

## Are Epson Interactive Projectors Transforming French Classes at Alliance Française in Brisbane? The answer is Oui Oui!

The latest interactive teaching tools, techniques and learning environments are critical not only for successful student outcomes, but also for the ongoing growth and development of the French language school, Alliance Française in Brisbane.

Located in the West End of Brisbane, Alliance Française has been teaching French language and representing French culture in Brisbane for more than 80 years. Created in 1926, the Alliance Française Brisbane campus is the oldest French school in Brisbane and had more than 2000 students pass through its doors in 2012, ranging in age from as young as 3 years through to 70 years.

In a review of the latest teaching technologies, the school selected the Epson MeetingMate interactive ultra short throw projector that facilitates "instant classes" without the need for a PC, for its combination of functionality, design and value.

The school has installed five Epson MeetingMate EB-1400Wi projectors to date and plans to install three over the next year.

"Participation at our school is entirely voluntary and fee based so it is absolutely vital we create the most competitive offering and deliver a learning environment that incorporates the latest

teaching techniques available to ensure students finish their courses and leave with a sense of achievement and pride," said Finance Officer for Alliance Française Brisbane, Greg Latapie, who worked very closely with systems integrator BBC Digital to design a classroom system that was connected and interactive for both teacher and student.

"For the majority of our students, English is their first language. The motivation for coming to Alliance Française may be French heritage from one or both parents or a recent vacation in a French speaking country.

"Others may be contemplating a move to a French speaking country and for some it's just a lifelong passion with all things French. Whatever the reason, we know the more interactive we make the classroom environment the more successful the learning outcomes are."

The range of Epson ultra short throw projectors including the Epson MeetingMate has features specially designed for education such as wall-mounts for normal classroom use or with an optional table mount to create an interactive table top workspace for collaborative activities by a smaller group of students.

The Epson MeetingMate can replace copyboards, conventional whiteboards

and old fashioned flip charts and incorporates easy-to-use functions that facilitate "instant classes" without the need for a PC.

The bonus for students and teachers is all content including notes and annotations can be saved, printed and emailed after the class, or sent to the campus network drive for later use.

The Epson MeetingMate also has a unique split screen feature that allows images from two sources to be shown simultaneously and dual pen interactivity which allows teacher and student to annotate at the same time.

"MeetingMate is the perfect solution for interactive classrooms as it fundamentally changes the way teachers and students collaborate. In particular, the ability for a teacher to email class notes to a student who may not be able to attend is vital so they keep pace with the course. When you combine that with the Epson Visualisers that enable teachers to project pages from French literature so that the whole class can see a discussion about grammar, language use and sentence structure, it opens up new pathways for learning that just did not previously exist."

"Most students these days come to class with a range of their own technology including smartphones and tablets, so we need classrooms that integrate with



The Epson MeetingMate interactive projector makes classes entertaining



You can email your lesson to students who can't attend



Dual pen interactivity means two can collaborate simultaneously



Share photos and annotate for the whole class to learn and understand

this technology. The Epson iProjection app allows students to deliver content for discussion to the screen from their seat using their iOS® or Android smartphone or tablet, a breakthrough and a really useful feature and the remote collaboration function allows up to four separate groups located anywhere in the world to connect via a network, share and annotate the same content." "All together the decision to purchase has added value to Alliance Française as a training provider, and it also ensures our technology is cutting edge, which is essential in a competitive market," said Mr Latapie. "We have consistently received positive feedback from schools and campuses where Epson interactive projectors are installed and we know they are a winning solution for education," said

Bruce Bealby, Epson Australia's Business Unit Manager for Visual Imaging. "Epson works closely with its channel partners, who then work closely with their customers to minimise teaching downtime and create the most engaging and stimulating learning experience. It's great to see a school that is outside the education mainstream embracing what the MeetingMate can do to improve learning outcomes and their business bottom line as well," said Bruce. Founded originally in France in 1883, Alliance Française is a not for profit organisation that includes a global network of centres teaching more than 490,000 students each year about the French culture and language in over 136 countries all over the world, including 33 in Australia. Its open curriculum encourages francophiles to

share their love of French language and culture with their fellow countrymen by participating in cultural centre activities, events and educational programs.

For more information about the range of interactive projectors available from Epson Australia or to find a reseller in your state, you can telephone Epson Australia on 1300-361-054 or visit [www.epson.com.au](http://www.epson.com.au)

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