WHY ONLINE TUITION IS NO LONGER THE ALTERNATIVE TO FACE-TO-FACE — IT'S THE ADVANTAGE

October 2025 by Mohammed Yafai and Megan Hodgson

OUR FIRST MONTH ONLINE

It's been a month since we officially launched Project Yalla Learn - our platform for expert online tuition. Having spent our careers teaching in physical classrooms and tutoring almost exclusively face-to-face for the past 15 years, transitioning to purely online tuition was, admittedly, a bit of a shock to the system.

At the heart of everything we do is adding as much value as possible - helping students make meaningful progress in their learning. We also pride ourselves on being evidence-based and research-informed, because teaching and learning is what we are truly passionate about. But how does this approach translate to a digital context?

Proud of our long track record of engaging students and driving progress, we were initially concerned about replicating that effectiveness online. Our goal from the outset was clear: ensure that what we deliver digitally is at least as effective as what we achieved face-to-face. We also wanted to make high-quality education accessible to students everywhere, including those who may not have access to the same resources locally, opening doors to opportunities they might not otherwise have. We knew it would be a steep learning curve, requiring us to do things differently, but our ambition, integrity, and commitment to doing the best for our students gave us confidence.

Even with that determination, we couldn't be certain how it would all turn out. However, just one month in, having tutored exclusively online, the results have been surprising - and encouraging. In fact, after direct comparison, we believe that not only is online tuition just as effective, but in many ways it can be more effective than face-to-face tuition.

Here are just some of the reasons why.

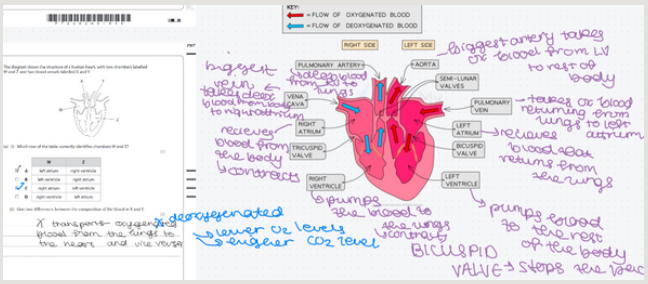
ONLINE VS FACE TO FACE

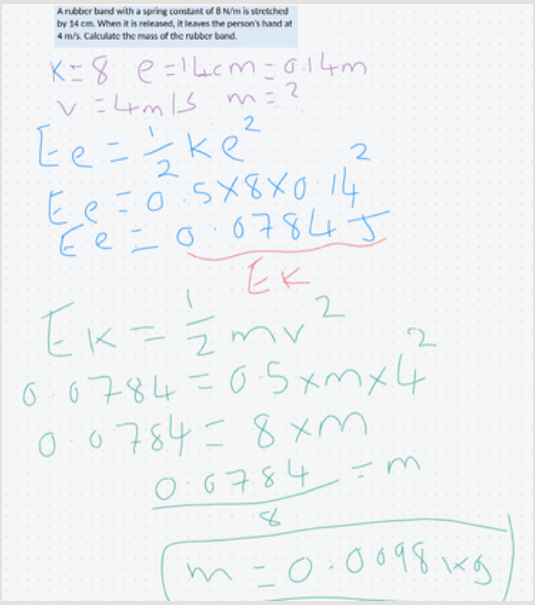
1. Access to the Best Teachers Worldwide

Online tuition removes geographical limits - giving students access to high-quality teaching regardless of where they live. This means learners everywhere, including those who may not have access to the same educational resources locally, can benefit from expert educators and enjoy the same opportunities to progress and succeed. Online tuition allows us to open doors to education that might otherwise be out of reach, helping more students fulfil their potential.

2. INTERACTIVE DIGITAL TOOLS

From digital whiteboards to shared Google Classrooms - students can annotate, replay explanations, and access feedback anytime. It's not just 'a lesson'; it's an interactive workspace that supports ongoing learning. Students can review material, practise skills, and consolidate understanding well beyond the session, making every lesson a stepping stone for continuous progress.





3. PARENT TRANSPARENCY

Parents have full visibility of their child's assignments, feedback, and progress. This level of transparency fosters a collaborative learning environment between home and teacher, allowing parents to support their child effectively.

4. PERSONALISED PROGRESS AND IMMEDIATE FEEDBACK

Online tuition allows us to tailor lessons to each student's needs. The pace and content adapt in real time, and students receive immediate feedback on their answers and understanding. Misconceptions are addressed as they arise, ensuring every learner moves forward confidently and doesn't build gaps in their knowledge.

5. EVIDENCE-BASED TEACHING

Every lesson is designed around proven, research-informed methods such as retrieval practice, spaced learning, and interleaving. Online tuition allows these strategies to be integrated seamlessly into each session. Tutors can structure lessons precisely, use digital tools to reinforce key concepts, and provide instant guidance - all in a way that complements the student's learning in real time, which can be more challenging to coordinate in traditional face-to-face tutoring.

6. LEARNING FROM THE COMFORT OF HOME

Students attend lessons from their own homes, in spaces where they feel relaxed and secure. This familiar environment helps them concentrate fully during the session, free from distractions or travel stress. Even in small group sessions, students can collaborate, engage in discussion, and benefit from peer interaction - all while enjoying the focus, comfort, and independence that learning from home provides.

7. DEVELOPING INDEPENDENT SKILLS

Online tuition supports metacognition by allowing students to think aloud and work through problems while tutors observe in real time. Tutors can see students' reasoning as it happens, provide immediate guidance, and prompt reflection on their own thinking. This approach helps students develop self-awareness, problem-solving skills, and productive study habits, turning each session into a model for independent learning that continues beyond the lesson.

8. CONSISTENCY AND CONTINUITY

Online tuition eliminates disruptions caused by travel, weather, or other barriers. This consistency allows students to maintain learning momentum and develop steady, long-term progress.

9. EFFECTIVE USE OF TIME

With no travel and minimal downtime, every minute of a session is dedicated to learning, feedback, and practice. This makes online tuition a highly efficient and productive way for students to achieve their goals.

10. TRACKING PROGRESS OVER TIME

Online platforms make it easy to track every aspect of a student's learning journey. Tutors and parents can access detailed records of assignments, feedback, and lesson notes - all in one place. This continuous visibility highlights progress over time, helps identify patterns or misconceptions early, and ensures that support is always targeted and effective.

GROUP CLASSES

Sunday
12:45pm – 1:45pm | GCSE Biology

1:50pm – 2:50pm | GCSE Chemistry

5:45pm – 6:45pm | GCSE Physics

7:00pm – 8:00pm | A-Level AQA Physics

Tuesday
6:00pm – 7:00pm | Year 9 Science

Wednesday
7:00pm – 8:00pm | A-Level Biology

MASTERCLASSES

AQA GCSE Science Masterclasses

Physics - Monday 27th October - 9:00am - 11:00am - £50

Biology - Tuesday 28th October - 9:00am - 11:00am - £50

Chemistry - Wednesday 29th October - 9:00am - 11:00am - £50

£10 off each class if multiple masterclasses are booked!

RECOMMENDATIONS

Read: Education Endowment Foundation - Metacognition

Tech for improving your explanations: what and how

Teaching Secondary Science: A Complete Guide

Buy: For our exam students, we recommend mapping out your revision for the year. Don't forget to factor in your Term 1 and Term 2 mock exams.

Book: Don't miss out — get £10 off our Physics Masterclass! Each booking will also receive 20% off our Chemistry and Biology Masterclasses

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