

# Handheld computers in education

## Can 21st Century Technology be used to learn about 17th Century Art?

### A new approach to learning using interactive wireless lessons or 'trails'



#### Aims of the project :

- To investigate whether the use of interactive computer-based lesson material can enhance the understanding and appreciation of artworks encountered first-hand in a gallery and improve students' critical and analytical skills
- Devised for A Level and GCSE Art students; text, images, photographs, diagrams, multiple choice and visual hot-spots take students on a personalised, interactive guided tour.
- Responses are recorded, and can be accessed and edited at home or at school via the internet.

#### How is this form of learning different?

- Can a handheld computer remove barriers to learning?
- How does it encourage independent learning?
- What makes these students spend nearly an hour in front of one painting?

#### Initial findings show:

- Increased confidence, motivation and involvement
- Pupils are curious, engaged
- They respond, re-interpret and apply learning in new contexts



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#### Freedom to learn

##### Future developments:

- Interactive wireless lessons in the classroom
- Handhelds for remote learning in the locality
- Listening to what students have to say
- Changing styles of learning and teaching

A collaboration between:  
Warren Comprehensive School  
The Dulwich Picture Gallery  
Street Access  
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