2.1 I can describe the purposes for using collaborative technologies

Currently I am undertaking a course which is completely delivered online. For the purposes of teaching the course my Tutor uses Adobe Connect to teach content and enable us to learn. Adobe Connect acts as a web based virtual classroom where we can work collaboratively with our Tutor as well as with our fellow students. Our Tutor can deliver live video tutorials to the students who can then give input via microphone permissions, a chat function and a collaborative white board to share content. Permissions are decided by the tutor who oversees the tutorial. The teacher can hear students when they are given microphone permissions however there is no camera facilities for individual students, just the Tutor.

The White Board is a useful function to share written information relevant to the tutorial and can be worked on collaboratively. The tutor can also set up ‘break out rooms’ for additional meetings to take place during the tutorial with smaller groups which do not impact on the main tutorial meeting. Meetings can be recorded so that students can refer back to them at a later date to enhance their learning or cover any areas they may have missed. Previously as a learning group we used Microsoft Teams to carry out tutorials however we were unable to distribute recordings to all due to organisational permissions set up on Microsoft Teams. Microsoft Teams is very similar in functionality compared to Adobe Connect however is does give web camera access to all participants which Adobe Connect does not.

Below is an example of my one of tutorials using Adobe Connect showing each section as described above;

