



## **QTP Quicktips© news round**

The following annotated bibliography is provided as a quick and easy source of information to enable busy managers and practitioners to keep up to date with current news and issues regarding the effective use of new technology in teaching and learning.

### **Futurelab (28 August 2009)**

#### **A new report from Futurelab highlights how computer games support learning**

The report reveals that 35% of teachers questioned have already used computer games in the classroom and 60% said that they would consider using them in the future. Teachers already using them considered games as 'teaching tools', playing a valuable role in supporting the curriculum and developing the skills and self-confidence of pupils.

For more information:

<http://www.futurelab.org.uk/projects/games-and-learning>

### **Futurelab (24 August 2009)**

#### **Futurelab's 'Call for ideas' on learning with games (open 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009)**

Education innovator Futurelab is calling for new ideas on learning with games. More specifically, they are seeking ideas that fit two themes:

- Meaningful Games' – Ideas for games that enable learners to engage with important issues such as learning, democracy, the environment and sustainability.
- Mobile Games – Ideas for games that are developed for use while learners are on the move or interacting with the places, objects or people around them.

To find out more go to:

<http://www.futurelab.org.uk/get-involved/submit-an-idea>

### **JISC (13 August 2009)**

#### **Managing environmentally sustainable ICT in FE & HE (Suste-IT)**

Institutions can work out their carbon emissions by inputting information about the numbers of computing devices into the SUSTE-IT foot printing tool. The tool then estimates the overall amount of electricity used, and the related carbon emissions, to help the institutions target areas for energy saving. To find out more go to:

[http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/programme\\_jos/susteit](http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/programme_jos/susteit)

### **E-Skills (11 August 2009)**

#### **E-Skills ITQ website updated with latest qualifications and resources**

ITQ, the employer-backed qualifications framework to assess and develop skills in the use of IT, has been updated to reflect the latest skills standards. These employer-defined standards, the National Occupational Standards for IT users, were reviewed in 2008 to ensure they reflected the ever increasing pace of technological change and evolving employer needs.

[www.e-skills.com/itq](http://www.e-skills.com/itq)

### **JISC (5 August 2009)**

#### **JISC seeks feedback on its future strategy**

December 2009 will see the launch of JISC's next three-year strategy and the organisation is seeking feedback on its first draft. Professor Sir Tim O'Shea, chair of JISC's Board says, "Our core activity of supporting colleges and universities in delivering their missions through the effective use of digital technologies remains unchanged. "However, in light of the changing environment, we are keen to know if our planned future investment priorities are focused on the areas of greatest importance to those in education and research."

To feedback go to:

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/aboutus/strategy/strategyreview1012>

**Government (3 August 2009)**

**Government gets new advisory panel on Industry, Jobs, Universities & Skills**

Business Secretary Lord Mandelson has announced the creation of a new advisory panel on New Industry, New Jobs, Universities and Skills. Announcing the panel Lord Mandelson said "The New Industry, New Jobs agenda will help equip Britain to succeed in what will be a radically transformed global economy over the next decade. People and business need the skills and backing to take advantage of the changes to come. This new advisory panel will generate new ideas and fresh thinking."

<http://www.trainingpressreleases.com/newsstory.asp?NewsID=4640>

**BECTA (30 July 2009)**

**Software to support special educational needs to be available on all Home Access packages**

Home Access is a government programme managed by Becta. It aims to ensure that more children in state-maintained education in England have access to technology at home to support learning. Recognising that some learners will require additional support, all the packages available under the programme will come pre-loaded with a suite of assistive technology software.

<http://news.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?resID=40750>

**JISC (17 July 2009)**

**JISC TechWatch highlights new wave in network technology**

Network managers and educational institutions are being urged to plan ahead and consider long-term network capacity by a new report from JISC's Technology and Standards Watch service, as statistics show that Internet traffic is doubling every year.

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/services/techwatch/reports/horizonsscanning/hs0901>

**Ithaka S+R and JISC (16 July 2009)**

**Innovative strategies for financing digital resources in the public sector**

As institutional budgets tighten, will these digital resources be able to survive and thrive? A new study, released today by Ithaka S+R and the JISC-led Strategic Content Alliance, illustrates the varied and creative ways in which leaders of digital initiatives, particularly those developed in the higher education and cultural heritage sectors, are managing to identify sources of support and generate revenue.

<http://www.ithaka.org/ithaka-s-r/strategy/ithaka-case-studies-in-sustainability>

**E-Safe (14 July 2009)**

**Estimated 10 per cent of harmful multimedia content undetected on school computers**

New research announced today (14 July 2009) reveals that approximately ten percent of harmful multimedia content on school computers remains undetected by systems relying on keyword or phrase-based monitoring to protect children. Conducted by forensic experts and ex-police at E-Safe Education ([www.esafeeducation.co.uk](http://www.esafeeducation.co.uk)), this research underpins a need for more effective e-safety guidance and advice for young people.

[www.esafeeducation.co.uk](http://www.esafeeducation.co.uk)

**JUST FOR FUN**

**Are you left or right brained?**

Want to know if you're creative versus logical? Then do this quick quiz to find out if you're left or right brained.

<http://similarminds.com/brain.html>

**Online learning styles test**

Answer 70 questions to gain an understanding of your own personal learning style. Also includes a graphical result page.

<http://www.learning-styles-online.com/inventory/>