



Evaluation of the evaluation: Using RCTs

Professor Janet Clinton

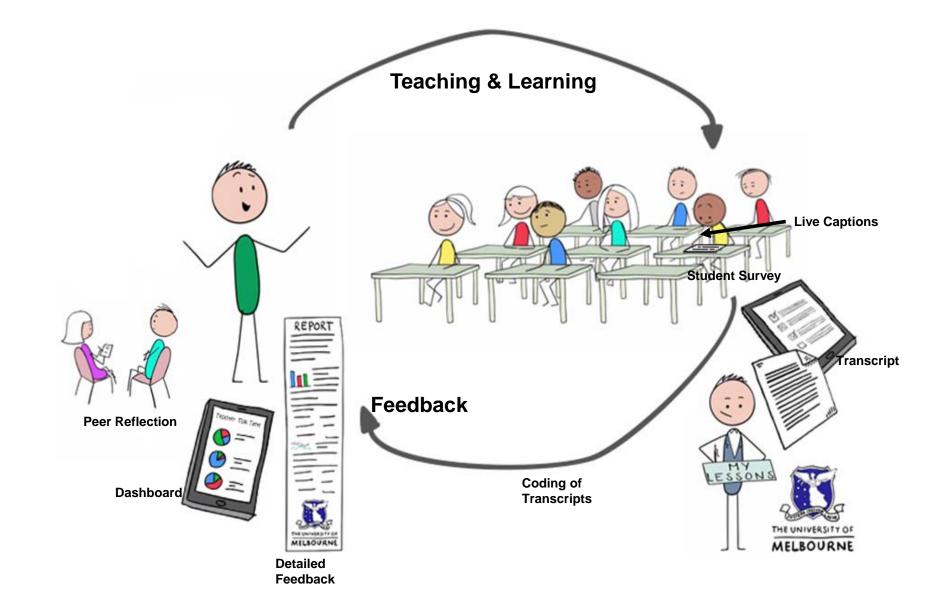
Centre for Program Evaluation

AES, Canberra 2017

Aims

- Seeing it from both sides
- The intervention
- The process evaluation
- The challenges
- The worth of RCTs

The Visible Classroom



AiMedia SSAT BIT EEF

The Theory of Change





Improved Feedback



Change in Practice



Improved Student Outcomes







- Classroom captioning
- Analytics dashboard
- · Transcripts available to teachers
- · Dashboard indicators
- Transcript
- Tailored detailed feedback from the experts
- Teachers reflect, discuss and share practice
- · Teachers set goals for continuous improvement
- · Teaching has a greater impact
- Change in teaching practice
- Changes in student attainment

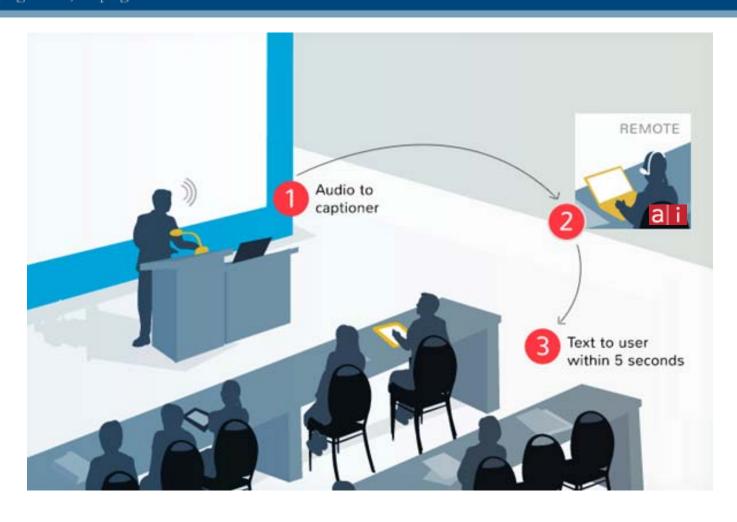
The Visible Classroom App



MELBOURNE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Shaping minds, shaping the world

The magic behind live captions



Efficacy trial

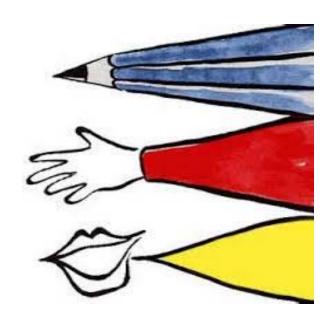
Impact of a simpleminimal application of Visible Classroom on student achievement in perfect conditions



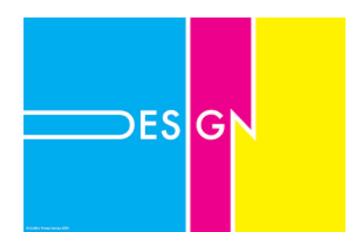


Intervention

- 3 blocks of captioning and feedback, with 5 hours of lessons captured over 3 terms, within 1 year
- 2 blocks of captioning and feedback for year 6 teachers in 3 lessons captured over 2 terms within year2
- For each hour a verbatim lesson transcript, & a data dashboard.
- After 5 lessons in-depth report on their teaching with tailored suggestions for improvement.
- A minimum of 1 hour with their nominated mentor after every 5 hrs.



- The trial is a two-arm, schoollevel cluster randomised trial.
- Yr5 & 6
- The two arms are (1) 'business as usual' control arm, and (2) the Visible Classroom intervention.
- Approximately 140 schools will be recruited to this trial.



The outcome measures

Primary

- Combined Maths and English KS 2 results for Y5 & Y6.
- .14 effect-size benchmark

Secondary

- Secondary English and Maths separately for each year group
- FSM subgroup analysis for Teacher subgroup analysis for combined English and Maths results for Y5

Tertiary

- Change in practice as measured by Visible classroom
- Perception of change in teacher practice as measured by survey



Process evaluation:

- dosage analysis of the combined time the teacher spends recording lessons & uses the online feedback
- the theory of change related to the intervention
- the barriers
- conditions for effective delivery
- related costs of implementation incurred by schools and teachers.





- Semi-structured interview with
 - program staff
 - -school mentors
 - high and low adherence teachers
- Web analytics to monitor usage of VC app
- Brief survey to all teachers post-intervention
 - -satisfaction,
 - perceptions of usefulness
 - feedback on the intervention.
- Secondary data from intervention



Challenges thus far

- Follow through from recruitment
- Getting baseline information in on time
- Clusters schools turning up to training
- Complaints because they wanted to be the trial
- Consent forms not submitted in time
- Access to School level data
- Enthusiasm not problem
- Setting the bar to high for the primary outcome
- Pressure on process evaluation





MELBOURNE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

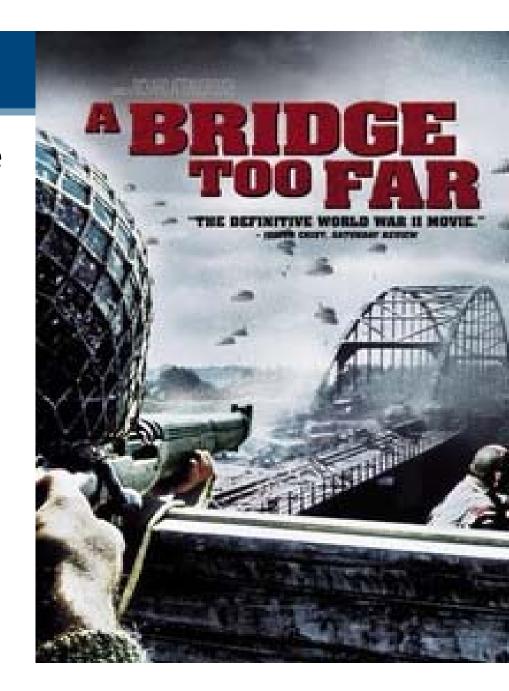
Shaping minds, shaping the world

Outcome is paramount





- Questions about the theory of change
- Primary outcome may be the bridge too far
 - What about the secondary?
 - What about the tertiary?
 - How will we react?
 - What do we expect?



Shaping minds, shaping the world









Questions?

Thank you.

Professor Janet Clinton : jclinton@unimelb.edu.au