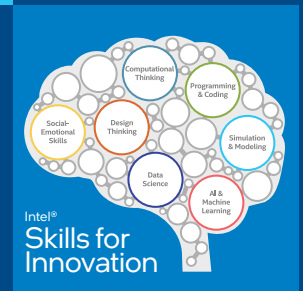## Intel® Skills for Innovation Lighthouse

# The Ovington School harnesses technology to create authentic learning experiences

Intel®
Skills for
Innovation

The Intel® Skills for Innovation Professional Development empowers educators to use technology in novel ways to bring real-world scenarios into the classrooms at P.S. 176 The Ovington School.

### The Ovington School Vision

To empower all students with high academic skills, positive and varied social experiences and civic responsibilities that will enable every child to participate as a contributing member of a democratic society.

In order to help develop students' mindsets and skillsets to prepare them to be innovators of tomorrow, educators at The Ovington School in Brooklyn, New York, embarked on Professional Development courses under the Intel® Skills for Innovation (Intel® SFI) Program. The courses guide teachers to adopt technology in their classrooms in a way that maximizes learning from technology-infused lessons.

### Challenges

- Increase educators' capacity to bridge the skill gap between education and industry and prepare students for a technology-immersed future.
- Expose educators to new pedagogies that infuse technology into the curriculum, keeping them abreast of recent trends in using technology in education.
- Provide opportunities for teachers to share lesson ideas and enhance existing lesson plans for virtual teaching and anywhere learning.

### Solution

Intel SFI Professional Development empowers educators to become leaders of learning experiences and facilitators of future-ready skill building with tools and modular training curated to address their needs. Content is available on the Intel SFI Platform, which offers a rich, interactive, professional learning community with collaborative features and resources for educators.

### Results

Through the training, Ovington educators gained the knowledge and skills to:

- Integrate technology-infused activities in everyday teaching and learning in order to design authentic learning experiences that are modelled after real-world scenarios.
- Create new learning experiences with the goal of building students' social-emotional skills, mindsets, and skillsets required for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR).
- Contribute to the teaching community by sharing best practices they have acquired from trying out the lesson ideas introduced in the Intel SFI Professional Development courses.

"Next year there's a totally different way that we'll open based upon the things we did in this program - we're learners just as much as we're teachers.

**Elizabeth Culkin**
Principal

### Building educators' capacities to allow them to prepare students for a technology-immersed future

The Ovington School is a diverse and collaborative school community dedicated to achieving academic excellence for every child. The school prides itself on being a professional community of learners where all members – students, parents and staff – are engaged in learning. This pursuit of continual learning and progress led Ovington's educators to embark on the learning journey with the Intel SFI Professional Development courses.

## Intel Skills for Innovation Professional Development Suite

Intel SFI Professional Development is designed to help educators master technology integration with a step-up model carefully curated to address the needs of educators in varying stages of adapting technology in learning. The program includes four levels designed to transition educators from adapters of technology to mentors of innovation.

Modules and courses are available on the Intel SFI Learning Platform, where educators also can find up-to-date information on trends impacting the future of today's learners and technology tools that enhance their ability to adapt their teaching to these trends.

### 1 Adapter
#### Adapt Technology
This optional level is for educators who are new to technology in education. It supports them in building basic digital fluency through a mix of face-to-face and online modules.

### 2 Owner
#### Lead Learning Experiences
Level 2 helps educators transition from being content experts to effectively owning and leading learning experiences.

### 3 Catalyst
#### Catalyze Creative Confidence
In Level 3, educators are challenged to reimagine learning experiences using technology, thus empowering students to become confident innovators.

### 4 Mentor
#### Mentor Upgraded Mindsets
Level 4 introduces educators to the upgraded mindsets that are essential for students to thrive in the Fourth Industrial Revolution and successfully navigate unknowns of tomorrow.

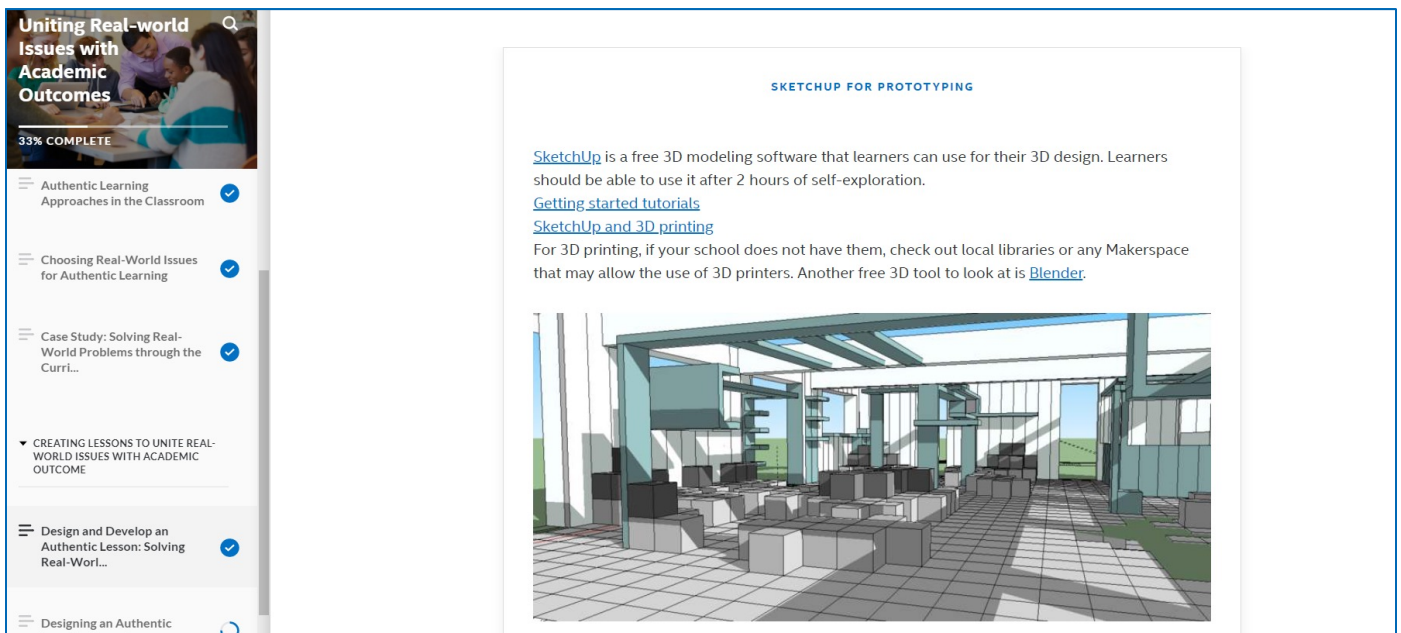## Applying curriculum concepts to real world scenarios

The Intel SFI Professional Development courses introduce educators to pedagogies and teaching techniques that allow educators to harness technology to make learning come alive in their classrooms.

Educators from The Ovington School discovered how connecting their classroom learning to real-world contexts helps to make students' learning more engaging and purposeful. Real-world scenarios such as discussing sustainable development goals are just some of the activities that educators were inspired by. Ovington educators learned how such real-world scenarios could be applied to a multitude of subject areas like mathematics, science and literacy, and were excited to try out these ideas on other subjects as well.

> This course allowed me to focus on how children use technology to solve real-world problems through mathematics, science and literacy . I really enjoyed it because I feel like everything I had learned can be applied to any subject area that I teach.
>
> Lauren Lee
> 5th grade teacher

**Figure 1.** Educators are introduced to software like SketchUp, which can be used in the classroom to produce 3D models that can help students visualize how their prototypes can work in the real world.

## Engaging in a professional learning community

Intel SFI Professional Development courses are available on the Intel SFI platform, which includes collaborative features and resources for educators to engage in a professional learning community. K-12 Makerspace Educator, Kerry Hynes reflected on the benefits of being able to bounce ideas off other educators who are also trying out the teaching methods introduced in the Professional Development courses.

Educators from The Ovington School were motivated by the opportunity to collaborate on the technology-infused activities they were introducing to their students. They developed a strong sense of community through the process of trying out ideas gleaned from the Intel SFI Professional Development courses.

## Summary

Educators from The Ovington School were reenergized by the novel approaches to learning that they were introduced to while going through the Intel Skills for Innovation Professional Development courses. The program served as a guiding light for educators in their quest to bridge the skill gap between education and industry.

The educators were able to effectively use the Professional Development courses and the Intel SFI Platform as a tool to transform what learning looks like at The Ovington School. Students come to school excited about the new opportunities that await them and how they will be able to use new technology tools to expand their learning horizons and prepare them for their future careers.

> I feel this is the most valuable aspect of the Professional Development program, being exposed to the different kinds of technologies that can be implemented with ease but can make a world of difference in the learning process. I am just so excited to use some of these methods of learning in my day-to-day teaching.

**Sonia Friscia**
5th grade teacher

## About Intel Skills for Innovation Framework

Intel Skills for Innovation Framework empowers educators to become leaders of technology-infused learning experiences. Using the framework helps educators integrate technology into their programs and plans to build skills and help students develop their cognitive, technical, and social-emotional skills.

For more information, visit **skillsforinnovation.intel.com**

## Ready to Get Started?

Intel SFI Professional Development is designed to meet the evolving pedagogical needs of educators who are preparing learners for a future workforce. The program is available under license from Intel. For more information, please contact your Intel Technology Provider.

**Figure 2.** Educators are encouraged to share their experiences with #TeachSDGs by signing a pledge and adding the #TeachSDGs logo to their social media accounts to contribute to the global movement.



Watch the video