



RSC | Advancing the
Chemical Sciences



The Royal Society of
Chemistry

Learning Skills Network

Re: Jamie Oliver and Video Project.

As part of a National scheme to develop materials to promote student and teacher awareness of studying all three main sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) at GCSE level and beyond the North Staffordshire & South Cheshire section of the Royal Society of Chemistry made a successful bid to develop work on Fuel Cells. This was in conjunction with the active support of Keele University. The bid was commissioned by the Triple Science Support programme as part of the Learning and Skills Network.

A main element of our project was to produce a short video to show (1) a presentation by Professor Mark Ormerod on Fuel Cells and (2) a teacher workshop using fuel cells. Jamie was part of a team of three doing the recording, editing and final production of a DVD with additional work sheets and other resources.

In the event Jamie was the person who did most of this work. His involvement was in making the original raw recording of the events, editing the footage into a useable form according to my direction, adding a voice over sound track to the teacher workshop material, and creating titles and transition effects for the main video work.

The final DVD was authored with a front end menu system so that users could select appropriate sections for class room use. It also included a set of Word and Adobe pdf documents as additional resource materials as well as PowerPoint slide presentations.

Sound quality on the laboratory presentation was not ideal because recording took place in a live laboratory with fans and other equipment in operation, and we did not have individual voice microphones available to pick up a directed sound. Jamie altered the sound levels and frequency levels to make an improved sound track, and also added a backing track where appropriate.

Voice over recording was made in a quiet environment and produced a clear and well synchronised commentary on the teacher workshop.

Jamie was given guidelines for the finished product but worked independently in a well organised manner to create a worth while set of resources which are now available on the Triple Science web site for any schools to use. He combined the footage from two cameras to make an integrated and logical final version with a mixture of cross cuts and fades, including intermediary titles, to create and maintain viewer interest.

As director of this project, I feel that Jamie produced an end product that bordered on the professional. We feel confident in his ability, so much so that we have commissioned him to help us produce another set of materials on Analytical Chemistry. This will involve video recording and editing and addition of various resource files to a final DVD result.

S K Thompson
February 2009
(Project director)