

# Silverlight and Films for Learning – an Educational Success Story

## The Problem

The idea behind Films for Learning is a powerful concept – that children could display short educational films that they had created using digital video cameras, so engaging them with traditional subjects in a new and exciting fashion.

The educational premise behind this concept is simple, “you can’t make a film about something you don’t understand.”

Originally the Films for Learning website, was very basic, allowing films only to be uploaded by the site’s conceptualists, Mark Richardson and Peter Roe.

This soon became a bottleneck, and eventually the requirement was born for a richer website, with a more community feel.

## The Solution – Rich-Internet Application

Working with the Thomas Hardye School, Microsoft and Universal Pixel (a premier design agency) an idea was formed to leverage Microsoft’s new Silverlight platform to deliver a feature rich, interactive website.

Together, we were able to design and build one of the first, fully functioning Silverlight websites, delivering:

- An ability for students to upload their own films for moderation
- Support for blogs, forums, news stories and discussion groups using **Community Server**
- Secure authentication using **Windows Live ID**

## The Business Benefits

By partnering with Microsoft, Universal Pixel and Altius Consulting Ltd, the Thomas Hardye School were able to achieve:

- A rich interactive experience for students using the website
- Consistent look and feel
- Blogging, forums, news stories and discussion groups

## Timescales

Together, the Thomas Hardye School, Microsoft, Universal Pixel and Altius Consulting Ltd were able to deliver a feature-rich, cutting-edge website in just **five weeks**.

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