

# ICT in Schools Division at the DfES awards £950k contract to 3T Productions

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Good morning class - ¿Cómo estas?

The ICT in Schools Division at the DfES has awarded 3T Productions a key project in the development of foreign language teaching in primary schools - as the government places increasing importance on encouraging interest in foreign languages amongst children as young as 7.

Spanish is set to become one of the most widely spoken languages in the world, which is one of the reasons behind the DfES' decision to commission a sophisticated digital education service for teaching and learning Spanish at Key Stage 2. The service will provide support for the entire QCA scheme of work, covering 12 units broken down into a number of different activities, ranging from simple 'print and do' resources to media rich adventure games which push the boundaries of kinaesthetic learning.

In total, 240 activities will be available, almost all of which will have cross-curriculum relevance, so that Spanish can be a medium through which pupils will increase their subject knowledge in literacy, numeracy, citizenship, PE, geography, science and history. However, key to the success of the service will be the tools available to allow teachers to build and deliver lessons, and the support provided to ensure non-specialist teachers are able to make full use of the resource. The range of support that can be provided via a digital resource, utilising audio and video content, offers an education service that requires no background in language teaching.

3T has brought together a range of leading organisations and experts to ensure that all the challenges of delivering such a programme are met, including language learning specialists, leading publishers of Spanish school materials and pioneering practitioners, as well as various ICT and Primary Strategy experts. The contract, which has been won in conjunction with 3T's parent company, RM plc, is worth £950k, and the service will be available to schools from September 2004.

David Eccles, Managing Director of 3T, said: "I'm delighted that we will be working with the DfES on such an important element of their initiative to improve modern foreign language teaching in primary schools. I believe that 3T's interactive design expertise and educational experience puts us in the ideal position to create a Spanish digital learning resource that is motivating, exciting and educationally rigorous."

Company contact:

Rachel Combie, Marketing Executive, 3T Productions Ltd, Pennine House, Carrs Road, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 2BL. T: 0161 492 1400 F: 0161 492 1401

Website: [www.3t.co.uk](http://www.3t.co.uk)

Press contact:

John Haynes, Livewire Public Relations, 32 Ewell Road, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 6HX. T: 020 8339 7443 F:  
020 8339 7441

Email: [john.haynes@livewirepr.com](mailto:john.haynes@livewirepr.com) Website: [www.livewirepr.com](http://www.livewirepr.com)