

Delivering learning in any environment

Scottish Waterways Trust (SWT) is an independent registered charity that helps young people gain the skills and confidence to find work; bring vibrancy, life and opportunities to some of the nation's most disadvantaged communities; encourage people to get active and improve their health and mental wellbeing; and safeguard and improve the rich heritage and environments of Scotland's canals.

SWT undertakes innovative canal-based projects that create a brighter future for the people, communities and wildlife of Scotland. canal college® is Scottish Waterways Trust's flagship employability and training initiative aimed at getting disadvantaged 16-30 year olds into work.



Mobile app

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The Challenge

As canal college® offers almost exclusively outdoor, hands-on learning along the Forth & Clyde, Union and Caledonian Canals, students require accessible technologies that facilitate learning wherever their skills development activities are taking place.

canal college® also wanted to underpin learning with a technology solution their students would find visually appealing and that could be accessed on demand via the latest version of the kindle fire tablet. This meant that the solution was required to work across various mobile platforms.

The tutors at canal college® also required access to the system for assessment purposes. The system also needed to keep track of the status of each individual's learning evidence as they work towards a new SQA Level 2 Certificate in Cultural Heritage during their 14 week course at canal college®.

The mobile app will make anytime, anywhere learning a reality for canal college® students helping them to take charge of their own learning and gain new skills.



Our Solution

eCom worked with Scottish Waterways Trust to understand the specific requirements of their ideal learning solution. It quickly became clear that, with the requirement for learning to take place anywhere, a mobile solution was important so eCom helped canal college® to develop their mobile digital learning strategy.

Following this, eCom created a bespoke learning platform and mobile app for delivery of qualifications. The app provides students with access to their course planner, task list, a workbook with questions and activities linked to corresponding content screens and shows their progress through the course. Each of the workbook sections relates to an SQA unit learning objective.

The app has built-in functionality that enables students to upload evidence of their learning in multiple formats i.e., documents, email, audio, and video and to submit this for an assessor to mark, as well as viewing feedback from the assessor.

The learning platform provides one central place to store each individual's learning evidence and tutors can use the app to view evidence and award an appropriate grade.

Our Results

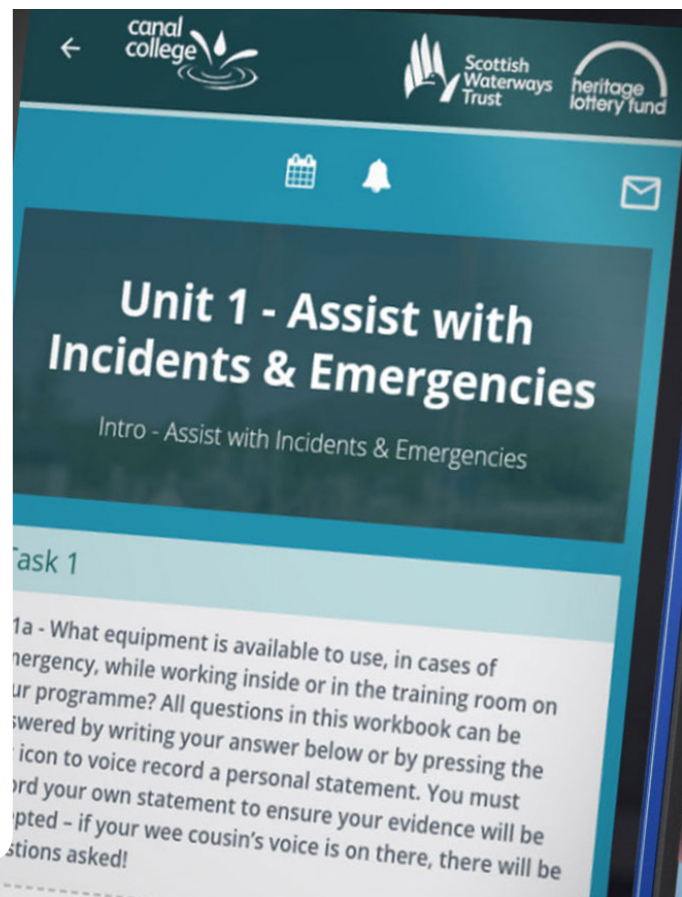
Having a truly mobile learning solution has enabled canal college® to realise their vision of learning completed almost entirely outdoors.

The mobile app makes anytime, anywhere learning a reality for canal college® students and has helped them take charge of their own learning to gain new skills, earn CV-boosting certificates and awards, and build their confidence for a brighter future.

This self-directed approach to learning is helping participants work towards a Saltire Award, John Muir Award, Heritage Heroes Award and SQA Level 5 Unit in Working Safely.

The bespoke learning platform and app helps demonstrate how effective mobile technologies can be for delivering learning in any environment and helps position canal college® favourably with their target demographic.

The conservation projects canal college® students undertake as part of their learning are also helping to bring Scotland's canal network to life.



eCom Scotland

If you're interested in anything you see here, contact the team at:

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