The Virtual Classroom Tour (VCT) – what is it?

The VCT is a universal template used to record the innovative use of ICT in teaching and learning. This template is used worldwide by teachers in every country participating in the Microsoft Innovative Teacher Program.

The template is based on a Powerpoint presentation. A VCT allows an innovative teacher to make available to others a summary of some aspect of their teaching that has proved to be successful. The VCT slides themselves describe the project in general terms, along with the name of the teacher and their institution. Each slide can have one or more embedded documents (typically WORD or PDF) that provide a more detailed description of the successful application of ICT in teaching and learning. These embedded documents might be pupil worksheets, or examples of pupil activity.

In some cases the VCT may also contain embedded images of pupils carrying out activities, or short video clips and audio files created by the pupils.

There are **three** levels of VCT available, as follows:

Yellow – Quick Idea
This is a **two** page template that provides basic details of the project and the software used.

Green – Lesson Plan
This is a **three** page template that adds to theYellow VCT, a page on the Teacher Resources that were used in the project.

Blue – Virtual Classroom Tour
This template is the most comprehensive with **five** pages. This template provides basic details of the project and the software used. In addition to the three pages in the green Lesson Plan, this template also provides details of the background and planning that went into the project, and the assessment and standards that were used. The 5 slides contain the following information:

Slide 1 – Project Overview
This slide contains general background information on the project that was undertaken. It also contains an embedded document that lists any resources used in the VCT for which the author has acknowledged copyright.

Slide 2 – Teacher Planning and Management
This slide has embedded documents with details of how the project was planned and managed, including any images showing classroom layouts or specialised equipment.

Slide 3 – Teaching Resources
This slide has embedded any pupil handouts and other resources created for this project. Typical examples are: a student project overview document, a list of Internet and other resources, directions for art projects, or instructions to students for peer editing of projects.

Slide 4 – Assessment and Standards
The embedded documents here will include any assessment materials developed for the project and information about how the project's learning objectives map to curriculum standards.

Slide 5 – Teacher and School Information
This slide contains an image of the school along with teacher and school details.