

## Willy Cardoso

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#### Context

*Ceibal en Inglés* is a remote teaching programme providing English lessons via videoconferencing to over 80,000 children in Uruguayan state primary schools. 45-minute English lessons are delivered weekly by a remote teacher and two follow-up practice lessons are delivered face-to-face by the local Uruguayan classroom teachers using laptops and an online learning platform to raise the standards of English learning. The remote teaching is delivered from facilities in Argentina, Uruguay, the Philippines and the UK. Willy Cardoso trained remote teachers for two years in the Philippines as a Quality Manager for the British Council Uruguay.

#### Video practice featured

The challenges of teaching remote lessons to large groups of primary school children are many. Things that may come more naturally in a face-to-face context, such as knowing students' names, require an extended effort from remote teachers, and strategies such as having a plan with the seating arrangement and students' names below their screen while teaching. The inability to move around the classroom also creates barriers to classroom management, but thanks to high-end technology this can be partly achieved by controlling the zoom and pan functions of the classroom camera; this way teachers can monitor if students are paying attention and on task. A big part of the training remote teachers receive consists of strategies to bridge the gap between being physically present with the students and teaching them remotely. For this, a lot of emphasis is put on how to build rapport and increase one's presence in a remote teaching situation.

#### Links

Example of a remote lesson via videoconferencing: <https://vimeo.com/126996354>

Ceibal en Inglés – institutional video: [https://youtu.be/hNBhEv\\_4ZpU](https://youtu.be/hNBhEv_4ZpU)

Plan Ceibal - Remote Teaching into Uruguayan public schools:  
<https://www.britishcouncil.uy/en/programmes/education/ceibal-en-ingles>

ELT through videoconferencing in primary schools in Uruguay: first steps:  
[https://www.academia.edu/3571093/ELT\\_through\\_videoconferencing\\_in\\_primary\\_schools\\_in\\_Uruguay\\_first\\_steps](https://www.academia.edu/3571093/ELT_through_videoconferencing_in_primary_schools_in_Uruguay_first_steps)