

**STAND
OUT**

SEPLA-CON 19

Monday 22nd July – Rosehill Racecourse
Tuesday 23rd July – Rydges Parramatta



Differentiated teaching & learning through immersive virtual reality to increase student engagement and understanding.

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Biography:

Tara Dang, Victoria Phan, Kim Van and Aaron Beman make up the technology team at George Bass School. Between the team they manage the technical and support component to maintain the school's upkeep of hardware and software. They are innovative teachers who always adapt new ways of teaching into their classrooms with the use of the latest technology. Together they are always assessing and trialling ways in which to incorporate technology into teaching and learning to improve engagement and delivery. This time they dreamt big and initiated a project which would be the very first ever in Australia, they call it 'The Immersion Room'.

In the era of digital devices, we have an opportunity to enable better learning with technology. Virtual Reality (VR) seems to be the natural next step for the evolution of education.

VR can be used in classrooms to enhance student learning and engagement. It can transform the way educational content is delivered as it works on the premise of creating a virtual world — real or imagined.

As teachers we are always looking for ultimate engagement, our Immersion Room has enabled a multi-modal way of learning, motivating all learners to fully understand the world around them. This new resource offers teachers an innovative way of delivering content which requires less cognitive load for the students to process the information.

In this presentation the team will share the school's journey into building the very first 'Immersion Room' ever built in Australia, a 360° virtual reality classroom at George Bass School.

The following areas will be covered:

- The current research on immersive classrooms, and the properties that make VR so powerful for education
- The journey of how 'The Immersion Room' became what it is today - including how the idea came about, the proposal, the fundraising, the community events, the building works involved, the installation, the hurdles faced, the official launch and the professional development of school staff
- The catalogue of content library
- The online booking system that we use - Calendly App
- Programs outlining the links to KLAs and the content specifically programmed for students with special needs
- How we are providing opportunities for external groups to book the room and experience the immersive classroom.

Teachers, picture this! Your students entering in a world where everything is accessible and anything is possible, take them to a place that they have only ever imagined.