Reflection

Going through this project has certainly been enlightening.

As with any project we realised that there were areas that could have been improved upon. We took heed of previous errors and sought to prevent them from happening again, such as the lack of group discussion and mismatched schedules. We took advantage of various communication systems to keep in touch and adequately discuss our project. Our discussions went smoothly, and I feel that this was one of the crucial reasons why we succeeded in this project.

Another one of our setbacks was inherent in the idea itself. Starting off with the idea of a social network / relationship builder website, we realised that: #1 it would be difficult to reach our target audience, #2 our target audience would be too small, #3 there was no way for the original idea to expand. Luckily, with our discussions along the way, we were able to recognize this before it was too late and had annulled all our progress. It was also alleviated by the fact that we chose to expand on our RE project, which was rather limited as of then, and had significant space for expansion. It was also something that we were familiar with, so we got to grips with altering it much faster than starting from scratch.

Admittedly, I also spent a bit too long 'perfecting' the HTML CSS which resulted in less tailoring to requirements of the back end, as such a large amount of that was lost. We had split up to work individually on front and back end, and I'd like to thank Arnold for doing a great job on the server side.

However, just talking about our successes and drawbacks would be superficial, without considering the greater implications of our project. We set out to see our application revolutionise the world of education, but that is a greatly ambitious goal. Of course realistically speaking, we would begin our operations small, perhaps in our own school for starters. But just thinking about the potential of our app and the problem that we hope to solve is already giddying. Children around the world who fail to get an education due to external factors beyond their control is a great injustice, in terms that this system fails to realize their full ability, and that the education standard is skewed toward those who can afford it. It is unlikely that we can change the education systems around the world in one fell swoop, but at least let this project convey our hopes on seeing technology head in this direction.