



# How Our Courses Work

(Short Courses)





# HomeMadeEducation Courses

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"DELIGHTFULLY UNIQUE. CREATIVELY INTELLECTUAL!"

Our courses are custom-designed:

- to engage, delight and enthrall
- using interactive and engaging multi-media materials
- with interesting and engaging activities
- based on the latest curriculum ideas

We take a fun, entertaining approach to our subjects – combining interesting, important and intriguing information with weblinks, illustrations, examples, stories, current events, jokes, cartoons and much more.

Help your young person stay in-touch, inspired, and in-the know!



# Short Courses – What is Included

Each short course includes:

- weekly online, video tutorials (recorded, for later viewing 24/7) (approx. 1 hour long)
- a wide range of opportunities to be inspired, creative and interact
- projects, assignments and activities with personal, detailed feedback from professional, specialist tutors
- a wide range of extra support materials and resources
- easy access via the online learning platform (and Zoom)





# Short Courses - Formats

The Online, Live format (weekly tutorials happen 'live' and are recorded for later viewing)

The Online, Flexible Timing/Recorded format (weekly tutorials are recorded and available to view 24/7, according to your own schedule and your learner can progress at their own convenience)

*(All formats include weekly tutorials, activities, materials and tutor access & feedback)*





# Course Platform

The online classroom uses a shared, interactive classroom – with chat area, whiteboard, and weblinks. Courses do not use person-to-person video, so all participants are assured of privacy

The screenshot displays a virtual classroom interface. On the left, a presentation slide titled "Mini Courses – Core (13-16yrs)" is shown. The slide content includes:

- Courses with a 'C' code are 'Core Mini Courses', meaning they generally suit learners 13-16 ; these courses use more advanced terminology and cover subjects with a great deal of depth
- Each online session is approx. 55 minutes long (for around 5.5 hours of total 'instructional' time)
- Weekly assignments and projects take approx. 60 minutes per week to complete, adding a further 6hours of 'learning time'
- Overall, each course provides 11.5 hours of learning time over 6 weeks
- You can combine consecutive or concurrent courses to create your own, tailored 'Master Course' in a subject (Perception and Illusions + Sleep and Dreaming + Neuroscience = 1 Term of Psychology)

Below the text is a small image of three students in a library setting. At the bottom of the slide area are icons for microphone, video, and chat. A red arrow points from the bottom of the slide area to the "Tutor Whiteboard/ Presentation Area" label.

On the right side of the interface is a "Public Chat" window. It shows a message from "Blue Butterflies" at 3:12 PM: "Hello and welcome to today's session". Below the message are system notifications: "This conference may be recorded." and "This server is running BigBlueButton.". At the bottom of the chat window is a text input field labeled "Send message to Public Chat" and a send button. A red arrow points from the "Group Chat Area" label to the chat window.

Group Chat Area

Tutor Whiteboard/ Presentation Area



# Course Platform

- During tutorials, students and the tutor share an interactive whiteboard – meaning that everyone views the same material, at the same time
- The tutor will talk through the information, pose questions, highlight video links, post mini quizzes, etc. ... during the session, the tutor's audio is turned on so that students can hear the lesson (remember, there is no live person-to-person video, so privacy is assured)
- Students' primary form of interaction is via the live 'chatbox', which sits alongside the shared whiteboard during the tutorial – so learners can participate throughout and post questions, comments, quiz answers, etc. in the chat box if/when they feel comfortable





# Course Platform

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- The chat box enables the very best quality interactions ...
  - everyone gets an opportunity to share and participate (if they wish)
  - no one is spoken over
  - everyone is 'heard'
  - loudest/fastest voices don't drown out the others
  - there is a record of comments and contributions that I (and others) can go back and refer to and make sure we have not missed/misunderstood
  - silly distractions are minimised (so the quality of interaction is higher)
  - young people who are shy or nervous feel less pressure and feel more able to contribute
  - young people have the time to craft a well-thought out response (rather than saying something off-the-cuff without time to consider what they think/ really want to say)
- I have tried and tested a number of methods over the years, and this method is most successful for everyone

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*We look forward to getting to know you and working through the courses together,*

*Katherine, Caitlin, Lucy and Sarah*

