



Teaching Spaces: Challenges & Aspirations

Exploring physical, technological, and cultural barriers in current teaching environments. Visions for flexible, inspiring, and reliable learning spaces.



by adam banks

Restrictive Layouts & Furniture

Fixed Rows

Victorian-style, limits collaboration

Inflexible Tables

Heavy, hard to move, hinders activities

Limited Group Work

Pairs only, complex discussions difficult

Poor Environmental Controls



Lighting Issues

Harsh, non-dimmable, lack of natural light



Temperature Problems

Too hot or cold, poor airflow, sealed windows



Noise Distractions

Thin walls, sound leaks, adjacent studios



Technology Reliability & Usability



Unreliable AV

Projectors, screens, sound fail often



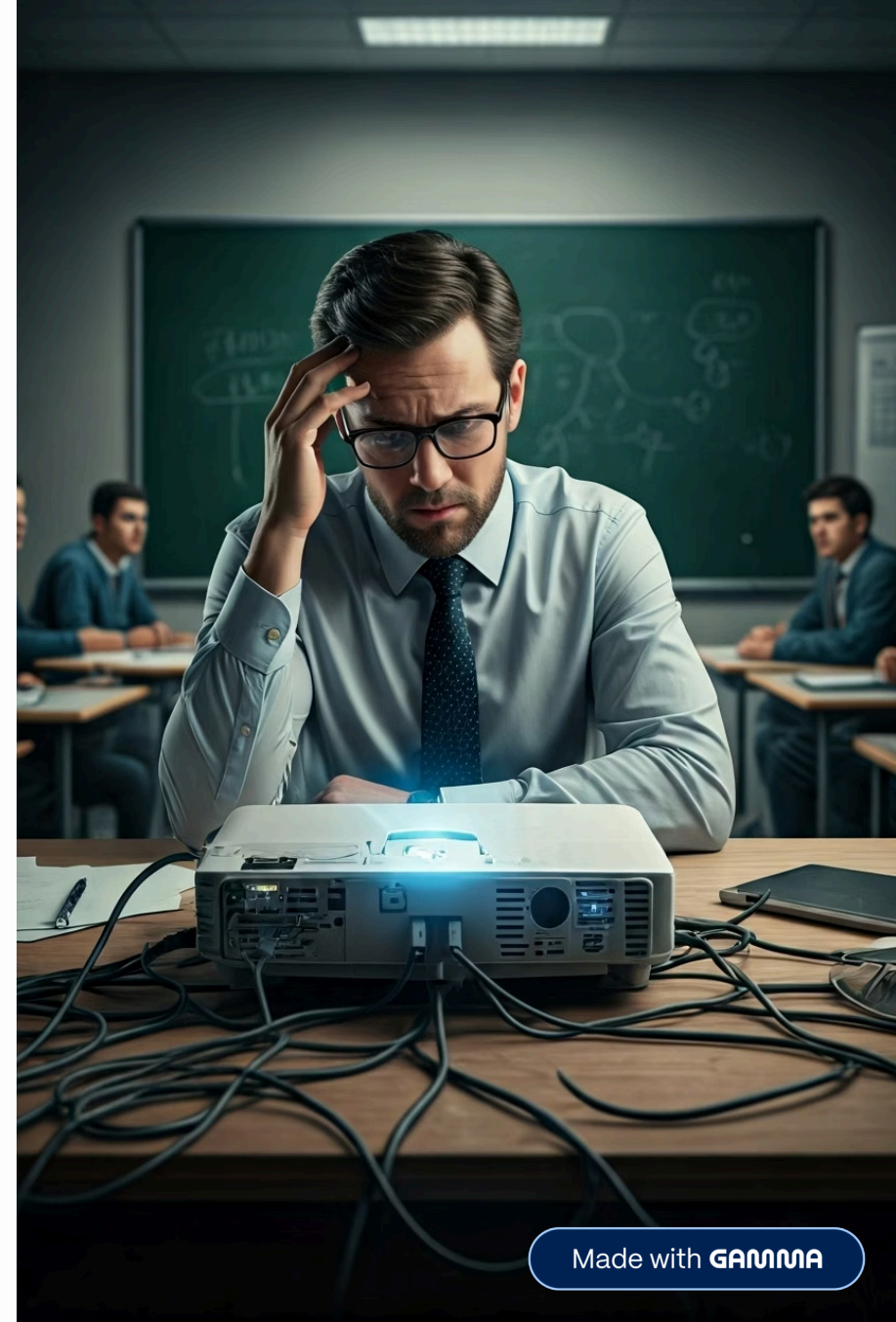
Wi-Fi Issues

Frequent disconnects, disrupts online tools



Compatibility

Adapters, ports, file sharing clunky



Impact on Teaching & Learning

Limited Pedagogy

Restricts activities, demos, presentations

Student Disengagement

Uncomfortable, distracted, less focus

Increased Workload

Early setup, troubleshooting, extra prep

Group Work Barriers

Hard to organise, space too tight





Support & Maintenance Experiences

1

Improved AV Support

Faster, more responsive than before

2

Delayed Maintenance

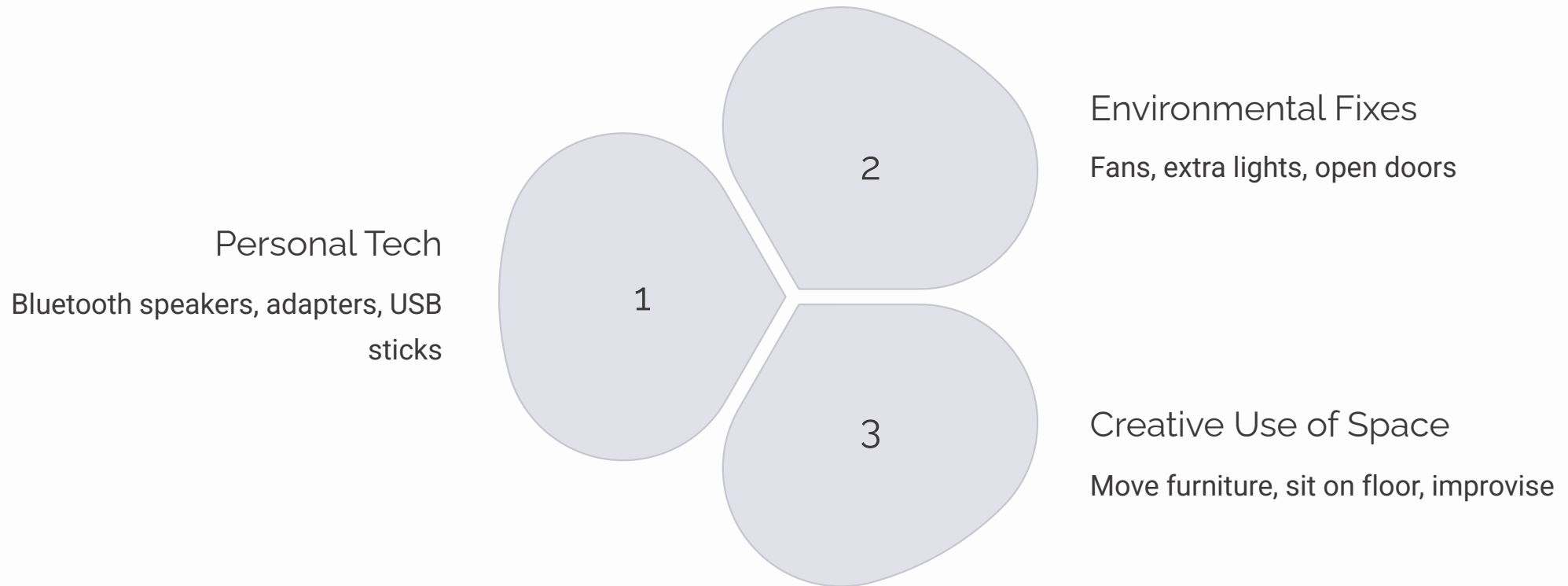
Slow bulb & blind repairs, persistent faults

3

Unpredictable Equipment

Teachers expect things to be broken

Workarounds & Adaptations





Aspirations for Ideal Spaces

1

Flexible Layouts

Movable furniture, divisible rooms, group-friendly

2

Comfort & Control

Dimmable lights, fresh air, soundproofing

3

Integrated Tech

Reliable AV, good wifi, easy connectivity

4

Creative Community

Display work, welcoming, inspiring



Dedicated vs. Shared Spaces

Dedicated Rooms

Community, ownership, self-directed study



Shared Spaces

Booking issues, inconsistent setups, less care

Balance Needed

Flexibility with sense of belonging

Specific Technologies: Moodle & Lecture Capture

Moodle

Reliable, functional, but basic interface

Requires training

Lecture Capture

Lacking, hard to use, not accessible

Improvement Needed

Intuitive, accessible, seamless recording