<u>TEACHING BRIDGE REMOTELY</u>

Although the Coronavirus outbreak has forced us to change our teaching methods, necessity is the mother of invention. The plethora of online resources enable us to continue supporting our students and can lead to improved teaching practice.

The following list has been compiled based upon the most popular sites (by reviews) and the personal experience of your EBED team. The list is not exhaustive. Comparison sites such as **Capterra** can be useful when searching for specific requirements but be aware that some searches are conducted by sponsorship. Search criteria can be altered in the 'sort by' tab.

While the information listed is correct at the time of writing, the market is constantly adapting to fast changing circumstances. Please check the current terms and conditions carefully before signing any contracts.

INTERACTIVE OR NON-INTERACTIVE TEACHING

Lessons can be delivered in a live or pre-recorded format. Flipped learning techniques can be used to combine the two methods (See 'Bridget Rampton – Flipped Learning' in the Teacher Zone).

INTERACTIVE TEACHING

Effective video conferencing requires a good stable IT network, a screen, speakers and a microphone - which can be on a laptop but check its quality. We have successfully trialled group lessons using the following web conferencing sites via video and audio. All can deliver scheduled or instant live lessons and allow you to share your chosen teaching resources, such as Power point. In addition, your group can minimise the conferencing screen and play together in an online bridge class under instruction (see below). Each site offers its own support and training.

Zoom   https://zoom.us/

Benefits: **Ease of use** for both teacher and student – currently the most used platform

               High definition video and crisp sound quality

               Free version for group meetings **- limited to 40 minutes**

               Interaction with students via screen share and file transfer/chats/handwaving

               Video option to record lesson

Drawbacks: 40 mins cut off may disrupt teaching and cause loss of chat history/files shared

               Those wishing to dial into lessons will be charged – US number

               Download is needed

               Time limit can be overcome by subscribing - £11.99 per month

Suitable for: Those requiring simplicity of use while comfortable working around time restrictions

Cisco Webex https://www.webex.com/

Benefits: **Free** with **no time limits**

                Straightforward set up

                Student interaction via screen share/chat which can be saved

                Video recording available

                No download required

                Subscription available £12.50 monthly

Drawbacks: Average video quality - tested three times

                Can take time to register and set up

                No file transfer available

                Group participants limited to 25

                Dial in option is chargeable although with a UK number

Suitable for: Users willing to sacrifice some quality/functions for unrestricted time limits

GoToMeeting https://www.gotomeeting.com/

Benefits: Dial in option is toll free

                Student interaction via screen share/chat/polls/handouts

                No download required

                Straightforward set up and easy to use controls

                Free 14 day trial available

                Annual subscription charge is the lowest - £9.50 monthly

Drawbacks: After 14 days **no free service**

                No file transfer

Suitable for: Those with students that may need to 'dial in' to access lessons

Google Hangouts https://hangouts.google.com/

Benefits: Free

                High quality audio/video and good reliability

                Lessons can be recorded, saved and published elsewhere

                You can broadcast live to YouTube through Google Hangouts for Air

                No download required

Drawbacks:	Students require a Google account
	Private account video calls are **limited to 10 participants**
	Good computer literacy required to make full use of resources available
Suitable for:	Those with small groups prepared to require that students signup to Google

Skype   https://www.skype.com/

Benefits:	**Free** and widely used
	Ease of use
	Available for 50 participants
	Interact with students through shared screen/messages/attach links and files
Drawbacks:	Students require a Skype account
	Prone to technical hiccups/connectivity issues
	Support difficult to access
Suitable for:	Those with high bandwidth networks able to overcome technical issues

Microsoft Teams https://teams.microsoft.com/

Benefits:	Larger groups may gain free access through Microsoft 365 Education
	Free subscription includes Microsoft office
	Online meetings, conversations, chats, and shared files all available in one place
	Easy to use once set up
Drawbacks:	Set up is complex and time consuming
	Support and information maybe difficult to access
	Subscription is required for individual users – many pricing plans available
Suitable for:	Larger teaching establishments with multiple lessons

NON-INTERACTIVE TEACHING

Bridge instruction can also be delivered via non-interactive methods. This can be achieved by simply videoing a delivery of your own lesson at home. Alternatively, there are a wide range of online teaching and editing tools available for enhancing your presentations. Realtime videos can be broadcast using sites such as Facebook Live.

Teachers delivering their lessons via Powerpoint have the ability to use the 'record narration' tool to add instruction to existing slides.

More complex Learning Management Systems, such as Moodle, can offer a professional, branded long term approach to eLearning.

ONLINE CARD PLAY - A TEACHING PERSPECTIVE

Both sites are experiencing heavy traffic and access maybe difficult at times. Teachers wishing to host and direct BBO sessions for their students will not currently be granted permission, as these rights have been temporarily suspended.

Bridge Base Online https://www.bridgebase.com/

Benefits:	Free access to teaching areas
	Dedicated teaching table for 4 players – other students allowed to kibitz
	Bridge for All deal files can be uploaded (Lin files available in the Teacher zone)
	Players can speak via 'voice' in addition to chat messaging
	Bidding and play can be saved and analysed
Drawbacks:	Once students join other tables behaviour can be an issue

Bridge Club Live https://www.bridgeclublive.com/

Benefits:	Free full membership trial
	Coaching corner enables supervised play with others new to bridge
	Help is given through volunteers available via chat messaging
	Strong ethics policy controls behaviour at the table
	Bidding and card play available for analysis through 'Archived Results'
Drawbacks:	Deal files cannot be uploaded
	You have no influence over supervised play advice given by volunteers

Your EBED team recognises the challenges faced by many of you as we adapt to a changing teaching environment. Help and support can be accessed via our teaching forum https://www.ebedcio.org.uk/forum/categories/ebed-teachers-forum or by contacting

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