

DeFT: Digital Futures in Teacher Education project

Timescale: 17 October 2011 - 19 October 2012

Funding: £196,000

Project Outline

The “DeFT: Digital Futures in Teacher Education” project is part of a larger UK Open Educational Resources initiative, led jointly by the Joint Information Systems Committee and the Higher Education Academy on behalf of the Higher Education Funding Council for England. The aim of the project is to develop guidance on practice in teaching and learning in the school sector involving digital literacy. The key goal is raised status of teaching as well as increased level of digital literacies and enhanced (re)use of Open Educational Resources [OER] in the teaching workforce, where OER are materials freely available online which can be reused for teaching and learning.

The team led by Richard Pountney at Sheffield Hallam University (Faculty of Development and Society) will work collaboratively with participating schools and PGCE tutors to develop an online-based open textbook “Digital Literacy for Open and Networked Learning”. The textbook will incorporate resources addressing the opportunities and challenges of embedding digital literacies within teacher education at all levels as well as a set of tools and resources for embedding open educational resources within the school sector. The project team at SHU (Project Lead Richard Pountney, Research Lead Guy Merchant and Project Manager Anna Gruszczynska) are joined by University of Sheffield and project partners from local secondary and primary schools, together with representatives of creative digital industry in Sheffield, including Learning Connections, SmartAssess, Yorkshire and Humber Grid for Learning and Sheffield Children’s Festival.

Project Team

Richard Pountney (Project Lead, Sheffield Hallam University)

Professor Guy Merchant and Dr Cathy Burnett (Principal Investigators, Sheffield Hallam University)

Professor Jackie Marsh and Dr Julia Davies (Academic leads, University of Sheffield)
Anna Gruszczynska (Project Manager)

Project Partners

Sheffield Hallam University (lead) www.shu.ac.uk

Sheffield University www.shef.ac.uk

5 Secondary and 5 Primary Schools in Sheffield area

Yorkshire and Humber Grid for Learning www.yhgfl.net

Sheffield Children's Festival www.sheffieldchildrensfestival.org/

UK Literacy Association (UKLA) www.ukla.org/

Learning Connections www.learning-connections.co.uk/

Smart Assess www.smartassess.com/

For more information about the project please visit <http://deftoer3.wordpress.com/about/>. If you have any queries, feel free to contact Anna Gruszczynska a.gruszczynska@shu.ac.uk, 01142256384.