

“ Evie “I found it really useful in preparing me for my French GCSE speaking exam and gave me more confidence to do the exam.”

Sam: “Sanako is a really interactive tool that helped me perfect my pronunciation. All the activities are very useful and extremely constructive.”

Olivia: “It’s really useful to hear how natives speak, and being able to practice pronunciation and be marked on that is extremely helpful too.”

Context and challenge – from Jennie Thompson, Head of Languages and Leader of Whole School Literacy

How can we split ourselves 30 different ways in the classroom to give instant, individual feedback to students? We wanted to be able to give verbal feedback that our students desperately need on spoken language in the moment. In addition, we want to be able to assess students regularly on all four skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking, to find and be able to close their gaps and misconceptions, but teacher time and workload considerations make this impossible to do well.

What was delivered

Sanako Connect has succeeded in bringing AI technology into the MFL classroom in a safe and structured manner, allowing students to receive instant feedback. The first time I used this software with a class, I was expecting my students to enjoy the lesson as it was something new and different and they were always keen for a lesson using a computer! Yet far more happened than I could have ever expected. I barely needed to explain to my students what to do, they clicked on the link and set about completing each of the tasks, the layout of activities in Sanako Connect being easy to navigate.

As we were developing our KS3 curriculum, we were able to harness Sanako Connect to create online assessments so that we were able to use the software formatively and summatively. Assessments are as straightforward to create as the activities.



Impact & Benefits

- ✓ **Improved engagement from students due to the immediate feedback.**
- ✓ **Students work at their own pace on activities suited to their ability level.**
- ✓ **Leaves the teacher able to circulate and provide bespoke support while students are actively engaged.**
- ✓ **The ease of assessment means we can assess more often in all 4 skills, and find the gaps and misconceptions quickly, then close them, leading to accelerated student progress.**

Pedagogical impact

Enthralled by their new headsets, they concentrated fully on each activity. For the first time, I wandered around my classroom feeling slightly redundant, watching students fully engaged with the activities. I walked around, I could hear their pronunciation and accuracy improving. They were actually listening to the feedback and acting on it immediately. The thousands of hours of written feedback I have provided in my career has never had the impact I saw in one lesson. Students are able to view their progress throughout the assessment, receiving the same instant feedback. Teachers can view the assessment data and record easily. For us, it revolutionised our speaking assessment. In the past, these may have taken one or two lessons to assess an entire class or 32 students, yet we were able to complete these quickly and effectively. Not only do these activities and assessments prepare students for the new MFL GCSEs but they also develop their listening and speaking skills, which are the skills they find most difficult.