



Proposed Podcasting Course for DYW

Course Title: Pod-It-Up: Introduction to Podcasting

Description:

The "Pod-It-Up" course is a fun and interactive introduction to podcasting designed specifically for senior school pupils. In this course, pupils will embark on an exciting journey to discover the world of podcasting, exploring various aspects of audio storytelling, production, and hosting. Through a combination of hands-on activities, group discussions, and creative exercises, participants will gain practical skills and knowledge to create their own podcasts.

Course Aims:

- 1. Foster Creativity:** The primary aim of this course is to nurture the creative abilities of school pupils by encouraging them to express their ideas and stories through podcasting. Pupils will learn how to develop captivating narratives, use their voices effectively, and utilize sound effects to engage and entertain their listeners.
- 2. Enhance Communication Skills:** Podcasting requires effective communication and storytelling skills. Through engaging exercises and group discussions, pupils will learn how to articulate their thoughts clearly, improve their listening skills, and develop a strong sense of narrative structure. These skills will not only benefit their podcasting endeavours but also enhance their overall communication abilities.
- 3. Promote Digital Literacy:** As technology continues to evolve, it is crucial for children to develop digital literacy skills. This course aims to familiarise pupils with podcasting equipment, software, and online platforms commonly used in the industry. By learning about recording techniques, editing basics, and publishing their podcasts, pupils will become proficient in using digital tools for creative expression.
- 4. Encourage Collaboration:** Podcasting often involves teamwork and collaboration. Pupils will have the opportunity to work in groups, fostering an environment of cooperation and shared learning. Through collaborative exercises, they will learn the importance of active listening, respecting diverse perspectives, and working together towards a common goal.
- 5. Boost Confidence and Presentation Skills:** Presenting ideas in a public forum can be daunting for some pupils. This course aims to boost their confidence by providing a safe and supportive environment to practice public speaking. By delivering their podcasts to their peers and receiving constructive feedback, pupils will develop self-assurance and improve their presentation skills.
- 6. Cultivate Critical Thinking:** Podcasting is an excellent medium for exploring diverse topics and expressing opinions. Through discussions and research, pupils will learn to think critically, analyse information, and develop well-rounded arguments. They will also be encouraged to explore various genres and formats, broadening their horizons and fostering a curiosity for learning.

7. Promote Empathy and Empowerment: Podcasting provides a platform for sharing personal stories and experiences. Through the creation of their own podcasts, pupils will develop empathy and understanding towards others. They will learn to appreciate the power of their own voices and realize the impact they can have on their peers, families, and communities.

The "Pod-It-Up" course aims to inspire and empower school children to become confident storytellers and creators in the world of podcasting. By providing them with the necessary tools, skills, and knowledge, this course will unleash their imagination, foster collaboration, and ignite a passion for audio storytelling.

Proposed 12-Week Learning Plan: Pod-It-Up - Introduction to Podcasting.

Week 1: Introduction to Podcasting

- Course orientation and introduction to podcasting as a medium.
- Exploring different podcast genres and formats.
- Introduction to podcasting software and equipment.
- Setting up individual student accounts for podcasting software.

Week 2: Finding Your Voice

- Understanding the power of voice in storytelling.
- Vocal warm-up exercises and techniques.
- Developing effective speaking and narration skills.
- Recording short practice segments using mobile recorders.

Week 3: Crafting Compelling Narratives

- Understanding narrative structure and storytelling techniques.
- Analysing successful podcasts and identifying narrative elements.
- Brainstorming and developing podcast episode ideas.
- Drafting outlines for podcast episodes.

Week 4: Collaborative Podcasting

- Forming groups for collaborative podcast projects.
- Assigning roles within podcasting teams (host, producer, editor, etc.).
- Collaborative brainstorming and idea generation.
- Planning and outlining collaborative podcast episodes.

Week 5: Exploring Different Formats

- Introducing different podcast formats (interviews, storytelling, panel discussions, etc.).
- Analysing popular podcasts across various formats.
- Group exercises to experiment with different podcast formats.
- Reflection and discussion on the strengths and challenges of each format.

Week 6: Interviewing Skills

- Understanding the art of conducting interviews for podcasts.
- Techniques for researching interviewees and preparing interview questions.
- Practicing interview skills through mock interview sessions.
- Incorporating interviews into podcast episodes.

Week 7: Recording and Editing Basics 1

- Introduction to recording techniques and best practices.
- Hands-on recording sessions
- Basics of audio editing using available software.
- Editing practice sessions to refine recorded content.

Week 8: Recording and Editing Basics 2

- Introduction to recording techniques and best practices.
- Hands-on recording sessions
- Basics of audio editing using available software.
- Editing practice sessions to refine recorded content.

Week 9: Recording and Editing Basics 3

- Introduction to recording techniques and best practices.
- Hands-on recording sessions
- Basics of audio editing using available software.
- Editing practice sessions to refine recorded content.

Week 10: Adding Depth with Sound Design

- Exploring the role of sound effects and music in podcasting.
- Identifying suitable sound effects for different podcast genres.
- Introduction to royalty-free music resources.
- Integrating sound effects and music into podcast episodes.

Week 11: Refining and Polishing

- Reviewing and providing feedback on individual and group podcast episodes.
- Iterative editing and refinement of podcast episodes.
- Practice sessions for improving delivery and presentation skills.
- Peer review and constructive feedback sessions.

Week 12: Showcase and Reflection

- Showcasing final podcast episodes to the class or school community.
- Reflecting on the learning journey and personal growth throughout the course.
- Group discussions on the impact of podcasting and potential future podcasting projects.
- Course conclusion and celebration of achievements.

Note: The availability of school recording studios, dedicated classrooms, and mobile recorders will enhance the learning experience and allow students to work in a professional podcasting environment. However, alternative arrangements can be made if such resources are not available, such as utilising quiet classroom spaces, online recording tools, or external

recording venues. Adaptations can be made based on the available resources and the specific needs of the students.