

Practical tips for introducing the concept to students



So you've decided to flip your classroom, and you've created some great video content. How do you now explain the concept to your students, and get them to buy into the idea? And how do you make sure they actually watch the videos before class?

Getting students engaged and involved in the process of flipping is essential if the approach is to have the biggest possible impact on their achievement. The learning is flipped, and so is the responsibility: rather than being spoon-fed by a teacher at the front of the class, students are suddenly required to take responsibility for their own learning - watching the videos in their own time, forming their own thoughts and questions around the content, and coming to class equipped to build upon their understanding of concepts. In terms of students' development, this is one of the most powerful things about the flipped concept - by doing this, they're developing essential skills that they'll need when they enter the 'real' world.

The best way of ensuring that students get the most from the flipped learning model is to gain their buy-in, and give them a sense of ownership and involvement with the project. Excitement is contagious, and an excited teacher will always result in excited students. Spelling out the benefits to them is also important - helping them to understand exactly how and why the model will help their learning experience.

Four key benefits for students

1. They're in control of their learning. No more sitting feeling lost as the teacher moves on faster than they can understand, or feeling bored as the pace doesn't move quickly enough. They can pause, rewind, and watch/discuss videos with friends or parents.
2. Rather than sitting listening to the teacher, they get to spend class time doing more practical, exciting, collaborative activities.
3. They get more teacher support during class time - giving them a more personalised experience, and giving every student the help that they need to succeed. This is also a key benefit for any parents who ask about the flipped model - very few parents will fail to see the benefit in more teacher time spent supporting their

child.

4. No more homework! Whilst this isn't strictly true (they'll be doing plenty of learning and thinking at home when they're working with the video content), watching a video is infinitely more engaging in the mind of a teenager than a "traditional" homework assignment.

You might also like to use the other resources from the Flipped Institute site to explain the concept in general to students - the video on the front page is particularly great for this.

For more resources on flipping your classroom

www.flippedinstitute.org