

Dumfries and Galloway College

Delivering digital learning on a massive scale



The Challenge

To deliver secure and seamless digital learning across a huge geographical area



The Solution

A digital learning network spanning two colleges as well as rural schools and community centres



The Results

Access to learning for everyone in the region, regardless of location

The Client

The South of Scotland Economic Partnership recently invested £6.6 million into the South of Scotland. This major investment created a partnership between Dumfries and Galloway College and Borders College. Dumfries and Galloway College now had an opportunity to transform the way they delivered the curriculum and reach a much larger audience.

The Challenge

How to reach across the entire South of Scotland? They needed to meet the learning needs of two colleges with geographically dispersed campuses, as well as the needs of the larger community...

- Dumfries and Galloway prides itself on being a 'college without walls' – this flexible learning ethos now needed to be expanded to reach out across two colleges and two local authorities.
- The solution needed to comply with the stringent cyber and information security policies – no easy task.
- The learning network needed to reach not just to college campuses, but into hubs within schools and community centres in rural areas.

- Both staff and students needed a user-friendly solution which could be instantly adopted without training or technical knowledge.

They needed a learning network that would effortlessly connect both colleges and communities, reaching out across a wide geographical area.

What the client says:

“My team and I have been delighted by the results we’ve seen so far and we anticipate eagerly its further benefit to our students, especially those who live in the more rural parts of our beautiful region in the South of Scotland!”

Joanna Campbell, Principal,
Dumfries & Galloway College

Case Study

The Solution

Digital classrooms were the answer. But not using just any video conferencing equipment. They needed a platform which had been specifically designed for the education sector.

- The Vscene video collaboration platform delivered on flexibility, security and that all-important user-friendly setup.
- V-Room hardware meant that learners enjoyed top quality resolution and a high frame rate, giving a real-time, immersive classroom experience.
- The simplicity of the system was a real success. Teachers could teach in their usual style, without worrying about technical issues.
- The digital classrooms were fully future-proof, capable of expansion whenever required.

Unlimited access

The 'Campus without walls' ethos has been enhanced with the introduction of Vscene platform. Now the college really can reach into every corner of the rural community. By extending access to education across the whole region, learners can develop skills without having to relocate.

Unlimited experience

The digital classrooms replicate the actual classroom experience. Thanks to the high-definition audio and visual systems, teachers and learners can interact in real-time. The 'walk-in-and-teach' set-up allows for a natural teaching flow, without any need to change methods or style of teaching.

Unlimited expansion

The Vscene system gives Dumfries and Galloway College the option to scale up, whenever they are ready. The network can be smoothly expanded to incorporate additional educational hubs across the region, whilst maintaining the high security protocols.

Client Q&A

William Currie, Head of Corporate Services

What were your main priorities when sourcing a solution?

The main challenge we faced were to source a solution which enhanced digital learning across a regional network spanning two different local authorities and two separate colleges, which also met our stringent security and data policies within the college. Vscene was developed specifically for the education sector, which was a huge benefit when looking at security policies.

What do you believe are the main tangible benefits so far from using the solution?

The solution is very simple to use, for both staff and students which has meant adoption of the technology has been relatively seamless and created a good experience for users. The quality of the video and audio has been exceptional. When connecting to our Stranraer campus 75 miles away, it still feels as

though you are in the same room which significantly enhances user experience.

What courses are you currently teaching using Vscene?

We currently run a range of courses using Vscene to extend its reach including:

- Mathematics
- Care
- Engineering
- Hospitality short courses - Licensing short courses

Do you have further plans to extend the use of V-Room and Vscene?

We currently have five digital classrooms, using the V-Room hardware and we are in the process of increasing this to sixteen classrooms. The ability to scale up using the hardware and software is great as it means it is a future proofed solution which has longevity which many other solutions did not offer.