



At Stavanger Katedralskole in Norway, students sit in ancient surroundings constructed in the days of the wandering Vikings. Laeremiddel Norge recommended SANAKO Lab 300 to help students experience modern-day language learning with 21st century technology.

Stavanger Katedraleskole

- Secondary-level school in Norway’s Stavanger district
- Oldest school in the area, dating back to medieval times
- Enrollment of 375 students
- Languages taught: English, French, German, Spanish

SANAKO Lab 300 – A Step into the Future

- 1x Sanako Lab 300 solution
- Supporting increasing usage among students and staff
- User-friendly and dynamic system
- Offering a range of stimulating and innovative exercises for learning
- Supporting learning from beginner to advanced level

From the Glorious Days of the Vikings

Stavanger Katedralskole in Norway is the most ancient educational institution in the district, with its oldest section having been constructed as far back as the 12th century, during the heyday of the Vikings – other parts of this historic structure were completed in the 15th and 16th centuries.

The school’s SANAKO Lab 300 solution has been installed in an ancient basement, which dates back to the medieval era, and Head of the Language Studies Department, Trond Petter Harstad says to have such modern teaching systems located in such history-rich surroundings gives language teaching a very exciting perspective. “The students can sense the history in this environment and these surroundings, and many of them have expressed these feelings to me,” he explained.



Stavanger Katedralskole is located on part of the old Viking road, and carries much of the history of those times.

Learning by Example

The Katedralskole houses 375 students and 40 teachers, and the languages programme includes the teaching of German, French, English and Spanish, with the English teachers making the most frequent use of the language lab. According to Mr. Harstad, the department is implementing a deliberate strategy of involving the students and more experienced users of the system to motivate their colleagues to make the best possible use of Sanako Lab 300. “Already the demand for the lab is increasing, and this is a positive sign that the technology is being taken into use,” added Mr. Harstad.

Arvid Knutsen, an English teacher with 20 years experience, is a key part of the strategy to pass on information on usage and best practice regarding the Lab 300 installation. He has got the most experience working with the system, and has also worked closely with the Lab Supervisor to become more familiar with it.



SANAKO Lab 300 has been installed in the school's ancient basement, bringing a breath of the future into medieval surroundings.



Specialised Teaching Capabilities

- Supports basic skills development
- A wide range of tools to help students learn with confidence
- Can be combined with video to create exciting new teaching resources
- Can be used with the Internet for individual and group research and discussion activities

Since most of the students who join Mr. Knutsen's English class already have a high level of proficiency in the language, he can use the lab to engage in advanced learning activities, while other language teachers use it for language training at less advanced levels. Mr. Knutsen says the lab accommodates teaching at all levels of foreign language attainment.

A New Dimension in Language Teaching

"I can combine this lab's discussion capabilities with Internet searches. The students can find out about authors, literature, and be put into groups to complete timed exercises, which can then be marked," he explained. "We have even followed the American Presidential elections, and have discussed ideas in the elections and even issues concerning the swing states, and this has been very popular among the students," he added, pointing out that he has been able to use the lab to help his students develop more advanced conversational skills in the target language.

For other teachers who work with students who are still developing their competency in the foreign language, Mr. Knutsen says Lab 300 offers a range of tools including listening comprehension exercises, reading, and model imitation, all of which encourage students to eventually correct themselves. "The teacher can also monitor students, and the teacher position offers the ability to group students, link individuals to groups, or to separate them as desired to work on specific exercises."

Mr. Knutsen and Mr. Harstad agree that Sanako Lab 300 has brought a new dimension to language teaching at Stavanger Katedralskole. The next step for the languages department will be to incorporate video into Lab 300's playback repertoire, a step that will take the old Viking spirits lurking in these medieval halls into a future they could never have imagined.



SANAKO Lab 300 is being used more and more frequently, as teachers get familiar with the wide range of teaching possibilities.

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