained by the fact that they mostly received specialist status (and hence initial capital grant) at a time when IWBs were new and very expensive; 18 of 24 technology schools in the survey received their specialist status prior to 2002.

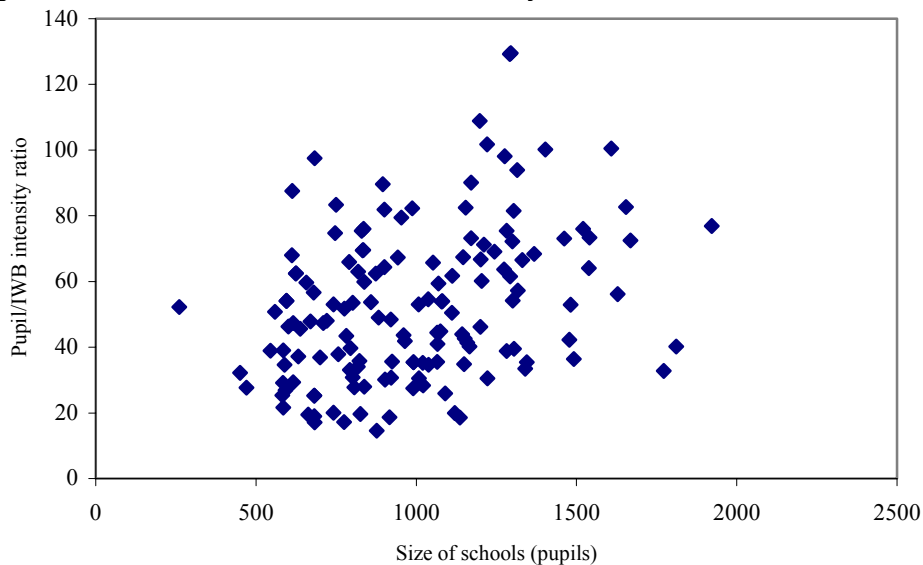
⁵ For this section 10 schools with an intensity ratio of over 300 are excluded since they are extreme outliers.

Figure 8: IWB intensity by specialist type⁶



There was no association between school governance (e.g. foundation, voluntary aided), school type (grammar, secondary modern, comprehensive) and IWB intensity ratio in this set of survey data. The only clear relationship between the IWB intensity measure and a school-level characteristic was that of school size. Figure 8 shows that the larger schools often have a higher intensity measure: this means that in larger schools, pupils may actually have less lesson time in a classroom with an IWB than in smaller secondary schools.

Figure 8: Association between IWB intensity and school size

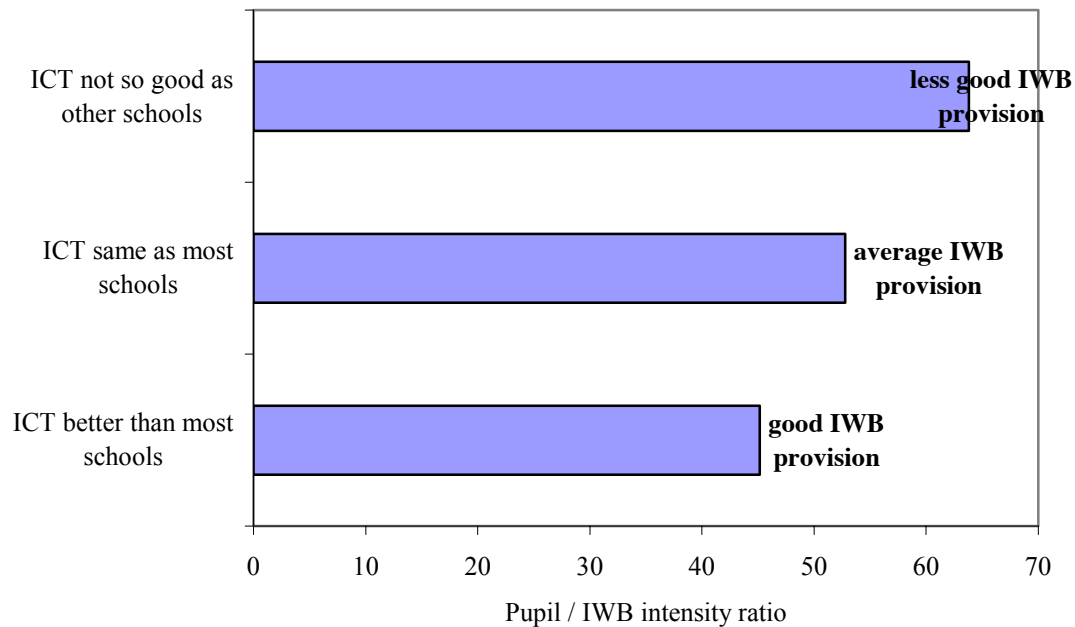


⁶ Humanities and Engineering excluded since only one school in each. Combinations of specialism (3 schools) also excluded.

Are perceptions of ICT consistent with current IWB provision in school?

As part of the survey schools were asked whether they thought their overall ICT provision was better, similar or worse than at other secondary schools. Perhaps not surprisingly, those who believed their overall ICT provision was better than at most schools also had more IWBs, as measured by the ratio of pupils to IWBs at the school.

Figure 9: ICT perceptions and IWB provision



Is the level of IWB provision best described as a school-wide phenomenon or department specific?

Survey data of approximately 160 schools containing information about which classrooms have IWBs in schools is used to form a view about the 10% of schools with the best IWB provision in each departmental area. Schools are marked four-times for whether their pupil / IWB intensity ratio makes them one of the best 16 schools in Maths, Science, English and overall.

Table 3 shows the overlap between schools that have the best provision in the different departmental categories. So, for example, 8 of the 16 schools with the best overall IWB provision also have the best IWB provision in Science. A similar relationship holds for English and Maths, where 5 of those with the best overall IWB provision also have amongst the best English and Maths provision⁷.

⁷ A similar exercise was carried out to compare within school associations for departments with the lowest training needs, but little relationship was found.

Table 3: Schools with Best IWB Provision in Each Department

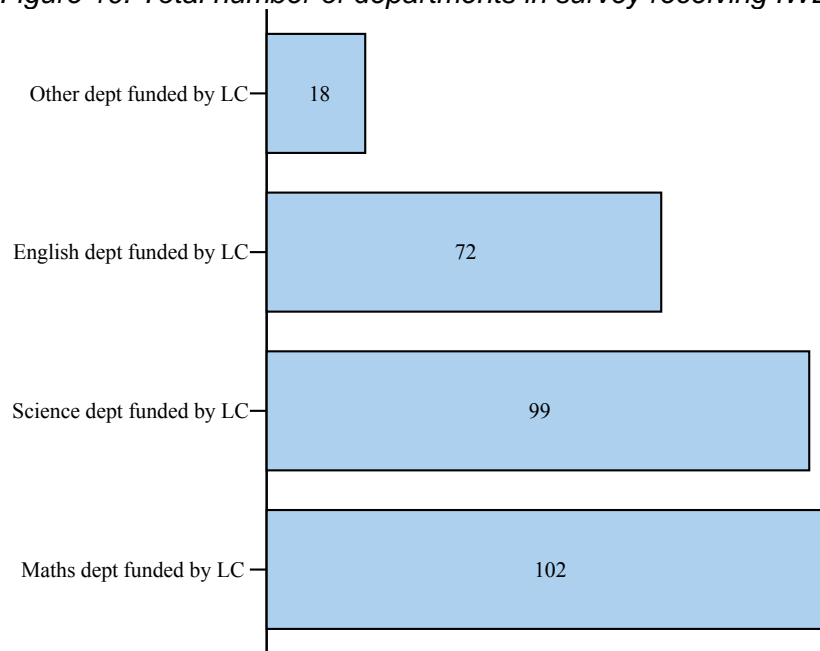
	Overall IWB provision is in top 10%	English IWB provision is in top 10%	Maths IWB provision is in top 10%
English IWB provision is in top 10%	5		
Maths IWB provision is in top 10%	5	5	
Science IWB provision is in top 10%	8	3	4

Explaining the Resourcing Decision

Which departments received new IWBs using LC funds?

176 of the 200 schools returning section 3 of the survey completed section 3.1, which asked the headteacher or ICT co-ordinator about IWBs, ICT and LC funding in the context of the whole school. Overall, Maths departments were the greatest beneficiaries of the LC funding for new IWBs, with 102 of the 176 schools (58%) allocating all or some of the LC funding to this department. The deployment of new IWBs in Science departments has been almost as high (56%), as shown in Figure 10. 10% of schools chose to allocate part or all of the LC funds to a department other than Maths, English or Science.

Figure 10: Total number of departments in survey receiving IWBs as part of LC

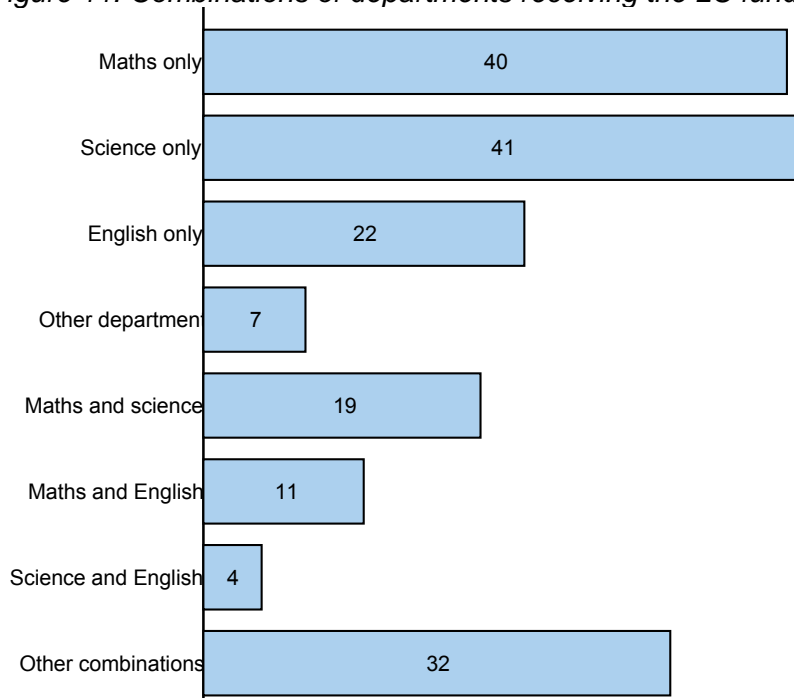


Of the 176 schools answering this question, 110 of these schools had allocated the LC funds for new IWBs to one department alone; the rest had distributed the money between two or more departments, as set out in Figure 11 and Table 8.

Table 8: Allocation of LC funding to departments

	Total departments receiving IWBs	Department received all LC funding	Funding shared with other departments
Maths	103	40	63
Science	100	41	59
English	74	22	52
Other subjects	18	7	11

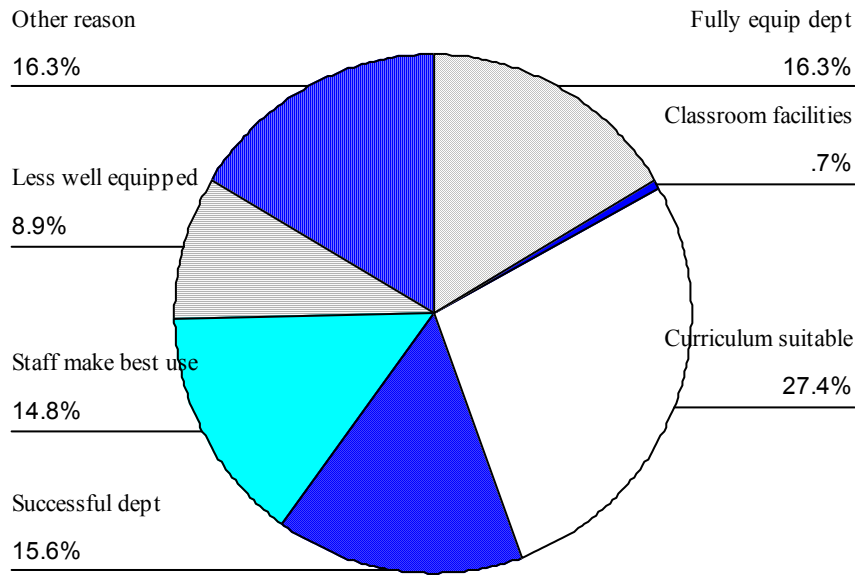
Figure 11: Combinations of departments receiving the LC funding



Why was this department chosen to receive LC funding?

There was no consistent pattern in the reason for choosing which department received the LC funding for new IWBs. The most common reason selected (of the six options given) was that the curriculum in that subject area was deemed most likely to benefit from the use of interactive whiteboards (27%). 16% of schools used the funding to fully equip an already partially equipped department; 15% of heads/head of ICT thought staff in that department would make best use of the IWBs; 16% wanted to enhance an already successful department (see Figure 12).

Figure 12: Most important reason given for choosing department



The combination of a relatively small sample, a wide variety of reasons cited and many different combinations of deployment decisions make it difficult to make statistically significant inferences about the department chosen for funding and reasons given. However, Table 9 does show that headteachers and ICT co-ordinators returning the survey tend to hold the conventional view about IWBs that they are more suitable for a Maths or Science curriculum. The survey data also implies that English department are less well-equipped than Maths or Science classrooms in the typical London secondary school, and that some Maths and Science departments will now have IWBs in every classroom.

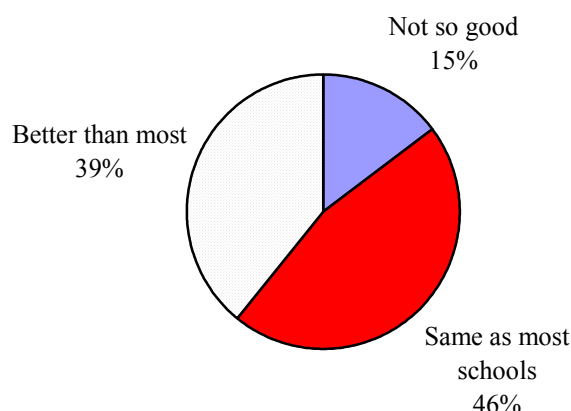
Table 9: The relationship between choice of department and reason given for choice

Department	Reason for choice							Total
	Fully equip dept	Best classroom facilities	Curriculum suitability	Successful department	make good use of IWBs	Less well equipped	Other reasons	
Maths only	8	0	11	8	9	1	2	39
Science only	6	1	12	3	9	0	3	34
English only	1	0	1	5	3	9	2	21
Other dept only	0	1	0	2	1	0	2	6
Maths and Science	0	0	7	1	0	1	6	15
Maths and English	1	0	2	0	2	2	4	11
Science and English	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	3
Other combinations	8	0	5	4	2	0	8	27

Can perceptions of ICT resources in schools explain the decision to choose the department

Just 25 of the 179 schools answering this section of the survey felt their ICT resources were less good than other London secondary schools, as shown in Figure 13.

Figure 13: Perception of ICT provision relative to other schools



16 of the 25 schools who viewed their ICT provision as 'less good' installed the IWBs in Maths and/or Science departments, reinforcing the view that having IWBs in Maths and Science is more essential than for English.

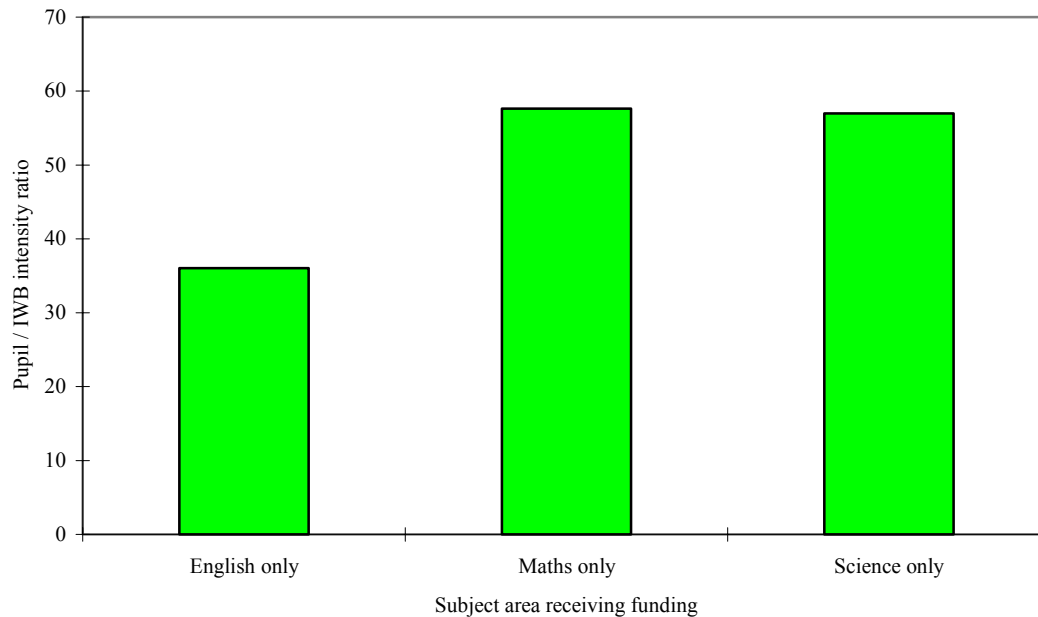
Figure 14: Department choice and view of ICT provision

Department receiving funding	Better ICT provision	Same ICT provision	Less good ICT provision	Total
Maths only	9	23	7	39
Science only	18	14	6	38
English only	6	12	3	21
Other dept only	2	4	1	7
Maths and Science	9	7	3	19
Maths and English	5	4	1	10
Science and English	3	0	0	3
Other combinations	14	14	4	32
Total	66	78	25	169

Can deployment decision be explained by existing IWB provision?

Of the 105 schools who chose to give their LC funding to only one department, 21 of these chose the English department. Figure 15 shows that these 21 schools must have had superior existing IWB provision – the mean average intensity ratio at these schools is 36 pupils / IWB. This reinforces the view that provision of IWBs in Maths and Science departments is seen as more essential than in English departments, which tend to be equipped last.

Figure 15: Association between deployment decision and IWB provision at school



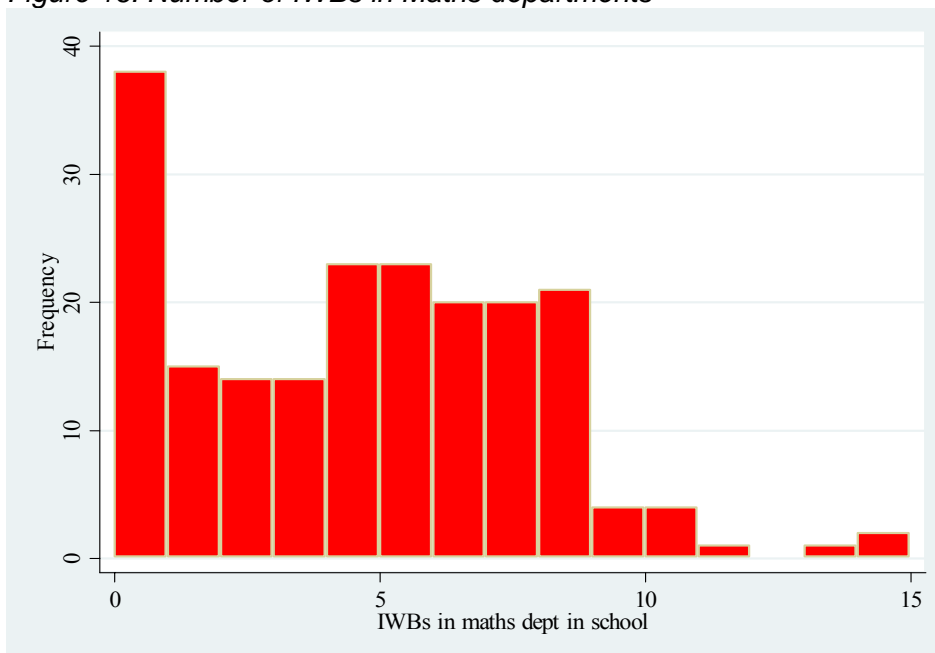
Use of IWBs in Maths Departments

How many Maths departments currently have IWBs installed?

Just ten of the 181 Maths departments answering the questions about their department's IWB provision said they did not have any IWBs installed. Those 10 schools had used their LC funding for Science or English; they did not have a consistently negative view of their overall ICT provision.⁸ Figure 16 shows the number of IWBs reported as being in Maths teaching classrooms by an overall school administrator for 200 schools. Interestingly, 38 schools did not enter any of their IWBs as being in Maths classrooms. However, this is likely to overstate the actual number of Maths classrooms without any IWBs.

⁸ 181 Maths departments believed they received new IWBs as part of LC, yet according to headteachers/ICT coordinators 103 Maths departments received funding. The integrity of the data should not be viewed as an issue: it is entirely possible that the head of Maths was not aware of the source of funding for new IWBs in the department

Figure 16: Number of IWBs in Maths departments



The average number of IWBs in Maths departments is now 5.3 (for those who report having at least one IWB⁹). This is a huge increase on the 0.5 IWBs per Maths department reported in October 2003. 61% of the IWBs currently in Maths departments have been funded by LC.

What IWB training has been undertaken so far?

Head of Maths departments were asked about IWB training for members of the department. Relatively little training for Maths staff in the use of IWBs appears to have been already undertaken by departments, although individual staff may well have attended training courses. Table 10 shows that around a quarter of departments had already undertaken some basic training in 'building confidence with the use of IWB'.

⁹ The 29 schools who have not reported the full locations of their IWBs are ignored for these statistics since it is not clear whether the actual figure should be zero or not.

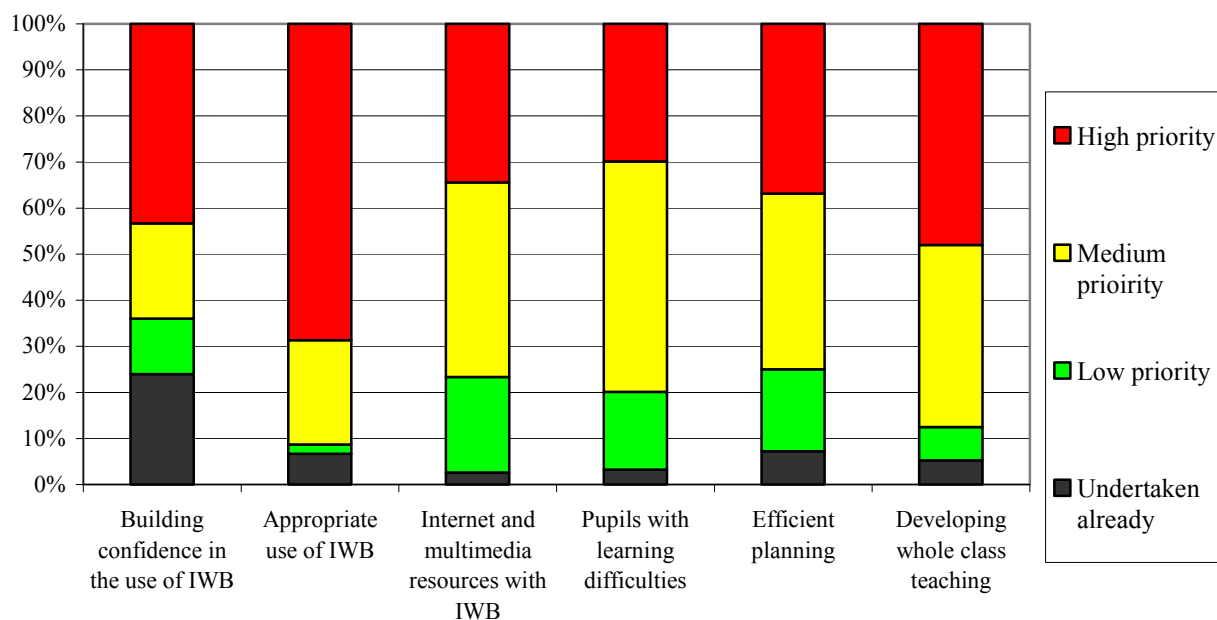
Table 10: Training already undertaken in Maths departments

	Undertaken already
Building confidence in the use of IWB	39 (20% of schools)
Appropriate use of IWB	11 (6% of schools)
Internet and multimedia resources with IWB	6 (3% of schools)
Pupils with learning difficulties	6 (3% of schools)
Efficient planning	14 (7% of schools)
Developing whole class teaching	12 (6% of schools)

What is the highest IWB training priority in Maths departments?

Where training had not already been carried out, Heads of Departments were asked to categorise the six specific training types as being 'high priority', 'medium priority' or 'low priority'. Figure 17 shows the IWB training priorities for Maths departments. The general picture is that departments feel they need training in all areas of using IWBs. More than two-thirds of Maths departments cite the basic training in the appropriate use of IWBs to support subject teaching and learning as being a high priority. Approximately half of all departments view training in whole class teaching using the IWB as a high priority.

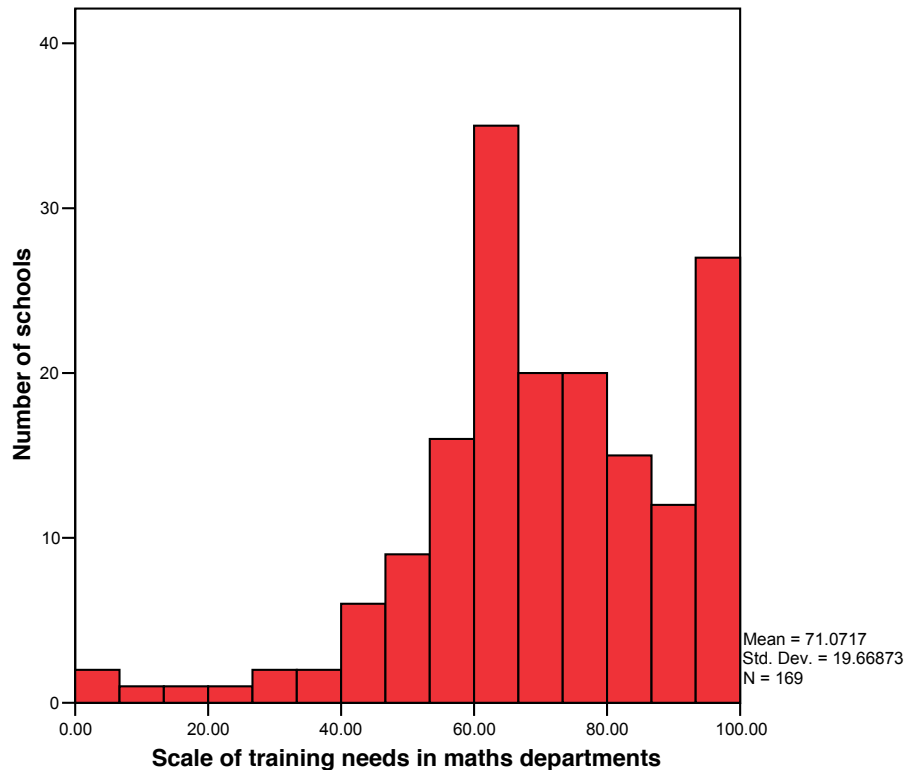
Figure 17: Training Priorities in Maths



The training needs of Maths departments can be ranked on a scale between 0 and 100, where zero means the school has already undertaken training in all six areas (2

schools have done this) and 100 means the department feels all six areas are a 'high' training priority (17 schools feel this is the case, of which 7 received LC funding). Figure 18 shows the self-reported level of IWB training needs for every Maths department. Only 9 schools appear to be confident in their use of IWBs – showing training needs scores of 40 or lower. The typical Maths department can be characterised as viewing all areas as a medium training priority and one or two as a high priority.

Figure 18: Level of training needs in Maths departments



How much are IWBs used in Maths departments?

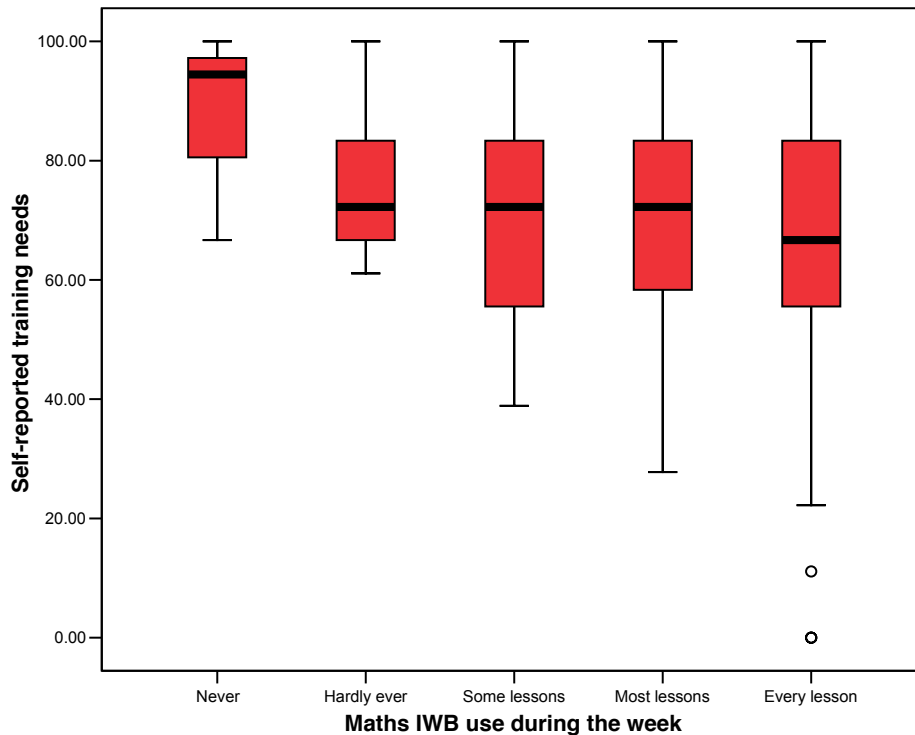
The use of existing IWBs reported by Heads of Maths in Maths lessons is reported as being surprising high (Table 11). Around a quarter of Heads of Maths claimed their IWBs were being used every lesson. However, it is possible that this figure is not entirely representative of actual usage – a Head of Maths would typically observe proportionately very few lessons taking place in the whole department and so may be overly optimistic (or indeed pessimistic) about current use of the technology!

Table 11: How do training needs differ by IWB usage?

IWB usage	Frequency	Mean Training Score (100=v. high; 0=all already undertaken)
Do not have IWBs in maths	10 (5% of schools)	
Never	4 (2% of schools)	88.89
Hardly ever	9 (5% of schools)	76.54
Some lessons	48 (24% of schools)	73.17
Most lessons	62 (31% of schools)	71.66
Every lesson	43 (22% of schools)	66.40
Did not answer	24 (12% of schools)	
Total	200	

The clear relationship between reported IWB usage and the mean level of training needs reported in previous questions is shown in Figure 19. Not surprisingly, the self-reported level of training needs is almost at the maximum possible level for those departments who are never using their IWBs.

Figure 19: How do training needs differ by IWB usage?

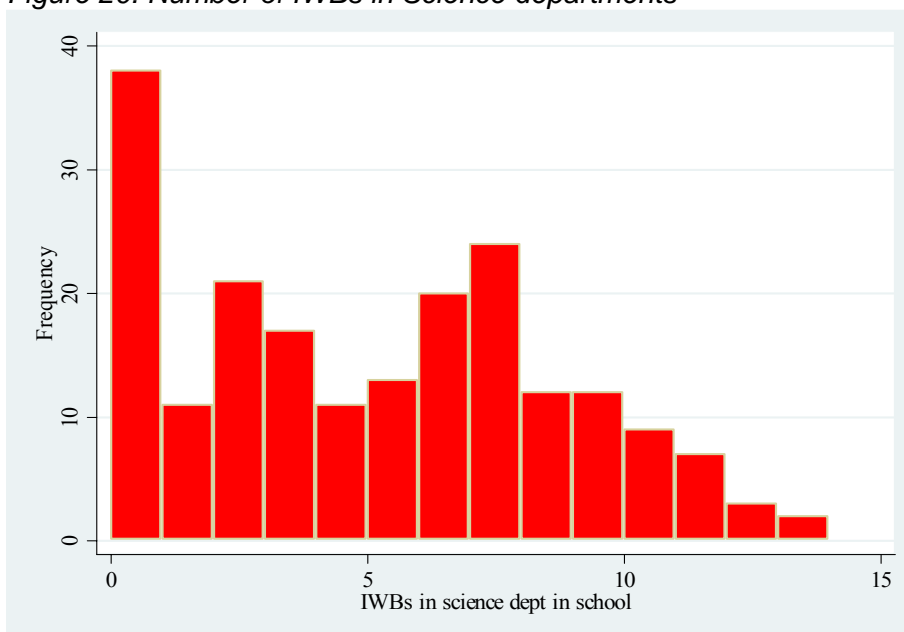


Use of IWBs in Science Departments

How many Science departments currently have IWBs installed?

Twelve of the 178 Science departments answering this question did not have any IWBs installed. Those 12 schools had used their LC funding for Maths or English classrooms; they did not have a consistently negative view of their overall ICT provision. Figure 20 shows the number of IWBs reported as being in Science teaching classrooms by an overall school administrator for 200 schools. As with Maths, 38 school administrators did not enter any IWBs as being in Science classrooms, but this may not mean that these 38 departments do not have any in reality.

Figure 20: Number of IWBs in Science departments



The average number of IWBs in Science departments is now 5.8 (for those who report having at least one IWB¹⁰). This is a slightly higher figure than for Maths, but may be a lower proportion of classrooms since schools tend to have more Science classrooms than Maths classrooms. In October 2003 just 0.5 IWBs per Science department were reported and 62% of all IWB provision in Science departments is reported as coming from LC funds.

What IWB training has been undertaken so far?

Little whole department training in IWB use has taken place in Science department so far, with less than one-fifth of departments reporting having undertaken basic training in 'building confidence with the use of IWBs', as shown in Table 12.

¹⁰ The 30 schools who have not reported the full locations of their IWBs are ignored for these statistics since it is not clear whether the actual figure should be zero or not.

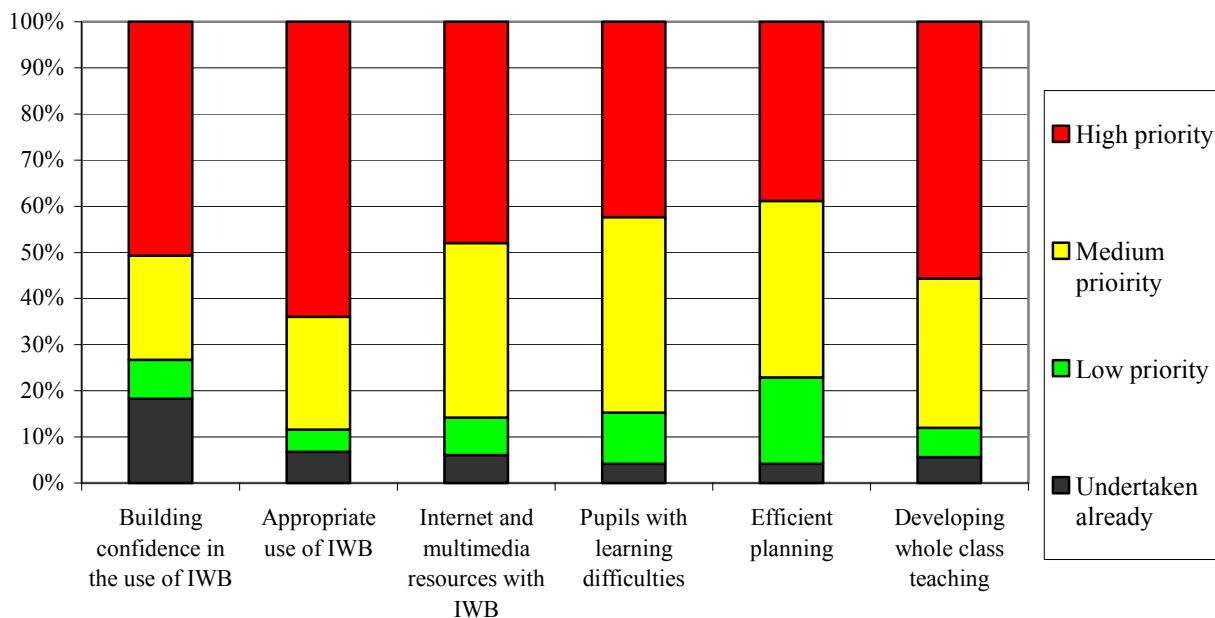
Table 12: Training already undertaken by Science departments

	Undertaken already
Building confidence in the use of IWB	31 (16% of schools)
Appropriate use of IWB	11 (6% of schools)
Internet and multimedia resources with IWB	12 (6% of schools)
Pupils with learning difficulties	6 (3% of schools)
Efficient planning	6 (3% of schools)
Developing whole class teaching	8 (4% of schools)

What is the highest IWB training priority in Science departments?

The general pattern of responses to questions about training is almost identical in Maths and Science departments, with most training areas cited as a high or medium priority in most departments. More than half view training in whole class teaching using the IWB as a high priority, as shown in Figure 21.

Figure 21: Training priorities in Science

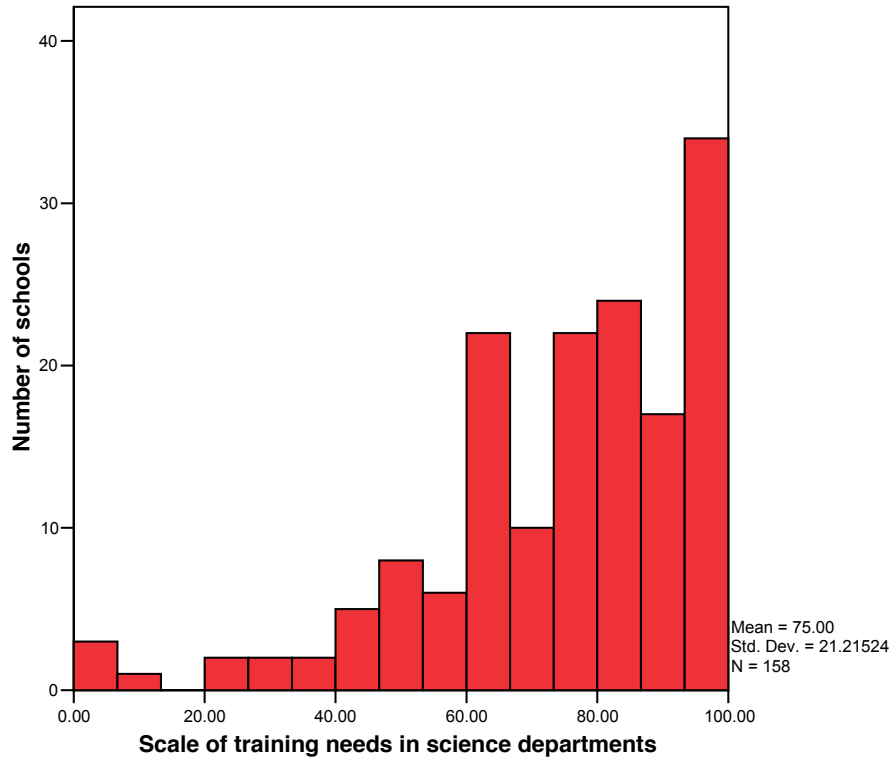


The training needs of Science departments has been ranked on a scale between 0 and 100, where zero means the school's Science department has already undertaken training in all six areas (3 schools have done this) and 100 means the

department feels all six areas are a 'high' training priority (21 schools, of which 12 received LC funds).

Figure 22 shows that just 10 schools could be described as being very confident in their use of IWBs – these are the 10 schools with trainings needs scores equal to or lower than 40. The self-reported training needs of Science departments can be characterised as viewing all areas of IWB training as medium priority, with a couple of areas as high priority.

Figure 22: Level of training needs in Science departments



How much are IWBs used in Science departments?

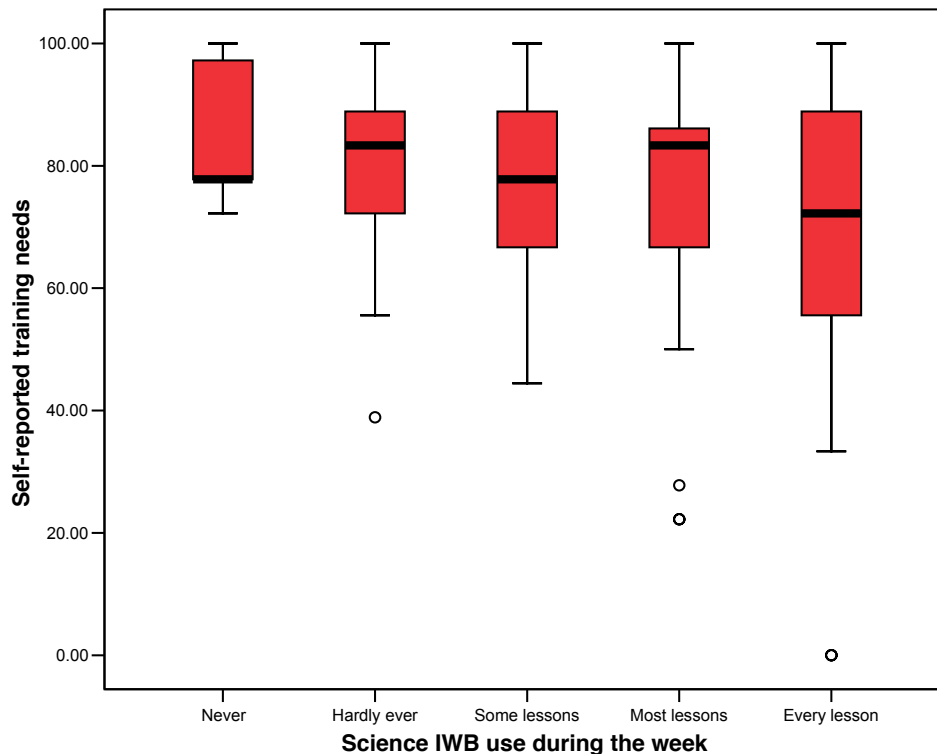
Answers to this question by Heads of Science departments show quite a high usage of IWBs during Science lessons (Table 13). There is some association between reported IWB usage and the mean level of training needs reported in the previous questions.

Table 13: How does training needs differ by IWB usage?

	Frequency	Mean Training Score (100=v. high; 0=all already undertaken)
Do not have IWBs in Science	12 (6% of schools)	
Never	8 (4% of schools)	84.72
Hardly ever	9 (5% of schools)	77.16
Some lessons	43 (22% of schools)	78.17
Most lessons	60 (30% of schools)	76.26
Every lesson	34 (17% of schools)	69.53
Did not answer	34 (17% of schools)	
Total	200	

Figure 23 shows that self-reported training needs are greatest for those departments who are not yet using their IWBs. Not surprisingly the 34 departments that claim to use the IWB every lesson have lower anxiety about training, however the score of 70 implies they still require additional IWB training to get the most out of using IWBs.

Figure 23: How do training needs differ by IWB usage?

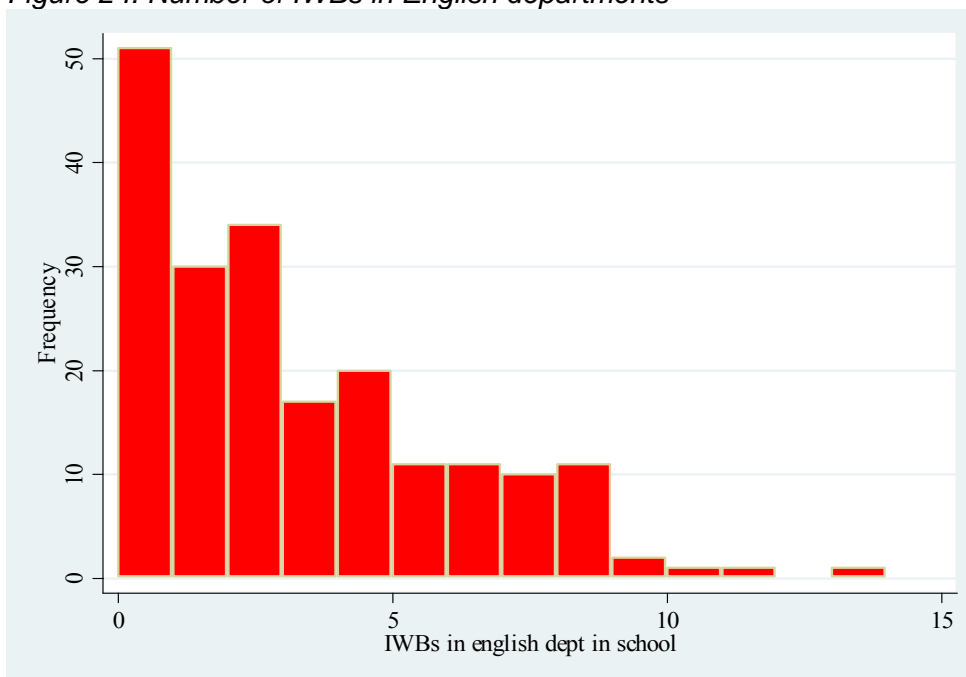


Use of IWBs in English Departments

How many English departments currently have IWBs installed?

30 of the 175 English departments answering this question did not have any IWBs installed. Those 30 schools had used their LC funding for Maths or Science classrooms; they did not have a consistently negative view of their overall ICT provision. Figure 24 shows the number of IWBs reported as being in English teaching classrooms by an overall school administrator for 168 schools. 51 administrators did not enter any IWBs as being in English departments. This is higher than the self-reported figure of 30 by Heads of Departments but the sample is slightly larger and administrators failed to allocate IWBs in any subject area in a few cases.

Figure 24: Number of IWBs in English departments



The average number of IWBs in English departments is now 3.8 (for those who report having at least one¹¹). This is a strikingly lower figure than the number in Maths and Science departments which is between 5 and 6. In October 2003 the mean reported number for the same set of schools was 0.2 IWBs per department: in other words, most English departments did not have a single IWB. 63% of the funding for IWBs in English departments is coming from LC; this is a similar level to Maths and Science.

What IWB training has been undertaken so far?

Very little training for English staff in the use of IWBs appears to have been undertaken at a departmental level. The training already undertaken is listed in

¹¹ The 39 schools who have either not reported the full locations of all IWBs or who have entered zero for English are ignored for these calculations.

Table 14. Just 10% of departments reported having undertaken the basic training in 'building confidence in the use of IWBs'.

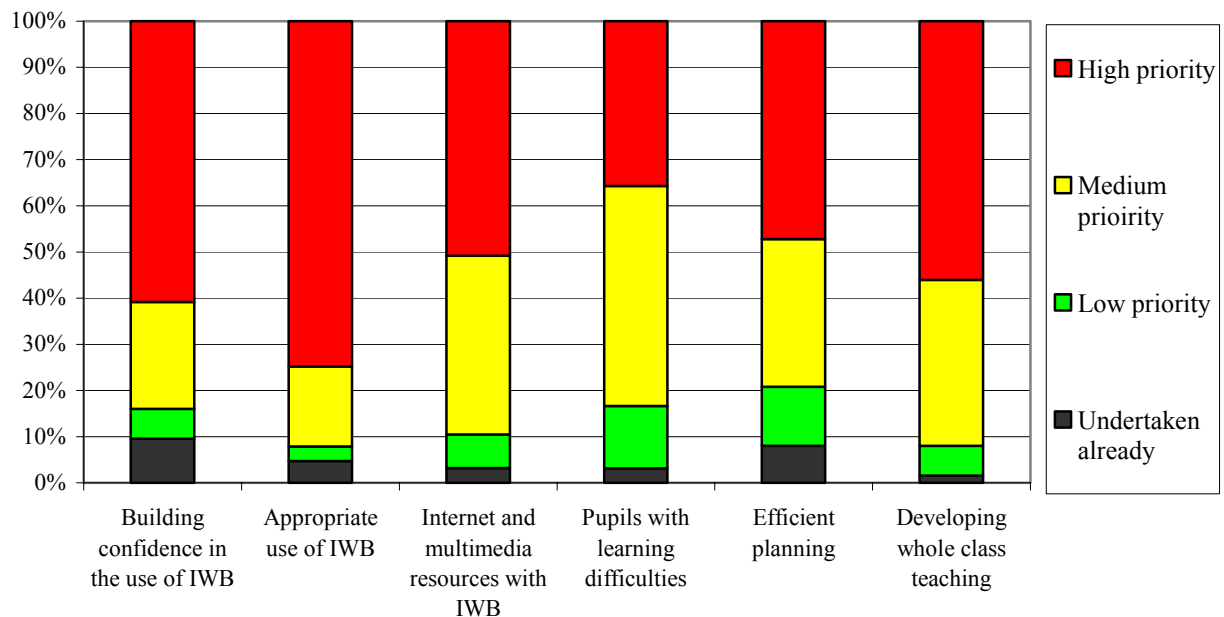
Table 14: Training already undertaken in English departments

	Undertaken already
Building confidence in the use of IWB	14 (7% of schools)
Appropriate use of IWB	6 (3% of schools)
Internet and multimedia resources with IWB	5 (3% of schools)
Pupils with learning difficulties	4 (2% of schools)
Efficient planning	10 (5% of schools)
Developing whole class teaching	3 (2% of schools)

What is the highest IWB training priority in English departments?

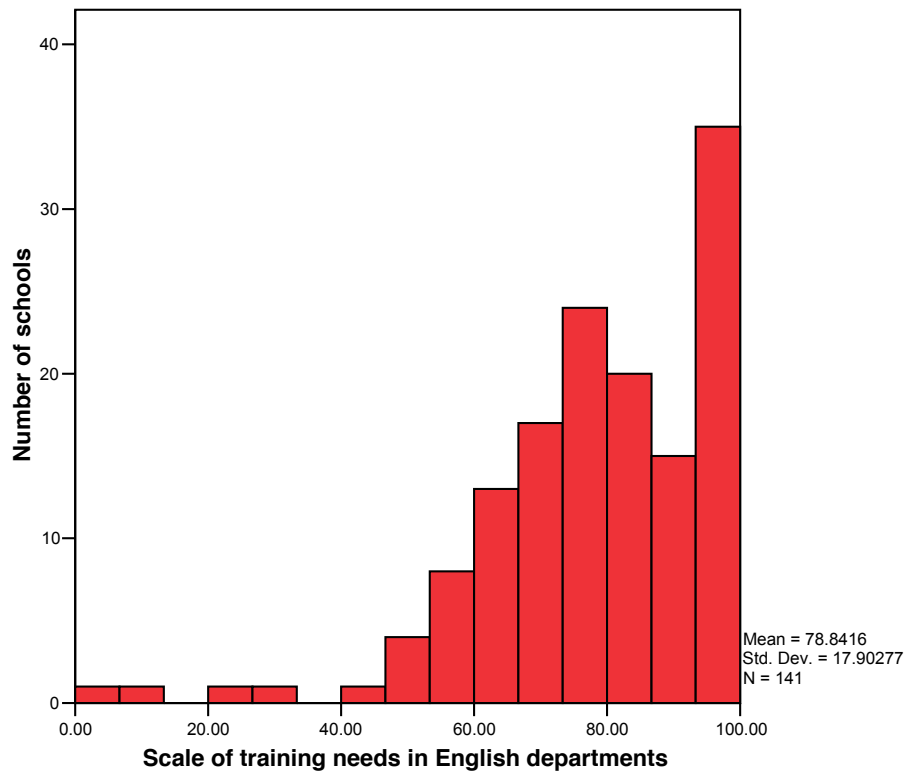
The general picture is that English departments feel they need training in all areas of using IWBs. Three-quarters of English departments cite the basic training in the appropriate use of IWBs to support subject teaching and learning as being a high priority (shown in Figure 25). English departments can certainly be characterised as having greater anxiety about the use of IWBs, compared to Maths and Science departments.

Figure 25: Training Priorities in English



The training needs of English departments has been ranked on a scale between 0 and 100, where zero means the school's English department has already undertaken training in all six areas (just 1 school has done this) and 100 means the department feels all six areas are a 'high' training priority (25 English departments, of which 14 received LC funds). Figure 26 shows the self-reported level of training needs in English departments in the survey. Just 4 English departments taking part in the survey reported a high degree of confidence about use of IWB (with a training needs score of less than 40). The mean self-reported training needs score is higher in English departments than it is in Maths and Science departments. The typical English department can be characterised as viewing all areas as a medium training priority and three as a high priority.

Figure 26: Level of training needs in English departments



How much are IWBs used in English departments?

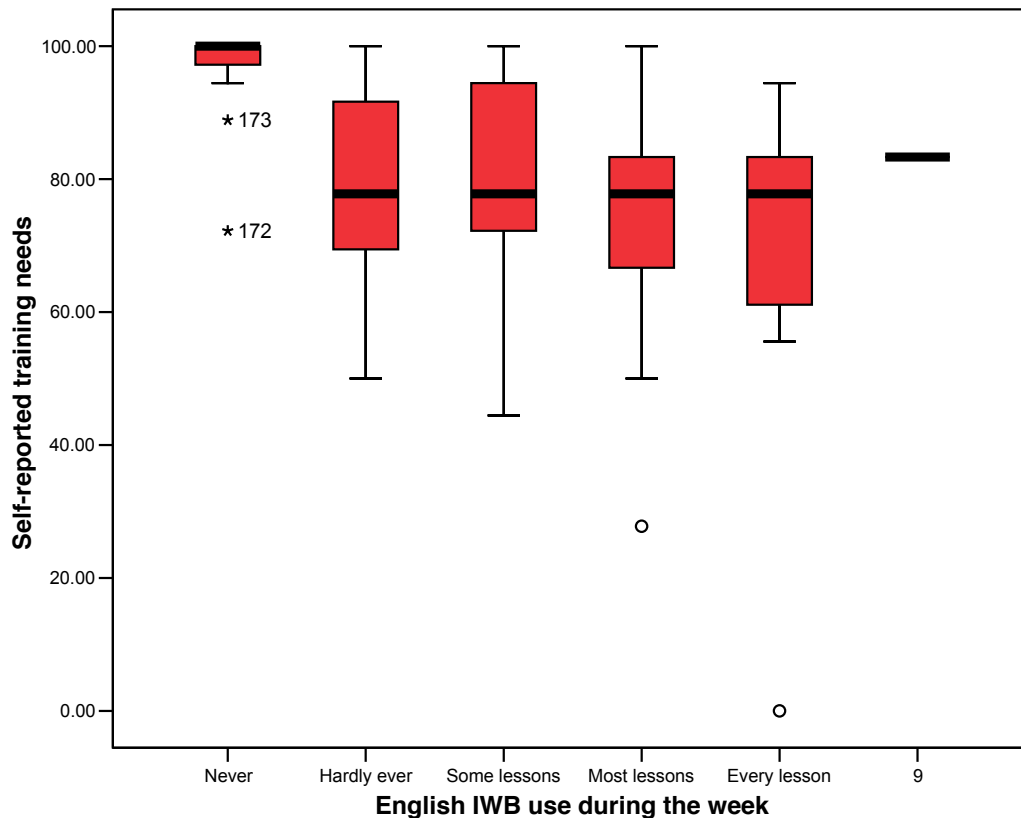
Answers to this question by Heads of English departments show a lower usage of IWBs during English lessons compared to Maths and Science classes. Just 1 in 10 English departments reported their IWBs being used every lesson (Table 15).

Table 15: How does training needs differ by IWB usage?

	Frequency	Mean Training Score (100=v. high; 0=all already undertaken)
Do not have IWBs in English	30 (15% of schools)	
Never	11 (6% of schools)	95.96
Hardly ever	8 (4% of schools)	78.47
Some lessons	51 (26% of schools)	81.52
Most lessons	39 (20% of schools)	76.28
Every lesson	22 (11% of schools)	73.47
Did not answer	38 (19% of schools)	
Total	200	

There is relatively little pattern between reported IWB usage and the mean level of training needs report in previous questions, though the 10 schools not currently using their IWBs clearly have high training needs across all areas (shown in Figure 27).

Figure 27: How do training needs differ by IWB usage?



Annex D

Analysis of the IWB Teacher Survey

Introduction

This report presents an analysis of the teacher survey sent to schools between June and October 2005. Data on teacher usage of IWBs, resource creation, training experience, general familiarity and expectations of the technology have been collected. This report analyses the salient differences in teacher usage and attitudes towards IWBs in Maths, English and Science departments.

The report forms part of the DfES-funded study to evaluate the educational and operational effectiveness of the London Challenge element of the Schools interactive Whiteboard Expansion project (SWE): a government initiative designed to support London secondary schools in acquiring and making effective use of interactive whiteboards (IWBs) in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

Description of sample in relation to all London schools

113 teachers in 27 schools returned the survey which was sent to individual core subject departments in London secondary schools who had already participated in the baseline survey. This represents 7% of schools, and Table 6 shows that, relative to the population of London schools the sample is significant overweight Church of England schools and Community schools. It is significantly underweight foundation schools and single sex schools.

Table 16: Key school-level statistics for the sample compared to all London schools

	Schools in sample = 27		All London schools = 412	
	Mean / %	Std. Dev.	Mean / %	Std. Dev.
Roman Catholic	16%		17%	
Church of England	12%		7%	
School has Sixth Form	60%		59%	
Grammar schools	4%		4%	
Secondary modern	0%		2%	
Gov: Community	60%		51%	
Gov: Vol Aided	28%		29%	
Gov: Foundation	8%		19%	
Boys only	8%		15%	
Girls only	8%		21%	
FTE pupils in 2001	1,076	327	1,015	311
GCSE 5A*-C 2002	46.8	19.8	49.2	21.2
FSM eligibility in 2001	33.0	21.3	26.6	18.0
% SEN with stat in 2001	3.1	1.7	2.7	1.6
% SEN w/out stat in 2001	20.4	8.6	20.0	10.4
% white ethnicity in 2001	50.5	27.8	56.1	25.6

Teachers Taking Part in the Survey and their Access to IWBs

Teachers surveyed were drawn from English, Maths and Science departments. Figure 1 shows that just 20% of respondents were Science teachers (23 teachers), so analysis of IWBs in Science classrooms should be considered less valid than for other subjects.

Figure 1: Main teaching subject

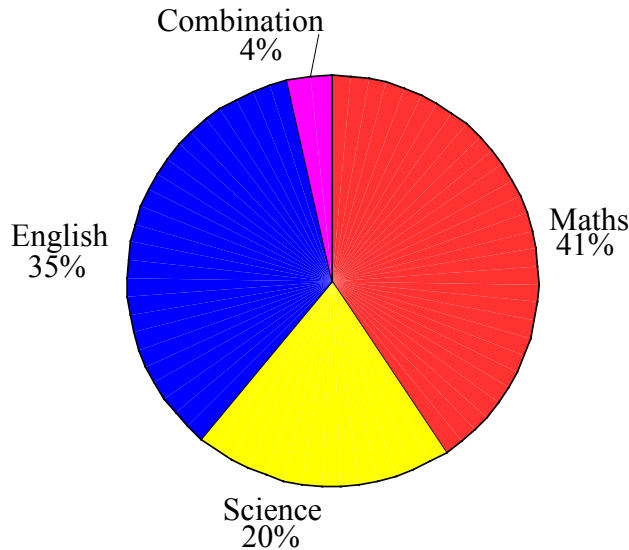
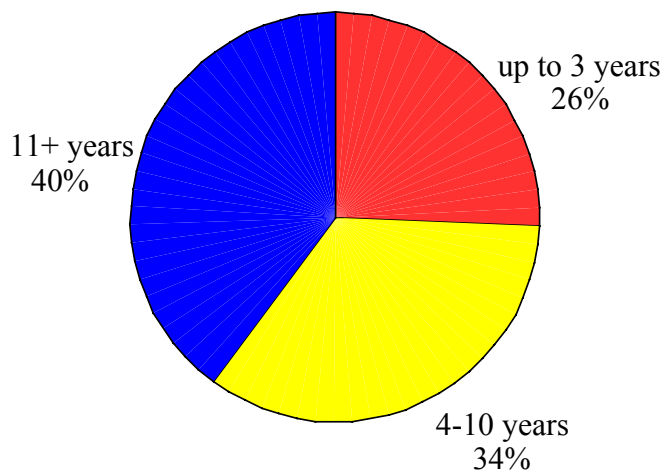


Figure 2 shows that the respondents were relatively evenly balanced between teachers new to the profession (3 years or less), relatively experienced teachers (4 to 10 years) and very experienced teachers (11 years or more). The new teachers responding to the survey were all aged 34 or under; the very experienced teachers were all over 34 years olds. This means that general ICT competency and length of teaching experience are likely to be highly correlated.

Figure 2: Teaching experience



Most teachers are using a Promethean IWB (70%), with Smartboard IWBs (24%) also relatively widespread in classrooms (see figure 3).

Figure 3: Type of interactive whiteboard used

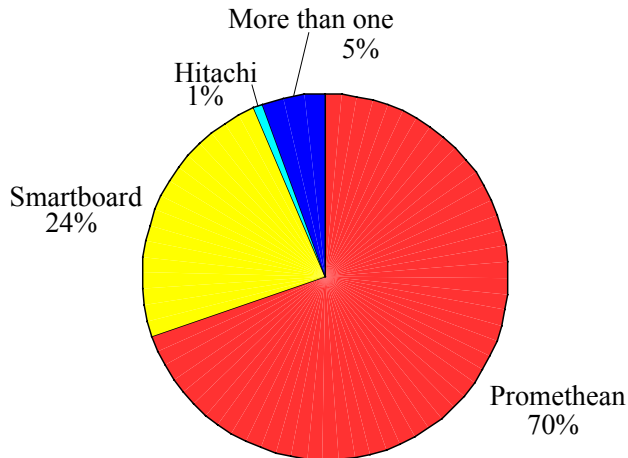


Figure 4 shows that most IWBs in classrooms are connected to the school network and have access to the Internet, allowing ease of download of resources. Just 64% of teachers report they use the electronic pen: this relatively low figure implies that the interactive potential of the board may be less significant in many classrooms than its ability to act as a surface for data projection. Equally, it is worth commenting that not all of the boards require a pen to operate, as some are also designed to be driven by hand. Beyond the basic IWB functionality, very few teachers currently have access to ancillary devices.

Figure 4: Percentage of teachers using ICT resources with IWB

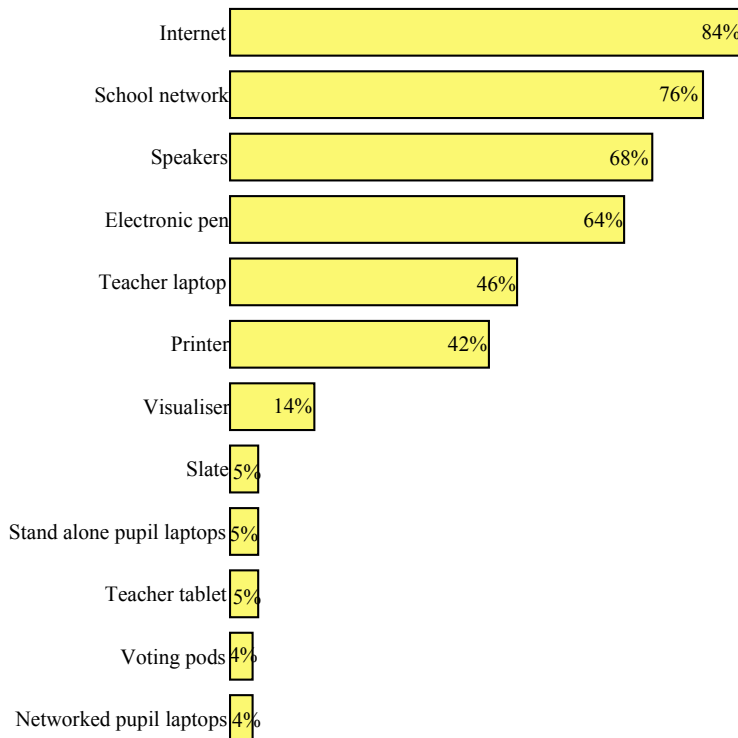
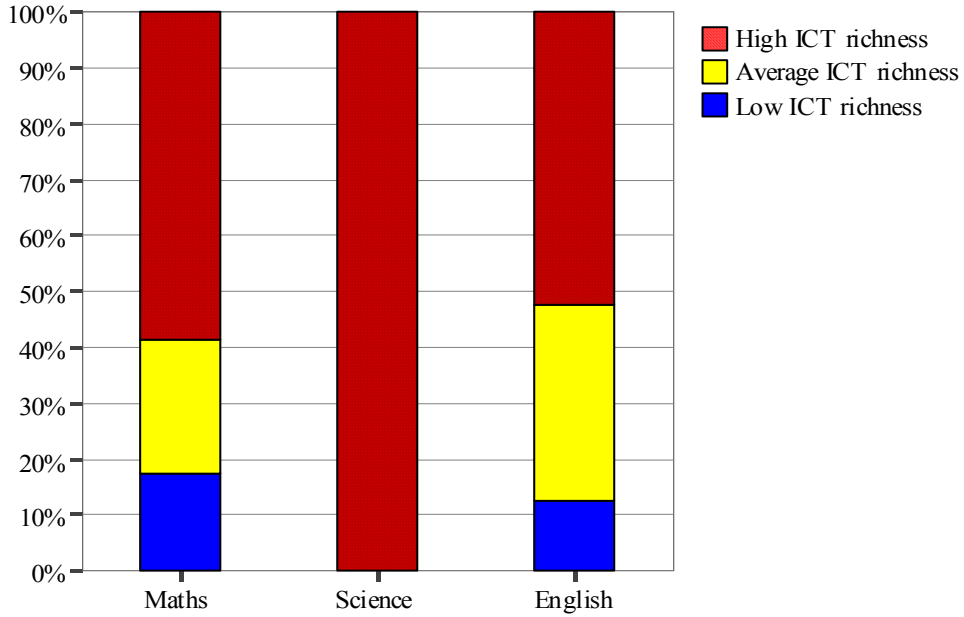


Figure 5 shows that the respondents in the survey almost all describe their own departments as being 'rich' in ICT resources and this suggests that most teachers are very satisfied with the current technology available to them. All Science

respondents reported this, but it is possible that this simply reflects the low level of Science teacher response, rather than any systematic indication of superior ICT resources in this subject.

Figure 5: Perception of ICT 'richness' in subject department by subject



Reported Frequency of IWB Use by Teachers

According to the survey, IWBs are now regularly used in secondary school classrooms. Most respondents claim they are using their IWB most or every lesson (see figure 6). The remaining third of teachers do claim to use the IWB for some lessons, with just 8% of teachers reporting that they never or hardly ever use the IWB.

Figure 6: Frequency of using IWB

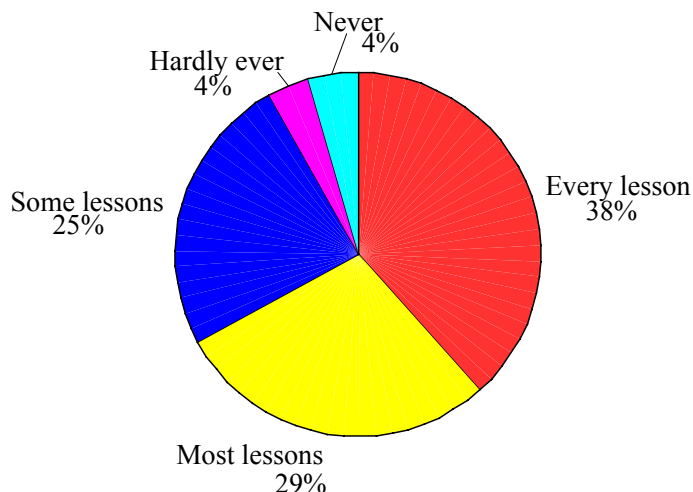
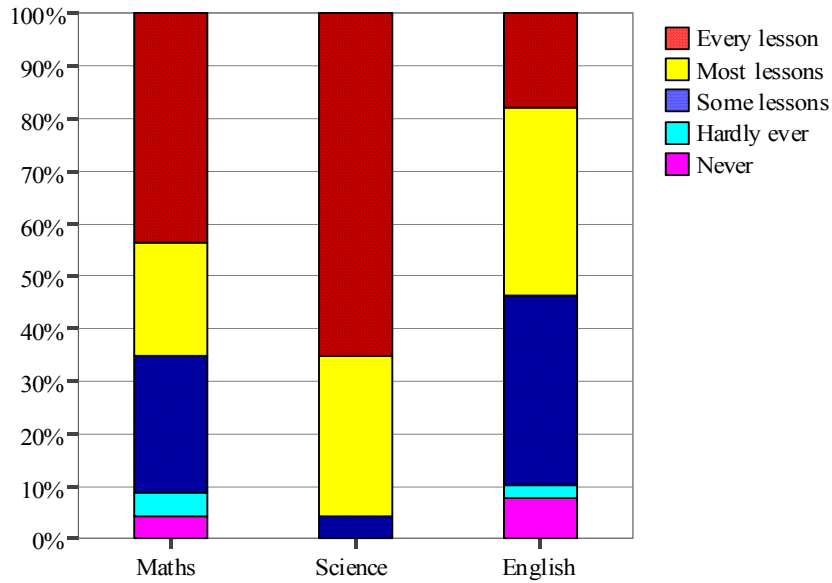


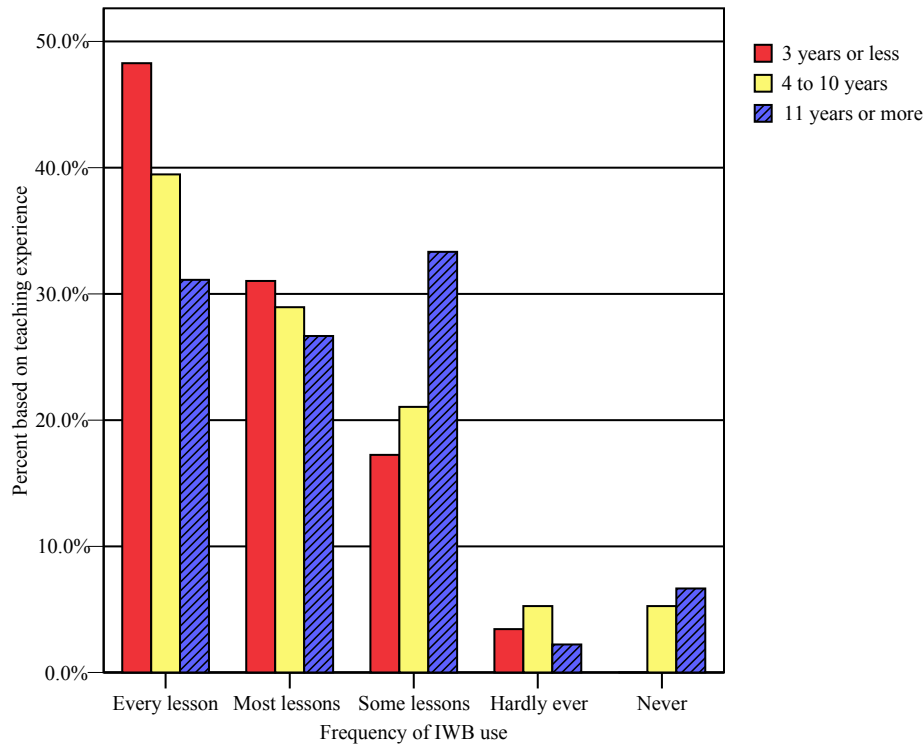
Figure 7 show that English classrooms have fewer teachers who use the IWB every lesson. This may be because English teachers have less of a tendency to be technology enthusiasts than Maths and Science teachers. Alternatively, English as a subject may not always lend itself to teaching using an IWB. The relatively low up-take and use of the technology in English recorded here is consistent with the findings of the baseline survey. The Science teachers taking part in this survey appear to be the highest users of IWBs, though again there are concerns that this particular group of Science teachers are not representative of Science teachers as a whole.

Figure 7: Frequency of using IWB by subject



Those teachers newest to the professions appear to have most consistently taken up the use of IWBs in their classroom teaching (see figure 8). This might reflect the fact that these teachers are more generally confident in their use of all ICT: they are young (34 or under) and those who are in their mid-20s or older may well have regularly used computers in previous non-teaching jobs. Many of these teachers will have received formal training in using IWBs during their teacher training programme. In addition, teachers who are new to the profession may not yet have established a routine for teaching every specific topic in the curriculum, so adapting their teaching style to incorporate IWBs may be much less daunting.

Figure 8: Frequency of using IWB by teaching experience



By contrast, a larger proportion of the most established teachers report using their IWB less regularly. This group are more likely to describe themselves as a 'beginner' or 'near beginner' (see figure 9), which lends credence to the argument that those who use their IWB less do so because they do not yet feel confident in using its key features.

Figure 9: Expertise in using IWB by teaching experience

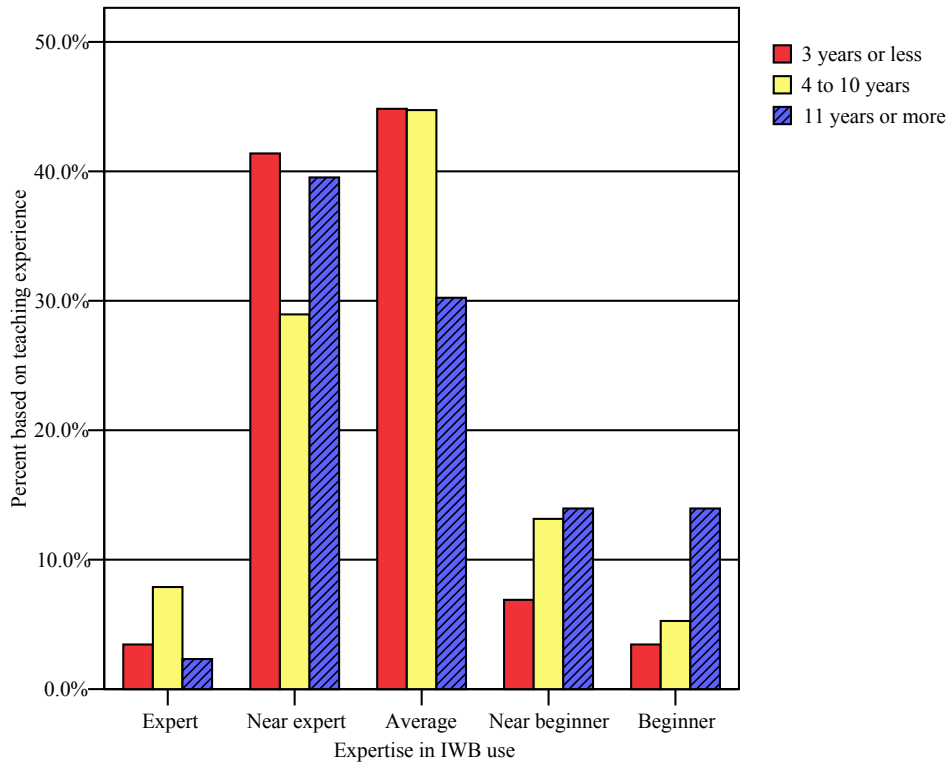
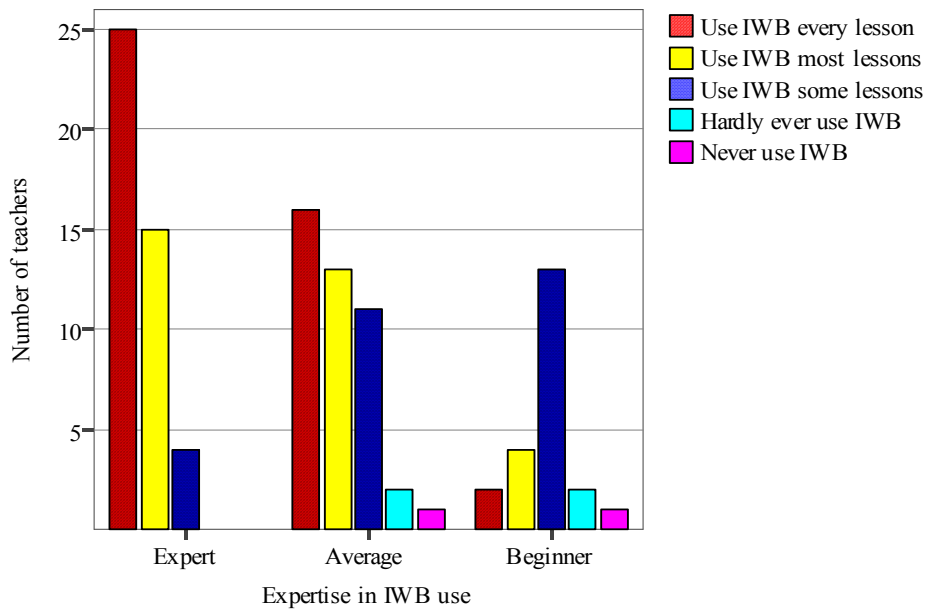


Figure 10 shows that a teacher’s self-reported expertise in IWB use does determine how regularly they currently choose to use the IWB. This is not surprising and it does lead to a ‘virtuous circle’ for the more confident teachers who are likely to pick-up expertise in new features simply by using the board on a regular basis. By contrast, those who do not yet feel confident in using IWBs are less likely to progress without intervention since they are not using the board regularly enough to significantly extend their own practice..

Figure 10: Frequency of using IWB by expertise



How are Teachers using their IWB?

Although teachers report using a wide range of features of the technology, (see figure 11), some features that might be regarded as having wide application across a range of subject areas remain relatively infrequently used. Thus 76% of teachers claim their IWB is connected to the school network, yet only 26% of teachers report that they generally download materials directly from the network. Whilst the rest of the teachers may well be storing their materials directly on their laptop or a memory stick, this may also reflect wider difficulties in building up a shared departmental IWB resource both at this stage of the technology roll-out and also in relation to existing school level practices. (Case study data showed that procedures in some schools made it difficult to use the school network in this way.) Similarly, 84% of teachers reported having an IWB that is connected to the internet, but many are unlikely to be regularly accessing the Internet during lessons, with just 11% reporting they often visit subject web-sites and 13% reporting that they use a search engine.

Figure 11: Percentage of teachers using features during most or every lesson

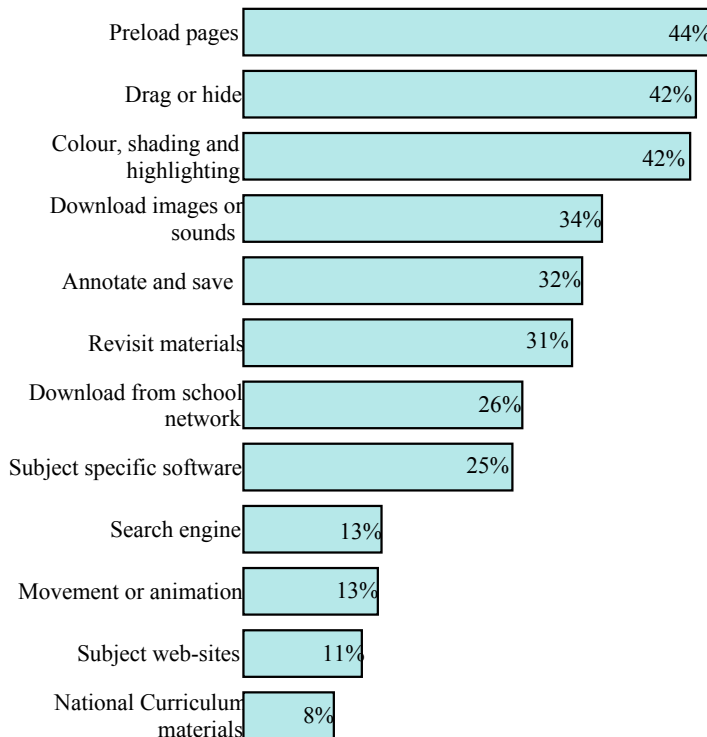
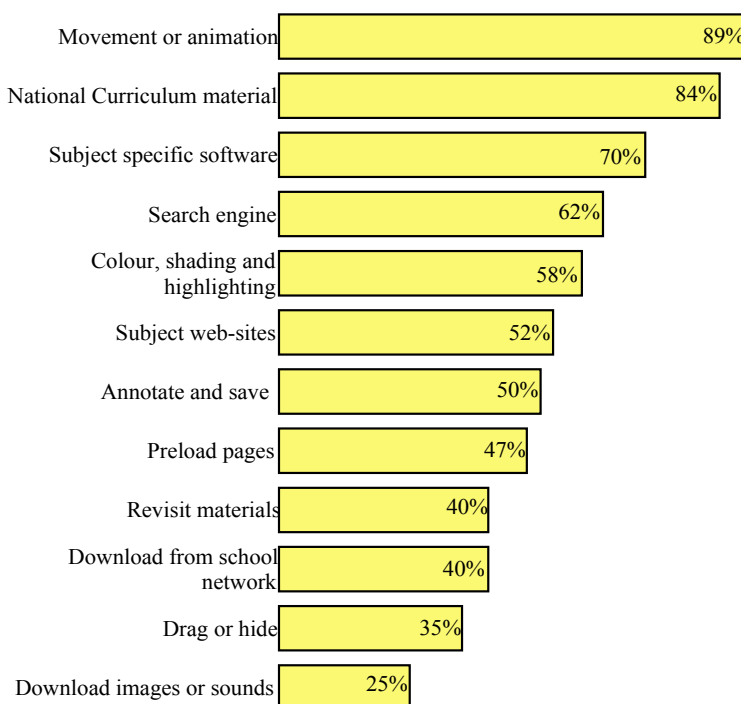


Figure 12 suggests that the teachers who describe themselves as beginners have not yet begun to fully discover the external IWB resources that are available to them. They are generally not yet accessing National Curriculum materials, subject specific software, search engines and subject web-sites. This suggests that where these beginners are using the IWB, they are creating their own resources. This may be consistent with the literature which suggests that in the first instance IWB use matches onto existing pedagogic practice.

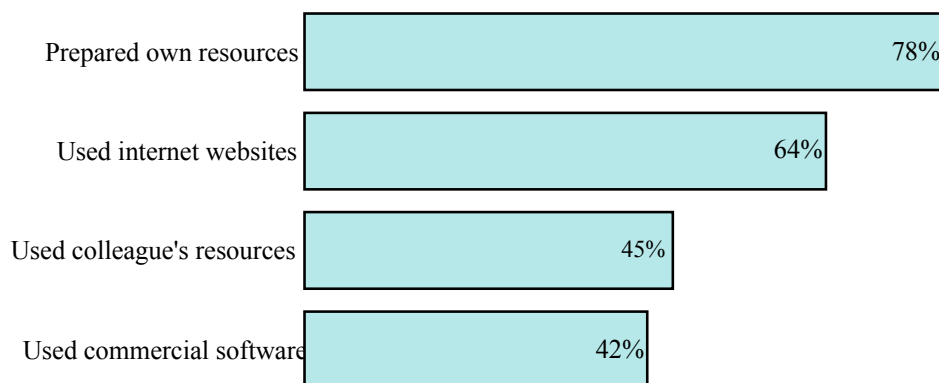
Figure 12: Percentage of self-reported beginners who never or hardly ever use feature



Where do Teachers get IWB Resources From?

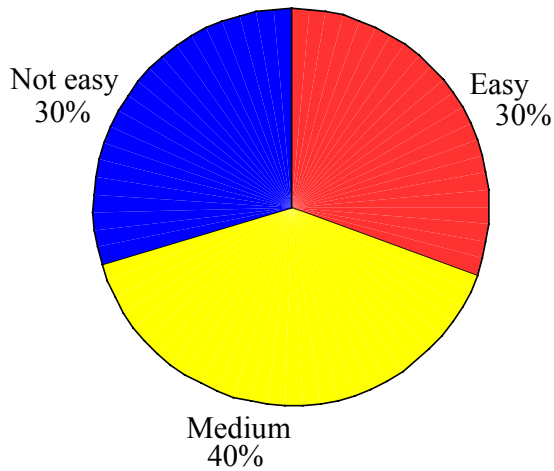
Most teachers report that they have created their own resources to use on the IWB (see figure 13). Teachers often report that they are using Internet websites as a resource. However, less than half of all teachers are sourcing their IWB resources from other colleagues or using commercial software. This all suggests that the use of IWBs in departments still rests mainly at the level of the individual teacher, with less evidence of department-wide schemes of work or shared departmental resource banks being built up. However, this is consistent with the point in the policy cycle reached at the time of the survey.

Figure 13: Percentage of teachers using IWB resources



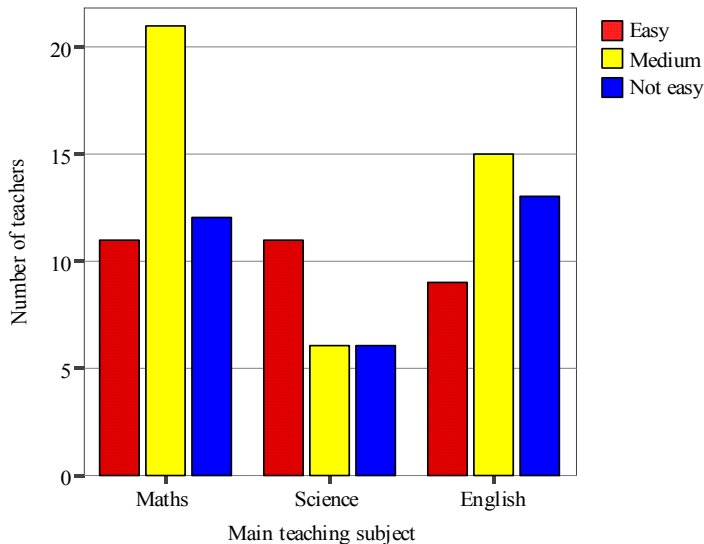
Just under a third of teachers report that they are finding it difficult to find suitable IWB resources (see figure 14). A similar number report that they find it easy to find resources.

Figure 14: Ease of finding suitable IWB resources



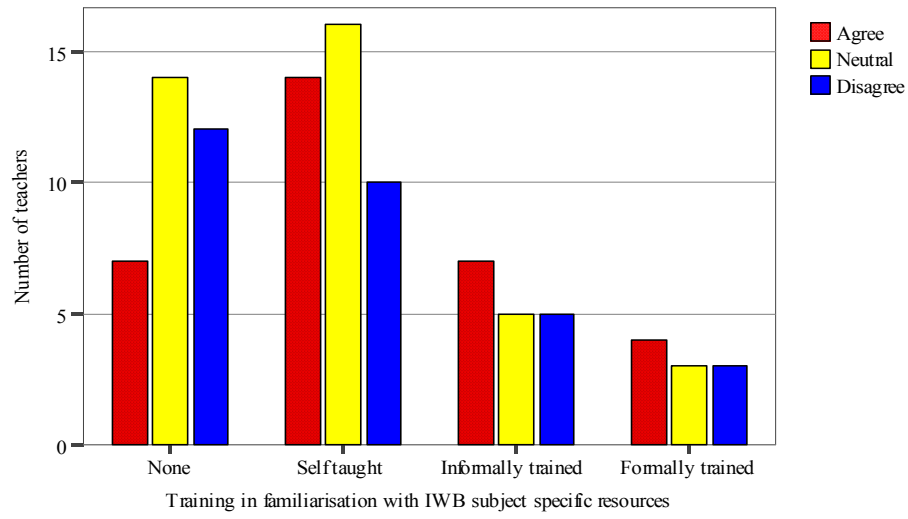
English teachers are more likely to find it difficult to access IWB resources, but we cannot say whether this reflects a lower availability of IWB resources for English teaching or simply lower technological confidence amongst English teachers. In our sample, the Maths and Science teachers are most likely to report that they find getting IWB resources straightforward (see figure 15).

Figure 15: Ease of finding IWB resources by teaching subject



Many teachers who find it relatively easy to find IWB resources have not received any formal or informal training in using subject specific resources (see figure 16), so this implies these teachers had pre-existing high levels of technological competence. These more confident IWB users appear to rely on self-teaching to gain experience of finding and developing IWB resources.

Figure 16: Agreement with the statement 'good resources for IWBs are not hard to find'



What type of IWB training have teachers completed?

Where formal IWB training has taken place, it is training in basic skills: using the IWB's key tools and basic familiarisation with dedicated IWB software (see figure 17). Approximately one in ten teachers answering the survey report they have received training in the more complex features of the IWB. It is notable that very little of the formal training carried out so far has provided a forum for teachers to think about how the use of the IWB could potentially alter their pedagogical teaching style in more fundamental ways.

Figure 17: Percentage of teachers undertaking formal IWB training

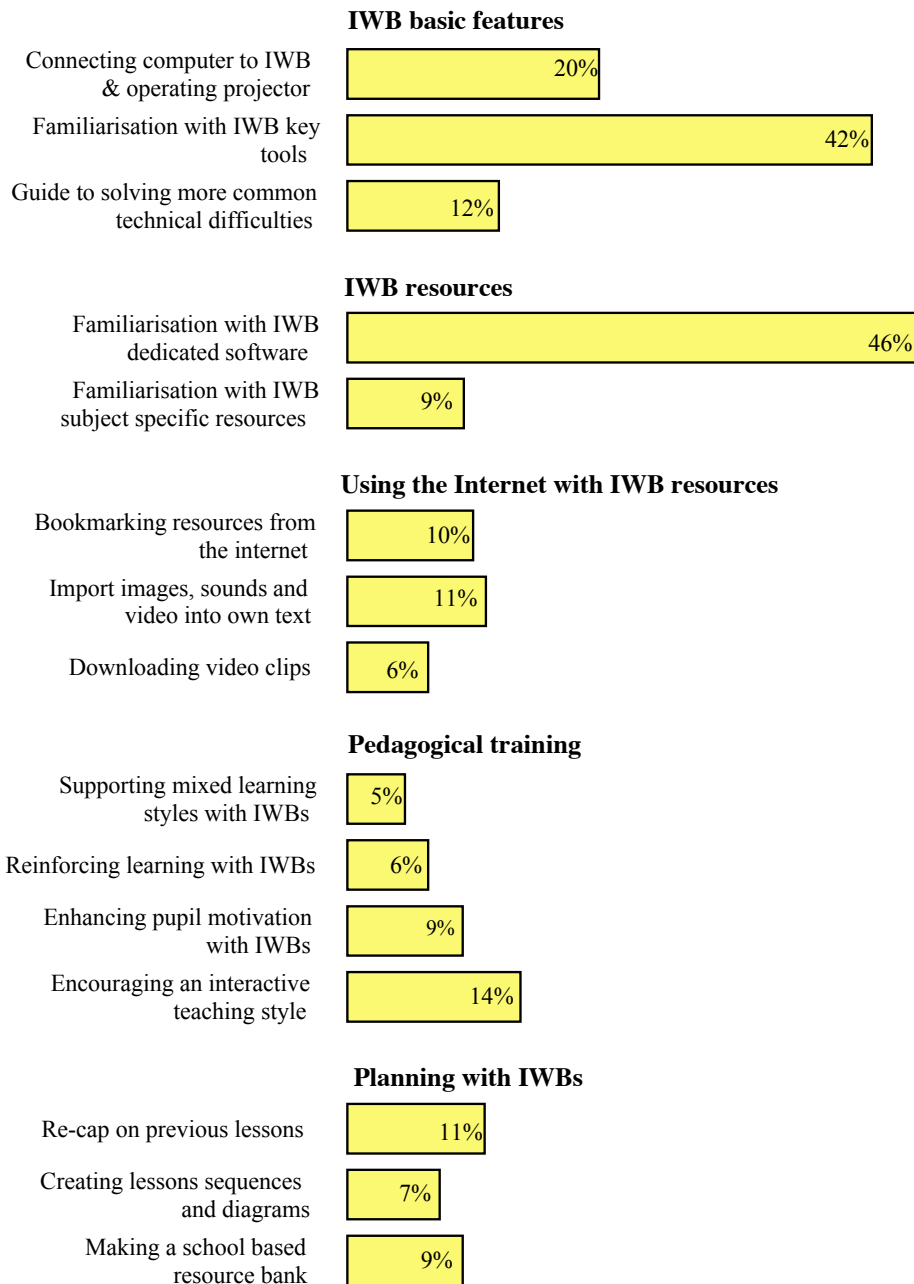


Figure 18 investigates training in pedagogy and planning in more detail. Many teachers do report that they are ‘self taught’ in the more pedagogical aspects of the IWB. This could imply that many teachers do not feel they need specific training in these areas. However, this leaves open how many of these teachers may have actually adapted their pedagogical teaching style since the introduction of IWBs. By contrast, around a third of teachers are reporting that they have had no training in pedagogical aspects of the IWB. It is these teachers who may need additional support in learning how to use the IWB to enhance their teaching.

Figure 18: IWB training for pedagogy and planning

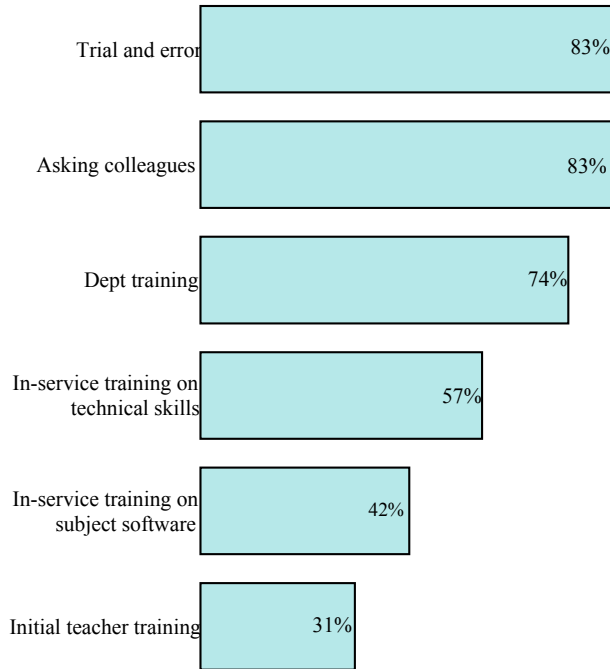


Figure 19 emphasises the extent to which most teachers prefer informal training in IWBs. This includes self-teaching methods such as trial and error and asking colleagues for help with specific tasks. Three-quarter of teachers also report that they find departmental training in IWBs to be useful. This departmental training can be directed to very specific goals or areas of the curriculum with a body of teachers agreeing where an IWB resource should be integrated into specific areas of the department scheme of work. It is also possible that departmental training may be more likely to demonstrate uses of the IWB that do not disrupt existing schemes of work and the pedagogical approaches that are implicit in them.

These responses do reveal some of the inherent tensions involved in using formal training as the main means of disseminating good practice with IWBs. Teachers’ clear preference is for training on a ‘need to know’ basis which can accommodate to their existing working patterns. Whilst formal training has the potential to demonstrate uses for the IWB that require a more radical departure from existing teaching, teachers may see it as disruptive, less useful and requiring a significant

investment of time to integrate into any existing scheme of work. However, perhaps it is only through some kind of external intervention that teachers can be encouraged to fully explore more radical departures from their current pedagogic approach and thereby potentially get the most out of the full range of features the technology offers.

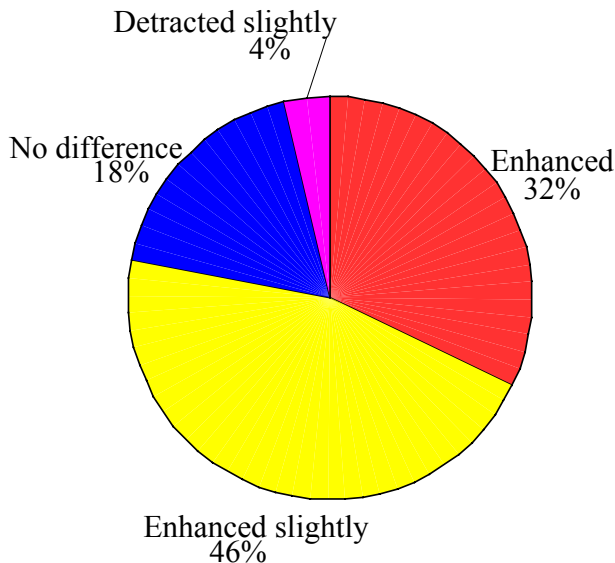
Figure 19: Percentage of teachers indicating the most useful ways to learn about IWBs



How do Teachers Feel about IWBs?

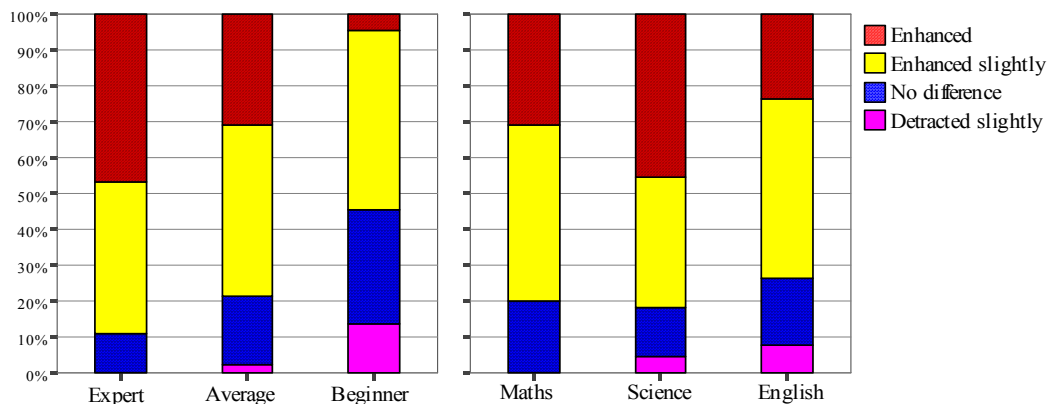
78% of teachers report that they feel positive about the effect that the introduction of IWBs has had on departmental activity (figure 20). Most of the remaining 22% feel indifferent towards IWBs, rather than expressing negative statements about them.

Figure 20: Perception of how IWBs have contributed to departmental activity



We should not be surprised that the teachers who consider themselves to be competent in their use of the technology feel most positive about IWBs. Figure 21 shows that almost half the teachers who consider themselves to be beginners state that they feel that IWB has either made no difference or even detracted slightly from departmental activity. Overall, Science teachers answering this survey appear to be most positive about IWBs.

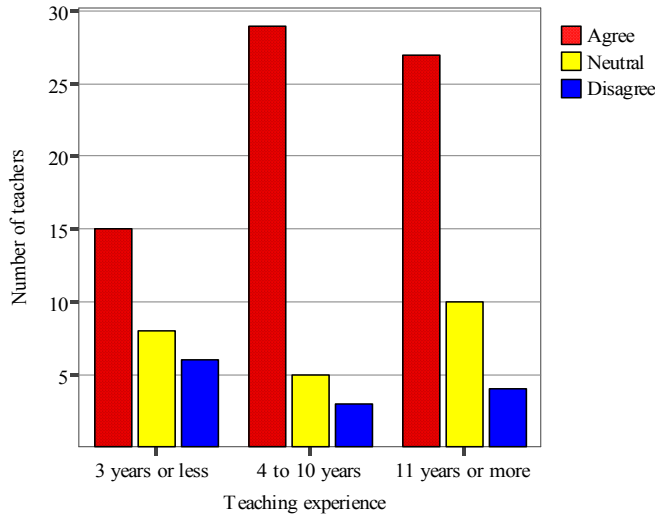
Figure 21: Breakdown of perception of how IWBs have contributed to departments



It is teachers who have been teaching between 4 and 10 years that are most likely to agree that IWBs have changed how they teach (see figure 22). A higher proportion of the teachers with over 10 years of experience do not agree with this statement, which may reflect their lower levels of ICT competency or that they are finding it more difficult to integrate the IWB into very well-established teaching approaches.

Many of the newer teachers do not agree with the statement, but it is most likely that this is because many of these teachers have used IWBs during their entire teaching careers.

Figure 22: Agreement with the statement 'interactive whiteboards have changed how I teach'



Overall, teachers do agree that children are motivated by IWBs. New teachers are less likely to agree with this statement (see figure 23), perhaps because they have less basis for comparison, or because the technology itself is less significant in their reflections on their practice.

Figure 23: Agreement with the statement 'children are motivated by IWBs'

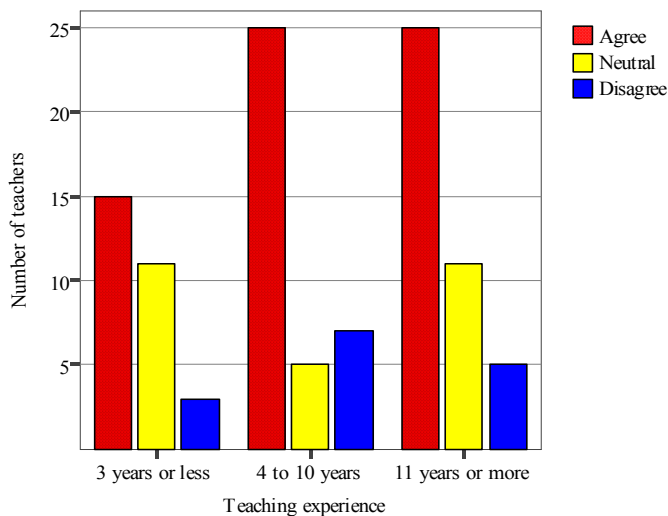
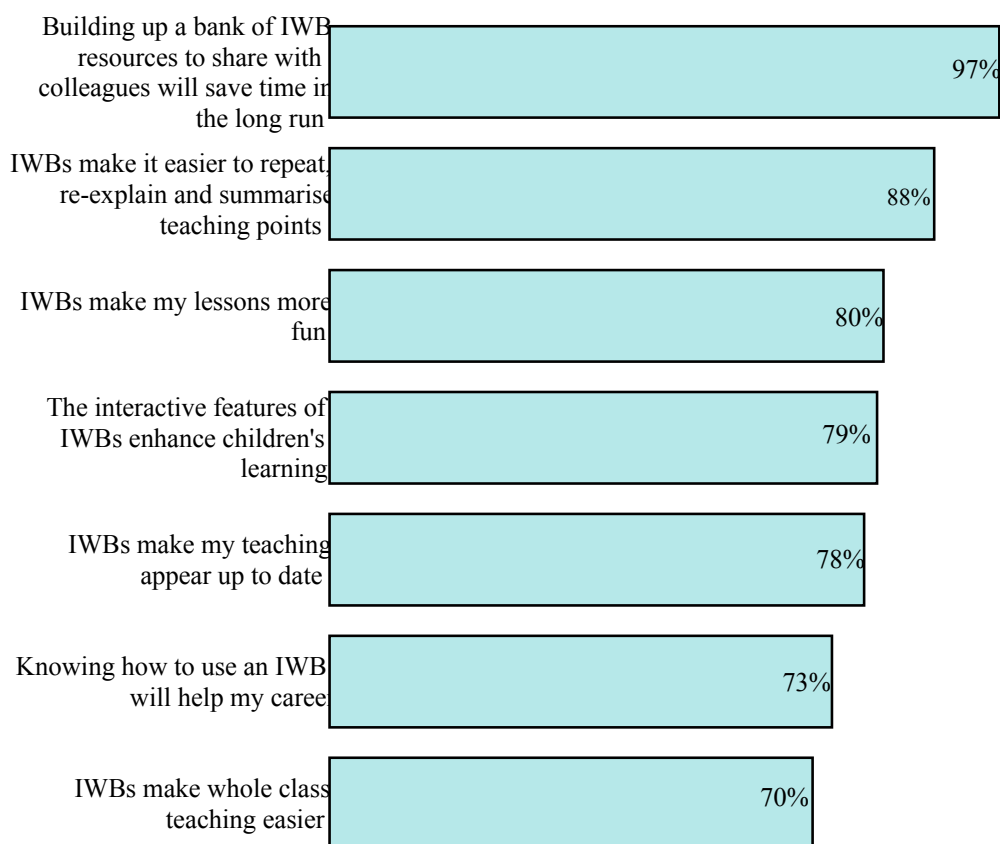


Figure 24 shows that almost all teachers agree that building up a bank of IWB resources to share with colleagues will save time in the long run, despite the fact that previous charts suggest few teachers currently use a centrally stored bank of resources or have had training in how to develop one.

Figure 24: Statements which the highest proportion of teachers agree with

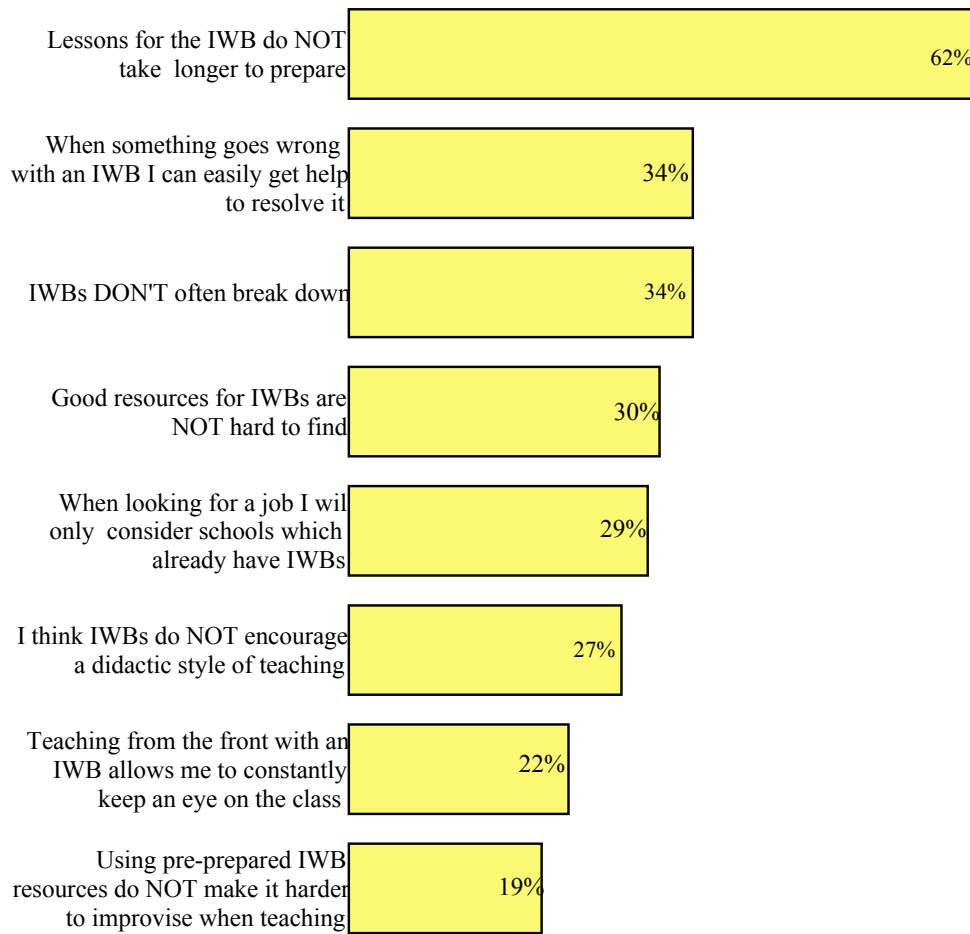


Over half of teachers state that lessons using IWBs do take longer to prepare (see figure 25). This is not surprising given that the IWBs are new and therefore new resources need to be sourced and developed. This is particularly likely to be the case because it appears from figure 13 that many teachers are developing their own new resources rather than using resources developed by others.

About a third of teachers are finding the technical aspects of the IWB to be a problem, reporting that it is difficult to get help when the IWB goes wrong AND reporting that this often happens. Experiencing technical problems with the hardware is more likely to occur where teachers are less technologically competent overall. It is a particular problem where the classroom is sited a long distance from any ICT support staff and means teachers may feel they always need to prepare non-IWB alternative resources.

A small number of teachers appear to find the IWB to be quite restrictive in the way they can interact with the class, reporting that teaching is likely to be more didactic, that it is harder to improvise and that it is harder to constantly keep an eye on the class when using the IWB. All these features are associated with teaching from the front of the class, and difficulties associated with this role, which teachers see IWBs as reinforcing. This may suggest a clash in pedagogic style, or less familiarity with the technology. A third of teachers would still be happy to teach in schools without IWBs, suggesting IWBs have not yet become integral to their teaching.

Figure 25: Statements which the highest proportion of teachers disagree with



Annex E

Analysis of Pupil Survey

1. IWB Usage

1.1. Is usage higher in Maths?

Frequency tables and bar charts show that the pupils report the highest usage in Maths lessons and the lowest usage in English.

Table 1: Percent Usage of IWBs by Subject

Usage	Maths (%)	Science (%)	English (%)
Never	6	13	27
Hardly ever	2	10	10
Some lessons	6	11	13
Most lessons	18	19	16
Every lesson	68	48	34
	100	100	100
n	536	532	531

The majority of pupils (86%) report IWBs are used in most or every Maths lesson, compared to 67% for Science and 50% for English. Over a quarter (27%) report IWBs are never used for English compared to 13% for Science and only 6% for Maths.

1.2. Does usage differ for high and low ability groups?

Cross-tabulations show that usage of IWBs does differ by ability group.

Table 2: Percent Usage of IWBs by Subject and Ability Group

Subject	Maths		Science		English	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Never	5	10	16	14	29	1
Hardly ever	1	4	12	2	8	7
Some lessons	4	8	10	1	17	10
Most lessons	16	11	19	15	17	24
Every lesson	74	67	43	69	29	59

Table 2 shows that for Maths the pattern of IWB use is similar for high and low ability groups, and in fact the difference between groups for this subject is only marginally significant ($p = .045$).

For Science similar proportions of high and low ability groups report IWBs are never used, but when they are used in this subject frequency of use is higher for low ability groups. Twenty-two percent of the high ability group compared to only 3% of the low ability group

report IWBs are used hardly ever or only for some lessons, whereas 43% of the high ability group compared to 69% of the low ability group say IWBs are used for every lesson.

The pattern of higher usage by low ability groups is more marked for English. In this subject 29% of the high ability group never use IWBs and 29% use them for every lesson, compared with 1% and 59% respectively for the low ability group. Differences between groups are highly significant for both Science and English ($p < 0.00$).

2. Attitudes to IWBs.

2.1. Comparison of ability groups.

A score for attitudes towards IWBs was created by:

- a. reversing the coding for negative items
- b. recoding to a range of -2 to +2
- c. averaging over all items except 'Teachers teach just the same with or without an IWB'.

Hence a negative score on this scale denotes a negative attitude, a score close to zero a neutral attitude and a positive score a positive attitude.

Scores of pupils from high and low ability groups are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics for Attitudes to IWBs by Ability Group

	High ability	Low ability	All pupils
Mean	0.76	0.65	0.71
Standard deviation	0.49	0.46	0.49
Range	-1.20 to 1.87	-0.67 to 1.60	-1.20 to 1.87

Table 1 shows that both groups tend towards positive attitudes to IWBs and that the high ability group has a higher mean score but also a greater spread than the low ability group. A t-test showed that the difference between the groups was not significant at the 5% level ($p = 0.65$).

Figure 1 below shows box and whisker plots for attitude scores for the two groups. The thick black line denotes the median, the box the inter-quartile range, and points beyond the 'whiskers' are identified as extreme cases that do not fit the pattern of the rest of the data. Figure 1 shows the high ability group has a higher median but also three extreme cases which represent pupils with unusually negative attitude scores.

Disregarding these three atypical cases the mean score for the high ability group is 0.78 and the t-test is significant at the 5% level ($p = 0.03$). This result suggests that in general pupils in the high ability group are more enthusiastic about IWBs, but a few have extreme negative attitudes.

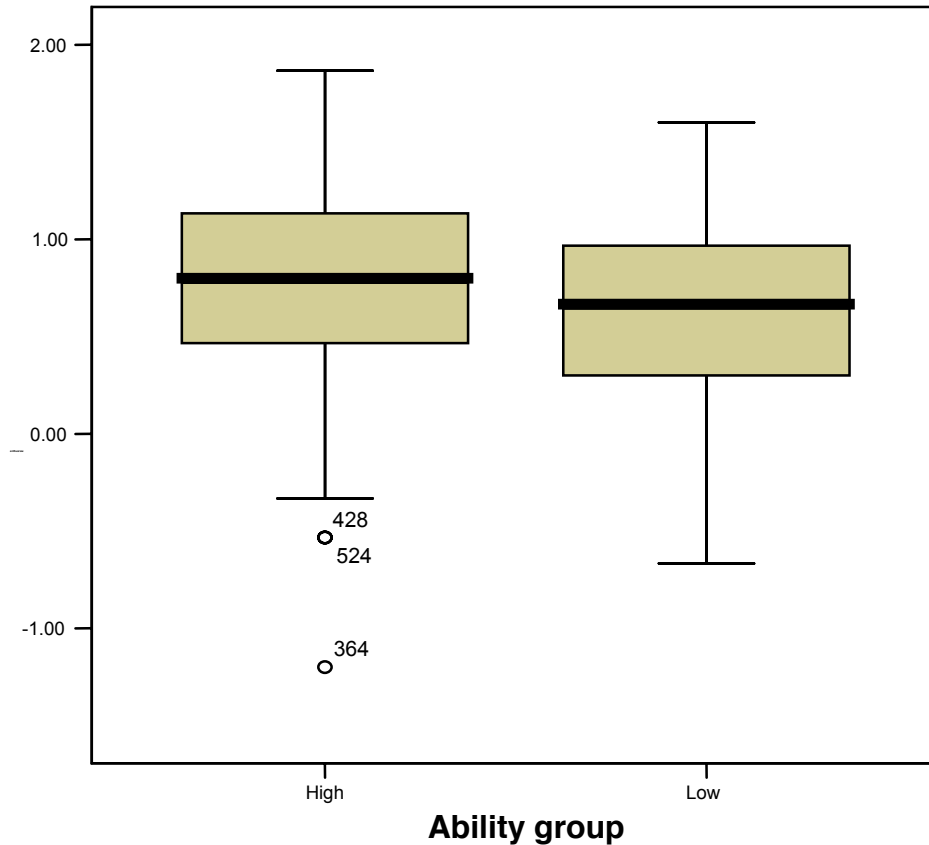


Figure 1: Box and Whisker Plot for Attitude Scores by Ability Group

It may be of interest to investigate these three cases identified below. The score for case 364 is the lowest score for all pupils and outside the range for the low ability group.

Cases with extreme attitude scores:

Row	LEAESTAB	ID
364	3114026	47
428	2024275	33
524	3045406	4

2. 2. Positive and negative aspects of attitudes to IWBs.

Tables 2 and 3 show the percentage agreement with the positive and negative statements by which attitudes to IWBs were measured.

Table 2: Positive Statements: Percent of Pupils who Agree or Strongly Agree

Positive statement	Agree/strongly agree
IWBs make it easy for the teacher to repeat, re-explain and summarise	87
I think teacher's lessons are more prepared and organized when they use an IWB	85
IWBs make learning more interesting and exciting	81
It is easier to understand the work when my teacher uses an IWB	77
I think IWBs make teacher's drawings and diagrams easier to see	76
I prefer lessons which are taught with an IWB	74
I learn more when my teacher uses an IWB	70
We get to join in lessons more when my teacher uses an IWB	64
I concentrate better in class when an interactive whiteboard is used	47
I would work harder if my teacher used the IWB more often	29
I think students behave better in lessons with IWBs	29

Table 2 shows a general positive attitude to IWBs with a high proportion agreeing with the majority of statements. Statements with the highest proportions appear to relate to the teacher's use of IWBs and the way in which lessons are taught. The statements with lower agreement suggest the use of IWBs has little effect on pupils' motivation.

Table 3: Negative Statements: Percent of Pupils who Agree or Strongly Agree

Negative statement	Agree/strongly agree
IWBs often break down and this wastes time	30
Teachers teach just the same with or without an IWB	26
I think teachers go too fast when they use the IWB	20
I dislike going out the front to use the IWB	18
I think IWBs are difficult to use	8

Table 3 shows there is low agreement with negative statements which is consistent with a general positive attitude. The negative statement with the highest agreement relates to technical problems with IWBs. However over a quarter agree that IWBs have no impact on the way teachers teach and 20% think they have an adverse effect in that teachers go too fast.

2. 3. Underlying themes to attitudes to IWBs.

2. 3.1 Factor Analysis.

A Factor Analysis was carried out in order to investigate different aspects to attitudes to IWBs. The aim of a Factor Analysis is to reduce a large number of items to two or three factors that represent the underlying dimensions of the attitude being measured. The procedure finds the best mathematical combinations of the items that capture the majority of the variance in the original data. These factors are then interpreted by identifying the common themes among the original items that contribute most strongly to the combination.

No satisfactory solution could be found from the Factor Analyses carried out. Under the best model the two most important factors explained only 38% of the total variance, so the majority of the information was lost through this procedure. The factor loadings showed that the positive statements contributed most strongly to the first factor, and negative statements contributed most strongly to the second factor. Therefore no underlying dimensions could be identified, except that a general positive attitude can be split into agreement with positive items and disagreement with negative items.

As no mathematical solution was found, the data were investigated in terms of the theoretical aspects the items were designed to measure.

2. 3.2 Learning v. motivation.

Table 4 shows the items thought to measure the potential impact of the technology on learning and the potential impact of the technology on pupil motivation.

Table 4: Subscales: Learning and Motivation

Learning

I learn more when my teacher uses an IWB

It is easier to understand the work when my teacher uses an IWB

IWBs make learning more interesting and exciting

I think teachers go too fast when they use the IWB

I think IWBs make teacher's drawings and diagrams easier to see

IWBs make it easy for the teacher to repeat, re-explain and summarise

I think teacher's lessons are more prepared and organized when they use an IWB

I concentrate better in class when an interactive whiteboard is used

Motivation

I dislike going out the front to use the IWB

I think students behave better in lessons with IWBs

I prefer lessons which are taught with an IWB

I would work harder if my teacher used the IWB more

We get to join in lessons more when an interactive whiteboard is used

The mean score on the 'learning' items was 0.91 (SD 0.52) and the mean score on 'motivation' items was 0.46 (SD 0.61). A paired t-test showed a highly significant difference between these scores ($t = 20.97$, $df = 462$, $p < .001$). This result suggests pupils respond more positively to the impact of IWBs on the learning process than on the potential impact on motivation, which is consistent with the results of the analysis of individual items at section 2 above.

2. 3.3 Response to technology.

Table 5 shows the items thought to measure three different aspects of response to IWB technology; response to the technology itself, response to the teacher’s use of the technology, and response to the opportunities the technology gives to the pupils.

Table 5: Subscales: Technology, Teacher’s Use and Pupil’s Opportunities

Technology		
IWBs make learning more interesting and exciting		
I think IWBs make the teacher’s drawings and diagrams easier to see		
I prefer lessons which are taught with an IWB		
IWBs make it easy for the teacher to repeat, re-explain and summarise		
IWBs often breakdown and this wastes time		
I think IWBs are difficult to use		
Teacher’s use		
I learn more when my teacher uses an IWB		
It is easier to understand the work when my teacher uses an IWB		
I think teachers go too fast when they use an IWB		
Teachers teach just the same with or without an IWB		
I think teacher’s lessons are more prepared and organized when they use an IWB		
Pupil’s opportunities		
I dislike going out to the front to use the whiteboard		
I think students behave better in lessons with IWBs		
I would work harder if my teacher used the IWB more often		
We get to join in lessons more when my teacher uses an IWB		
I concentrate better in class when an interactive whiteboard is used		

Table 6 shows mean scores and standard deviations for these subscales.

Table 6: Mean Scores for Response to IWB Technology

Subscale	Mean	SD
Technology	0.62	0.55
Teacher’s use	0.34	0.63
Pupil’s opportunities	0.92	0.55

T-tests for differences between each pair were all significant at the 1% level after adjusting for multiple comparisons. These results show that the most positive response was to the technology itself, followed by the way teachers use the technology. Though the response to the opportunities the technology gives pupils is positive there is less enthusiasm for this aspect. These results hold for both high and low ability groups separately ($p < .001$).

A series of independent sample t-tests were carried out to compare mean scores of high and low ability groups on each subscale. The only difference found was for the response to the way the teacher uses the technology, where the mean for the high ability group was 0.70 compared to 0.41 for the low ability group ($t = 3.97$, $df = 430$, $p < .001$). These tests showed

that both groups have similar positive attitudes to all aspects of the technology, except that the high ability group responds more positively to the way teachers use the technology than does the low ability group.

2. 4. Enthusiasm by frequency of use.

Variables measuring frequency of use in the three subjects were recoded to two categories, where high use means IWBs were used in most or every lesson. T-tests were then carried out to test for differences in attitude scores for groups that reported high and low usage in each subject. No differences were found for high or low usage in Science or English, but high usage in Maths was significantly associated with a more positive attitude ($t = 2.51$, $df = 452$, $p = .012$). The mean attitude score for high use in Maths was 0.73 compared to 0.56 for the low use group.

As the previous analysis of IWB use had shown a relationship between usage and ability, the t-tests were repeated controlling for ability group. For the high ability group there was a significant difference at the 5% level in attitude scores between high and low usage in Maths ($t = 2.22$, $df = 310$, $p = .027$). The mean score for the group reporting high usage was 0.78 compared to 0.58 for the group reporting low usage in Maths. There were no association between attitude scores and frequency of use in Science or English for the high ability group.

A different pattern emerges for the low ability group, where there was no difference in attitude scores by usage in Maths, but some differences were found for Science and English. The mean attitude score for high usage in Science was 0.73 and for low usage 0.39 ($t = 2.64$, $df = 79$, $p = .010$). The scores for high usage in English was 0.61 compared to 0.92 for the low usage group ($t = 2.31$, $df = 80$, $p = .023$).

These results show that for the high ability group frequent use of IWBs in Maths is associated with a more positive attitude. For the low ability group frequent use in Science is associated with a more positive attitude, but the group with the most positive attitude score reported low use of IWBs in English.

These results are difficult to interpret and may be an artifact of the process of subdividing the data by subject rather than genuine findings. The effect of frequency of use was further investigated by combining the three subject variables to produce an overall score in the range 3 to 15, and looking at the correlation between this new variable and attitude score. Pearson's correlation coefficient was 0.102 which showed very weak correlation but this was significant at the 5% level ($p = .03$). However further examination showed that the relationship depended on one extreme case, and when this was omitted the correlation was 0.089 and no longer statistically significant. No correlation between overall usage and attitude was found for either ability group separately. These results suggest that when measuring frequency of IWB use across all three subjects there is no association between usage and attitudes.

Annex F: Survey Instruments

1. The baseline survey

EPRU Administrator
59 Gordon Square, WC1H ONT
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7612 6364
Fax: +44 (0)20 7612 6819

October 18th, 2004

Dear Head teacher,

On September 2nd we wrote to you about the *Interactive Whiteboards, Pedagogy and Pupil Performance* research project which will evaluate the programme of funding for interactive whiteboards in London secondary schools. This study has been commissioned by the DfES to help inform future use of the technology for teaching and learning and is being conducted by the Institute of Education, University of London.

We are now sending you the first part of the *baseline survey of London secondary schools*. To collect the data with the minimum disruption to yourselves, we have divided the enclosed survey into three sections. Please can each section be distributed to the appropriate member of staff and then collected by the school administrator for return to us in the SAE. A separate letter to the person in charge of the timetable will follow shortly.

Section 1: Contact details of the person in charge of the school timetable & timetable information. **Page 3**
Please give to the person in charge of the timetable

Section 2: Information on acquisition of interactive whiteboards **Page 4 and 5**
Please give to the person concerned with the purchase and installation of interactive whiteboards

Section 3: Information on the use of interactive whiteboards

Part 1: *Please give to the Head teacher or ICT coordinator* **Page 6**
Part 2: *Please give to the Heads of the Maths, Science and English Departments (1 copy each).* **Page 7 to 12**
(3 copies included)

The completed survey should be returned with the accompanying reply slip in the enclosed pre-paid envelope by November 15th

All the information given will be treated in the strictest confidence. No information that could be used to identify named individuals or schools will be kept in the data we retain for analysis.

Thank you for your assistance in completing the survey. If you would like any further information about this study please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Gemma Moss
email: g.moss@ioe.ac.uk

Professor Rosalind Levačić
Email: r.levacic@ioe.ac.uk

**INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARDS, PEDAGOGY AND PUPIL
PERFORMANCE: AN EVALUATION**

Reply Slip

For the School Administrator

Baseline Survey of London Secondary Schools. This study has been commissioned by the DfES to evaluate the programme of funding for interactive whiteboards in London secondary schools and will help inform future use of the technology to promote teaching and learning. The study is being conducted by staff from the Institute of Education, University of London.

The completed survey should be returned with the accompanying reply slip in the enclosed pre-paid envelope by November 15th to the EPRU Administrator, 59 Gordon Square, WC1H 0NT

LEA Code:

--	--	--

 Establishment Code:

--	--	--	--

 School
LEA Name: _____
Name: _____

I am returning the following sections of the baseline survey:

- Section 1:** Contact details of the person in charge of the schools timetable & timetable information. []
Provided by the person in charge of the timetable
- Section 2:** Information on the acquisition of interactive whiteboards []
Provided by the person concerned with the purchase and installation of interactive whiteboards
- Section 3:** Information on the use of interactive whiteboards
Provided by the Headteacher or ICT coordinator Part 1 []
Provided by the Heads of the Maths, Science and English Departments. Part 2 Maths []
Science []
English []

Signed: _____
Name: _____
Job title: _____
Contact telephone number: _____
Contact email: _____

All the information given will be treated in the strictest confidence. No information that could be used to identify named individuals or schools will be kept in the data we retain for analysis.

PERFORMANCE: AN EVALUATION

Baseline Survey of London Secondary Schools

Section 1: Contact details of the person in charge of timetable & timetable information

For the member of staff in charge of timetabling This will take approximately 3 minutes

1. We are going to contact you in November to ask you for information on your timetable. Specifically, we will need information on your Year 9 and 11 teaching groups for Maths, Science and English in 2003/4 and 2004/5. Ideally this information should link pupils' Unique Pupil Numbers to the subject group and their teacher(s). In order to prepare the questionnaire we need to know the following:

a. What timetable software did you use in the academic year 2003/2004?

SIMS [] CMIS [] Other []
Please specify _____

b. What timetable software did you use in the academic year 2004/2005?

SIMS [] CMIS [] Other []
Please specify _____

2. Contact details of the person responsible for the school's timetable

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Tel: _____

E-mail: _____

Please return this page to your school administrator by November 15th

**INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARDS, PEDAGOGY AND PUPIL
PERFORMANCE: AN EVALUATION**

Baseline Survey of London Secondary Schools

Section 2: The acquisition of Interactive Whiteboards

For the member of staff in charge of the acquisition and/or installation of interactive whiteboards This will take between 3-25 minutes

This section asks for information on the number of interactive whiteboards in use in your school. *If you already hold this information in a printable form please print and attach.*

Otherwise, please fill out the chart below to show those classrooms which are equipped with interactive whiteboards. Use the same room designation used on the school timetable. Examples of how the entries should be recorded are given below. *Please add an additional sheet of paper if necessary.*

Room	Subject	Source of funding	Date installed
M15	Maths	School funds	Oct. 2003
S05	Science	London Challenge SWE (School Interactive Whiteboard Extension) funding	July 2004

Room	Subject	Source of funding	Date installed

Please sign and return this page to your school administrator by November 15th

Name: -----
Job title: -----
School: -----

**INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARDS, PEDAGOGY AND PUPIL
PERFORMANCE: AN EVALUATION**

Baseline Survey of London Secondary Schools

Section 3 - Part 1: Interactive whiteboards and ICT in the context of the school

For the Headteacher or ICT Coordinator. This will take approximately 3 minutes

Please use this section to tell us about the deployment of ICT resources within the school

1. Indicate which core subject department(s) received most of the London Challenge / SWE (School Interactive Whiteboards Extension) funding

Maths [] Science [] English [] Other []

2. Tick the most important reason for making that choice (*Please tick only ONE of the following*)

a) to fully equip a department that already had some IWB []

b) this department has the best classroom facilities to accommodate interactive whiteboards []

c) the curriculum covered in that subject area makes it most likely to benefit from the use of interactive whiteboards []

d) the technology would enhance an already successful department []

e) the staff in this department are best able to make good use of interactive whiteboards []

f) it was less well equipped with interactive whiteboards than the other departments []

g) other main reason []

(please specify) -----

3. In comparison with other London secondary schools, our school ICT resources are (*Please tick ONE of the following*)

Better than most secondary schools []

The same as most secondary schools []

Not so good as most secondary schools []

Please sign and return this questionnaire to your school administrator by November 15th

Name: -----

Job title: -----

School: -----

**INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARDS, PEDAGOGY AND PUPIL
PERFORMANCE: AN EVALUATION**

Baseline Survey of London Secondary Schools

Section 3 - Part 2: Interactive whiteboards in the context of your department

For the Head of the Maths/Science/English Department This will take approximately 3 minutes

Please use this section to tell us about the use of interactive whiteboards within your Department.

1. Has your department got any Interactive Whiteboards (IWB)?

Yes [] No [] *(If NO please sign and return
to the school administrator)*

2. Were any of the IWBs funded by the London Challenge / Schools Interactive Whiteboards Extension Funding (SWE)?

Yes [] No []

3. Read the following list of 6 potential in-service training sessions on the use of Interactive Whiteboards (IWBs). Tick the box to show how relevant each session is for your department in the light of your current staff training needs.

i) Building confidence in the use of IWB technology. Including familiarisation with the key tools; use of "flipchart" access and navigation; and introduction to a range of software applications.	High priority	[]
	Medium priority	[]
	Low priority	[]
	Undertaken already	[]

ii) The appropriate use of IWBs to support subject teaching and learning. Including how IWBs can enhance subject teaching; the opportunity to plan and make your own classroom activities and/or materials suitable for use in the classroom; pedagogical guidance on using available resources to support specific curriculum topics	High priority	[]
	Medium priority	[]
	Low priority	[]
	Undertaken already	[]

iii) Using internet and multi-media resources with IWBs. Including technical and pedagogical guidance on using resources from the internet: how to create, annotate and save IWB files; import images, sound and video; download video clips, synchronise web pages and add hyperlinks.	High priority	[]
	Medium priority	[]
	Low priority	[]
	Undertaken already	[]

Continued Overleaf

2. The pupil survey

INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARD STUDENT SURVEY

This questionnaire is part of a study of interactive whiteboards. Your answers will help us decide how they can best be used for teaching and learning. The questionnaire will only take about 5 minutes to complete. Your answers will be kept completely private.

1. Your name:.....

2. Gender. *Please tick as appropriate* Male [] Female []

3. Your School:.....

4. Subject: MATHS

5. Name of your teacher(s):

6. During an average week in your school, how often are interactive whiteboards (IWBs) used in these subjects. Please tick one box in each row.

	Every lesson	Most lessons	Some lessons	Hardly ever	Never
Maths	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]
Science	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]
English	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]

6. If you have interactive whiteboards (IWBs) in these subjects, do **you** or any **other students** go up to the IWB to use it during the lesson? Please tick as appropriate.

	Yes	No
Maths	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]
Science	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]
English	[<input type="checkbox"/>]	[<input type="checkbox"/>]

If yes, what did you use it for? (writing; drag and drop; etc)

.....

PLEASE TURN OVER

7. How far do you agree with the following statements? Please tick one box in each row

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I learn more when my teacher uses an IWB.	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
I dislike going out to the front to use the whiteboard	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
It is easier to understand the work when my teacher uses an IWB	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
IWBs make learning more interesting and exciting	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
I think teachers go too fast when they use the IWB	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
I think students behave better in lessons with IWBs	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
I think IWBs make the teacher's drawings and diagrams easier to see	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Teachers teach just the same with or without an IWB	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
I prefer lessons which are taught with an IWB	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
IWBs makes it easy for the teacher to repeat, re-explain, and summarise	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
I would work harder if my teacher used the IWB more often	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
IWBs often break down and this wastes time	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
I think teachers' lessons are more prepared and organised when they use an IWB	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
I think IWBs are difficult to use	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
We get to join in lessons more when my teacher uses an IWB	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
I concentrate better in class when an interactive whiteboard is used	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

Thank you very much for your help!

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