



# LATEST NEWS

## On RSS Technology in Education Project

2 November 2017

### WHAT?

Rainworth State School is planning our approach to meet the upcoming 2020 Australian National Curriculum requirements. Initial discussions and consultation started in June 2017, and the current parent consultation project began in September 2017, related specifically to the changes required in the use of technology as a learning tool in the classroom. The goal of the project is to determine how the school ensures opportunities for our students to best achieve the learning outcomes required from the 2020 national curriculum; and that our children are equipped with the ICT resources they need, when and where they need them in secure environments. A core feature is involving parents and carers in helping to shape the school's approach.

### WHY?

As a State School, Rainworth must align to the National Curriculum, which includes digital-based capabilities. Although our children already use ICTs to enhance learning outcomes, the 2020 National Curriculum requires additional integration of technology across all subject areas and identifies digital skills students are expected to achieve at every year level.

This means that the school will need to:

- Determine how to incorporate the new educational requirements into our curriculum while ensuring that our students develop and maintain quality-learning outcomes across all of the traditional skills, in classrooms that provide rich social environments;
- Consider the range of technology options to ensure our students have the ability to:
  - Gain critical knowledge, skills and attitudes that will carry them through their lives as digital citizens; and
  - Demonstrate learning outcomes with AND without using digital technology

### SO FAR

- Parent and teacher consultation workshops have been held to consider the points above.
- Values, concerns, and planning priorities were identified.
- A report was created that summarises the outcomes of the workshops and was published on the school website.
- To read the report, go to: <https://rainworthss.eq.edu.au>
- An audit of the school's current ICT use is starting this month
- Parent information and consultation sessions will continue

### WHAT'S NEXT?

#### Visioning Workshop & Curriculum overview

- **Wednesday 8 November at 6 30pm – 9 00pm in the Hall.**
- This evening includes developing a vision and set of principles to guide the use of ICTs in our school; and
- A presentation from the Principal on the curriculum; digital learning outcomes across subject and year levels; and how ICTs are used to achieve learning outcomes.

#### RSVP for the Vision Workshop

Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HJ7D3TS>

# Update

## Technology in Education Project

2 November 2017

### Summary of parent and staff consultation workshops

*A full copy of the workshop report (including data from the workshops) is available on the school website <https://rainworthss.eq.edu.au>*

### What parents and staff value in the education of children at RSS.

Parents and staff value the same things when it comes to education at Rainworth State School.

- Explicit teaching (engaging and motivating students by actively involving them in their own learning, setting goals and high expectations, celebrating success and using the I do, we do, you do method).
- High achievement in “the basics” of literacy, numeracy, handwriting, spelling, grammar and mental arithmetic.
- A classroom environment that enhances social interaction, communication, working together, confidence, questioning and social norms.
- Encouraging creativity, critical thinking and problem solving.
- Ensuring our children’s mental and physical health at school.
- Active, engaged, focussed and hands-on learning that develops passionate, inquisitive life-long

learners.

- Teaching strategies that address the needs of the “whole child” and manage the needs of individual children through differentiation.
- Good teaching is paramount. Technology may enhance this but is not a substitute for it.

### What are the next steps?

Workshop participants identified steps that that will help to make an informed decision about the way technology are used in our school. They ranked these in order of priority as follows.

1. **Understand ICT infrastructure, capacity and support.**  
We need to understand our current school technology infrastructure, capacity and support, and our future needs.

2. **Staff professional development and input** into the planning and delivery of curriculum using ICT as an educational tool.

We need to ensure that our **teaching staff have the appropriate skills and knowledge** to use ICT as an educational tool and that their skills and knowledge are continually enhanced (for example, through knowledge sharing between teachers and schools).

3. **Communicate what is happening with technology in classrooms – now and in the future**

Parents want to understand how technology is currently being used in the classroom, why changes are being proposed to the way technology will be used in the future and what those changes will mean for our children.

Richenda Wagener will provide an overview of the curriculum requirements at the Visioning

Workshop on 8 November. Written information on the curriculum will be made available on the school website.

Another way of achieving this is through **parent information sessions** on topics such as teachers and students delivering a “classroom experience” for parents; hearing from other schools re their experiences; year level curriculum meetings; safeguarding children’s physical and emotional health and wellbeing;

**4. Curriculum and “the basics”**

We must maintain high achievement in the “basics” – literacy, numeracy, spelling, grammar and handwriting. We need to use tools that enhance high achievement in the “basics”, rather than detracting from it; and maintain our focus on explicit teaching.

**5. Change Management**

We need a change management strategy to support the introduction of new technology. This includes a comprehensive plan, clear guidelines, documented processes and a policy for the review and measurement of outcomes (i.e. what is working / not working)

**6. Development of options for ICTs in classrooms**

We should develop options for the use of ICT in our classrooms and consult with parents and staff about those options.

A range of ICT options will be developed that address the learning outcomes required throughout the curriculum. Parents will have an opportunity to review these and provide feedback. This will commence in the new year.

**Developing a Vision for technology in education at our school; and a set of**

## **Principles to guide classroom use.**

On **Wednesday 8 November at 6 30pm – 9 00pm**, parents and staff are invited to help to develop a vision and set of principles to guide the use of ICTs in education at Rainworth.

A draft has been developed using the feedback from the workshops. This will be used as a starting point for discussions on 8 November. The draft can be viewed on the school website.

Additionally, this evening will include a presentation on the use of ICTs in the curriculum and the required learning outcomes.

RSVP at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HJ7D3TS>

## **REQUEST**

All relevant documents from the Technology in Education project will be made available through the school web site.

To save the forests, we would prefer to email you to let you know when new information is available and keep you updated.

The school website home page has a heading “*Technology in Education Project*”. This will link you to the project documents, updates and curriculum information as they become available.