



How is technology being utilised in Australia?

ONLINE COLLABORATION

Both teachers and students can utilise online collaboration tools for the sharing of resources, submitting classwork, group work and discussion. Within the NSW Department of Education portal all students and teachers have access to Microsoft 365 and The Google Suite (incorporating Google Drive, Google Docs, and Google Classroom). Sites like Edmodo and Moodle also support the creation of online collaborative classrooms. Teachers within teams and faculties can share documents and programs. Students can contribute to group assignments, comment and ask questions of each other and their teacher. Teachers across sites can collaborate to deliver initiatives and connect with others.

ONLINE SHARING

Schools across Australia are utilising a range of sharing opportunities to showcase to local and global communities. From the use of Blogger, Yammer, Edublogs, Weebly and Wikispaces to create websites and

blogs to the use of Padlets, Prezi, Google Slides and Scrib to share online presentations; schools and students are embracing ways to create content and share it with the world. Many high schools in Australia now feature community radio initiatives and social media accounts (eg: Twitter, Facebook) so communities can access live updates on what is occurring in our schools. Accessing virtual excursions and webinars is increasing. This is through the use of DART <http://dartconnections.org.au/> and via Skype and Adobe Connect and means students and teachers can interact with other teachers, students, classrooms, experts and learning sites online.

COMMUNITY AND STEM INITIATIVES

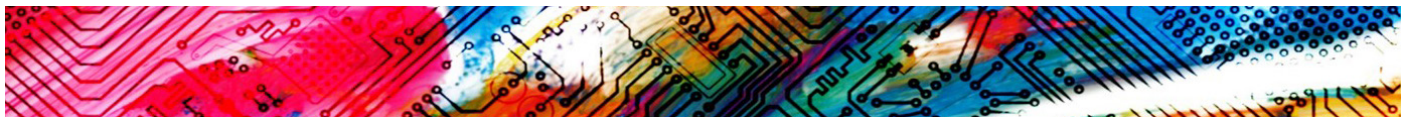
The use of drones (UAVs - unmanned aerial vehicles) in regional and remote areas is becoming more popular. A remote indigenous community in Queensland is using drones to assist with the care and maintenance of an area of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. High schools in the Riverland region of South Australia offer drone courses for

students interested in aviation and cinematography. Drone technology is also being used in regional and remote areas to assist firefighting agencies, detect and manage pests and count native species. Distance education and School of the Air services are continuing to improve with the integration of satellite hubs, online presentations and improved radio technologies. Robotics initiatives are being used to revolutionise farming and agriculture, with many organisations incorporating young people in the design and implementation of new technologies. These can include a focus on engineering, solar energy, GPS and app development. High schools across a range of communities in Australia are utilising the skills and services of local businesses to support their implementation of STEM initiatives and projects. By blending Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, students, teachers and local businesses are creating machines, tools, special sites and sustainable practices that have a real-life context and the potential to benefit schools and the local public.

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LIST OF REFERENCES & RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS:

These resources cover a number of sites that can assist teachers with learning new skills and understanding Digital Literacy. Some of the sites listed below will also give teachers resources and ideas for teaching cyber safety and digital citizenship. There are some important sites for teacher planning, such as curriculum statements and virtual excursions.

1. "Future of Young People"- recent paper on Digital Literacy
<https://www.fya.org.au/2017/06/29/digital-literacy-important-future-work/>
2. Technologies in the Australian Curriculum
<https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/technologies/>
3. Australian Computer Society
<https://www.acs.org.au/insightsandpublications/media-releases/nsw-schools-report-shines-spotlight-on-ict-education.html>
4. Closing the digital literacy gap in kids
<http://media.uow.edu.au/releases/UOW199613.html>
5. Parent Tech
<http://parentech.com.au/>
6. DART – Distance and Rural Technologies site who provide virtual excursions for schools
<http://dartconnections.org.au/>
7. Article titled: "The future of work, setting kids up for success" (Regional Australia institute)
http://www.regionalaustralia.org.au/home/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/The-Future-of-Work_report.pdf
8. 20 things educators need to know about digital literacy skills and the 8 essentials of digital literacies
<http://www.opencolleges.edu.au/informed/features/digital-literacy-skills/>
9. Free digital training for teachers on a range of skills
<http://csermoocs.adelaide.edu.au/>
10. Australian computing academy – free digital technologies challenges for years 5 to 8.
<https://aca.edu.au/>
11. Ideas for teaching with digital technologies
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/support/Pages/elearningcurriculum.aspx>
12. Resources for teaching students digital citizenship
<http://www.edudemic.com/digital-citizenship/>
13. Multimedia and lesson plan resources for primary and secondary school educators
<https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/classroom-resources>

List of References & Resources for Students:

Visit these sites to see what other schools are doing to prepare and set up students for BYOD programs. See samples of student agreements and acceptable usage guidelines. Many schools have their own blog or wiki for students and families about technology and devices. You will find some links below

1. Samples of Consent and Acceptable Use Agreement statements
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/lolconsent.aspx>
2. Essential information for students, parents and teachers about digital citizenship
<http://www.digitalcitizenship.nsw.edu.au/>
3. Jamison High School BYOD site with links to their student agreement statement
<http://jamisonhsbyod.weebly.com/for-parents.html>
4. Ulladulla High School BYOD Information with links to their student agreement statement
<http://www.ulladulla-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/our-technology/bring-your-own-device-byod>
5. Smiths Hills High School BYOD website for students and parents
<http://smithshill-hschool.wixsite.com/byod>
6. Warilla High School's weebly site on Bring Your Own Device
<http://warillahighbyod.weebly.com/>

