WORKSHOP OVERVIEWS

Concurrent Session: 1.1A
Workshop Title: Te Ara Whakapuāwai – The pathway to flourishing.   A conceptual approach to educating for wellbeing.
Presenter Name/s: Kirsten Anderson

We know our teachers are busy, so we set out to make planning and educating for wellbeing easier – by providing learning modules full of activities that can be engaged with face-to-face or online, guided by teachers or accessed independently by kids.

We now have a bespoke whole school wellbeing course, structured around the ten key concepts of Identity, Diversity, Citizenship, Guardianship, Leadership, Connection, Wellbeing, Flourishing, Relationships and Care.

It's a win-win solution which ensures we have national consistency in our delivery of wellbeing education, and our learning community have the flexibility to utilise these learning activities in the way that works for them.

Concurrent Session: 1.2A
Workshop Title: Queensland's Largest Classroom
Presenter Name/s: Jenny Swadling and Venessa Moore

By working together in clever and creative ways, the Western Alliance (the three Western Queensland Schools of Distance Education - Mount Isa, Longreach and Charleville) provides its year 7- 10 students a quality teaching and learning program, offering students:

❖ more direct teaching of curriculum through increased on-air time
❖ individualised support and tutorials
❖ Home groups / Go2 groups (with a Go2 teacher)
❖ a variety of elective subjects including vocational training
❖ access to teachers with subject expertise and
❖ engagement with peers through on-air lessons, and face to face during field services.

Concurrent Session: 1.3A
Workshop Title: Linking to learn - using relational connection to drive educational outcomes in distance settings
Presenter Name/s: Michelle Henshaw and Vincent Paul

A highly interactive workshop to explore theories and methods of connection for improving school belonging and peer connectedness. Participants will be invited to reflect on their knowledge in this space, conduct some action research and explore how their existing school structures to answer the question, "Do my students feel connected?". Participants will also be involved in peer practice exchange with participants from other sites on what successes they have and opportunities for improvement.

Concurrent Session: 1.4A
Workshop Title: Launchpad for Digital Literacy: Building Skills for Online Learning
Presenter Name/s: Amy Rosato, Rosemary Leed, SIDE OTL Team

This interactive workshop will focus on the common barriers and challenges that distance education students face with digital literacy. The SIDE Online Teaching and Learning team have developed a digital literacy student induction course named Launchpad. Launchpad equips learners with the essential skills they will require to succeed in an online learning environment and is completed as part of the student induction process. In this workshop, participants will have the opportunity to share digital literacy challenges that are faced by their student cohorts and discuss the way in which the Launchpad course can be used to measure impact They will also reflect on the current induction practices that are in place in their schools and the ongoing support that is available to students.

Concurrent Session: 1.5A
Workshop Title: Getting Started with Canva for Education
Presenter Name/s: Megan Townes, Canva

Are you new to Canva for Education and eager to explore its possibilities in the classroom? Join us for a beginner-friendly workshop designed to kickstart your journey into the world of digital design!

In this introductory session, we'll cover the essential basics of Canva for Education, equipping you with the foundational skills to create visually engaging teaching materials with confidence. Whether you're a seasoned educator looking to refresh your toolkit or a newcomer seeking to enhance your classroom presentations, this workshop is perfect for you.

During the session, you'll learn how to:

- Navigate the Canva for Education platform efficiently
- Utilize basic design tools to craft professional-looking graphics
- Customize templates to suit your lesson plans and teaching style
- Incorporate images, text, and other elements to enhance your materials
- Save and share your creations seamlessly with your students and colleagues

By the end of the session, you'll have the knowledge and skills you need to start creating captivating visual content for your classroom. Join us and unlock the potential of Canva for Education to elevate your teaching experience!

Concurrent Session: 1.1B
Workshop Title: Cultivating Collaborative Curriculum Reform: Innovating for Inclusion and Inspiring Change in Distance Education
Presenter Name/s: Vickie Krikowa / Tiffeny Cox

Creating dynamic eLearning experiences relies on collaboration. Effective course design blends instructional designers' and subject matter experts' skills, innovative thinking, and a shared commitment to excellence. NSW Distance Education Schools use collaborative course development, where instructional designers, technical experts, teachers, and instructors work together to ensure high-quality courses. This presentation explores the principles of effective collaboration, active participation, and shared responsibility. Using a case study, we illustrate how institutions can improve their eLearning offerings through collaborative course development.

Concurrent Session: 1.2B
Workshop Title: Mission ~~Im~~possible – How a whole school approach to change has transformed KSA.
Presenter Name/s: Donna Bryant and Jessica Screaigh

Explore the transformation that KSA has undergone in the past year as we utilise staff expertise to facilitate differentiated learning using small groups for targeted teaching. Using the Early Years phonics groups and Middle Years online lessons as case studies, we will highlight the impact that differentiated learning is having on students' academic outcomes. We will also demonstrate how effective change management and getting staff onboard at the start, can lead to staff buy in.

Concurrent Session: 1.3B
Workshop Title: Adventures with micro:bits: hands on Digital Technologies and STEM projects
Presenter Name/s: Jacaleen Cruse

Engaging online students in Digital Technologies and STEM through coding projects. Explore how the Tasmanian eSchool is embracing mini computers known as micro:bits to support coding projects online and at face-to-face activity sessions. This is a hands-on introduction to micro:bits, however tasks can also be completed online. This session will give participants an opportunity to program a micro:bit V2. Participants are asked to bring a laptop that has a USB port, to allow them to complete the activities during this workshop. The individual micro:bits will be supplied for the session only and will be returned.

Concurrent Session: 1.4B
Workshop Title: Capture Student Learning with Canva for Education
Presenter Name/s: Megan Townes

Embark on an immersive learning experience in this hands-on workshop, where participants will delve deep into the intricate journey of a student's learning process. Attendees will explore every phase of the student learner journey, from inception to reflection. Here's what you can expect to gain:

- Goal Setting and Planning: Learn effective strategies for setting meaningful goals and crafting actionable plans to navigate through the learning journey.
- Capturing Learning: Discover techniques to capture and document your learning progress effectively, leveraging tools and methods tailored to individual learning styles.
- Showcasing Mastery: Explore methods to showcase and demonstrate mastery of learning outcomes, from creating compelling presentations to crafting portfolios that highlight achievements.
- Reflection in Canva: Dive into the world of reflection and self-assessment using Canva, a versatile design platform, to visually represent and analyse your learning journey.

In this session, participants will have hands-on playtime to apply newfound knowledge and skills. Whether curating a digital notebook or crafting an exemplar to demonstrate mastery, you'll have the opportunity to experiment and refine your approach.

Concurrent Session: 1.5B
Workshop Title: High Impact Engagement Strategies in the Online Context
Presenter Name/s: Carly McDermott and Peter Read

Join Peter Read and Carly McDermott, Engagement Leaders at Virtual School Victoria, to explore the High Impact Engagement Strategies (HIES) and how they can be implemented in the online context. The workshop will take a trauma informed approach to unpack the complexities of student engagement. Peter and Carly will demonstrate how they measure and monitor engagement using VSV's purpose built matrix.

Concurrent Session: 2.1A
Workshop Title: Self-regulation and learning: An exploration of trauma-informed practice in distance education.
Presenter Name/s: Penny Evans

How do we meet the social and emotional learning needs of students in distance education? This workshop will allow participants to explore the impact of trauma on the learning experience and identify practical strategies to support the development of student self-regulation to maximise learning outcomes. The positive impact of teacher and school-wide factors in mitigating the adverse effects of ACEs will also be discussed.

Concurrent Session: 2.2A
Workshop Title: AI Unleashed: Sparking Joy in the Classroom Revolution!
Presenter Name/s: Kelly McMeeken and Emma Kirk

Embrace the future of education with ' AI Unleashed: Sparking Joy in the Classroom Revolution!' This presentation delves into the heart of innovation, exploring the transformative power of Artificial Intelligence in revolutionising teaching and learning processes. Highlighting top AI tools like ChatGPT and School AI for teachers, and Quizalize for students, we illustrate practical examples of AI's capacity to reduce administrative burdens, fostering more inclusive, personalised learning experiences. Engage in hands-on activities to demystify AI usage in education, inspiring educators to harness these technologies. Discover how AI not only enhances educational outcomes but also embodies the spirit of inclusion and inspiration, paving the way for a more innovative, connected educational environment.

Concurrent Session: 2.3A
Workshop Title: Enhancing Responsive Teaching through Emotional and Academic Feedback Tools
Presenter Name/s: Liz Fairey

In this interactive workshop, we will explore the transformative power of small data for distance education. We will discuss various tools and strategies for gathering real-time data to tailor instruction to each learner's emotional and academic context. Through hands-on scenarios, participants will learn to interpret feedback, adapt teaching strategies in the moment, and create a dynamic classroom environment that tunes into the nuances of the student experience.

Concurrent Session: 2.4A
Workshop Title: Meeting the needs of students and the needs of a system
Presenter Name/s: Rachael Macfarlane, Raluca Gavriliu and Serena Davies

The School of Isolated and Distance Education's (SIDE) vision is to provide learning, opportunities for Western Australian students regardless of their circumstances through high quality, inclusive and culturally responsive programs. One such strategy implemented in 2024 is the establishment of a Regional Teaching Team (RTT).

SIDE's RTT is committed to working with local communities to gain a deep understanding of the contexts and deliver co-designed culturally responsive education. It is not an easy task, and it will take time to build relationships and trust with local communities in order to deliver such outcomes. This session will discuss how the RTT has developed a co-design teaching community that has the autonomy and resourcing to build on the knowledge, skills and prior experiences of students and its commitment to creating a pathway program that reflects community aspirations.

Concurrent Session: 2.5A
Workshop Title: Building Connection and Inclusion in Online Education: A Facilitated Discussion on Leveraging Technology in Distance Learning
Presenter Name/s: Narelle Carlon, Veronika Popp and Tracy Sterling

This facilitated discussion will bring together educators across various distance education contexts to share insights and experiences in using technology to create engaging and inclusive online classrooms. By exchanging ideas and best practices, we can enhance our teaching strategies and improve the online learning experience for our students. Participants will engage in a series of collegial discussions focused on the conference themes of inclusion, innovation and inspiration.

Concurrent Session: 3.1A
Workshop Title: Enrolment, Induction and Engagement
Presenter Name/s: Ryan Kearns and Jenny Brunskill

Sharing insights into enrolment processes including the induction program and supporting disengaged students in an online learning environment. Supporting students to embrace change in how they receive their education and helping them to build connections with learning, teachers and peers.

Concurrent Session: 3.2A
Workshop Title: Cultivating connection: Innovative pedagogy for student engagement
Presenter Name/s: Cara Karakasch & Emily Phimmachanh

In the dynamic landscape of distance education, cultivating student connections holds significant importance. This interactive workshop delves into pedagogical strategies and learning experiences that deepen engagement and foster student connection. Participants will gain practical strategies for lesson delivery, focusing on enabling student voice and an inclusive environment where every student feels valued and empowered.

Upon conclusion of the workshop, participants will have acquired a diverse array of innovative strategies to enhance connectivity and engagement within their distance education environments.

Concurrent Session: 3.3A
Workshop Title: Universal Design for Learning and Relational Pedagogy for Differentiation and Student Engagement
Presenter Name/s: Susan Monaghan

Establishing effective differentiation strategies for students with learning barriers during synchronous online lessons requires a comprehensive school-wide approach. This workshop will bring together Universal Design for Learning (UDL) strategies, relational pedagogy, and some suggestions and examples of leading your school through change. Discuss innovative, practical approaches to increase student engagement by encouraging a classroom environment where students will seek and accept feedback by knowing each student and promoting student agency and voice. Using the theory of Novak's "UDL Now!" and Gordon, Meyer, and Rose's "Universal Design for Learning", the group will scan and assess our ability to create differentiated, inclusive, and student-centred learning environments.

Concurrent Session: 3.4A
Workshop Title: Enhancing Student Support in Remote Learning: Implementing the TAL Model
Presenter Name/s: Laurence May and Ruby Easthope-Swan

This workshop aims to showcase the school's implementation of a comprehensive site-wide process to address the diverse needs of our student body. In this workshop, we'll emphasise the importance of identifying and integrating best practices specifically tailored for remote learning settings. Through the adoption of the Team Around the Learner (TAL) model, we've established an approach that enables stakeholders to raise concerns, which allows wellbeing leaders to promptly assess and address these concerns through early intervention and escalation protocols. By embracing the TAL process, we effectively respond to student disengagement, offer flexible learning pathways, connect them with allied health experts, and ensure stakeholders' voices are acknowledged and valued.

Concurrent Session: 3.5A
Workshop Title: Why it's worth reinventing the wheel: How to create impactful educational videos
Presenter Name/s: Rowan Richardson

Educational multimedia creation is one of the most resource-intensive endeavours a classroom teacher can embark on, however, quality educational videos in a distance learning context can have high impact on student learning. How can distance educators balance resources of time, effort, and professional development to maximise student learning in their online classrooms? This workshop will: outline the strengths and weaknesses of teacher creation of educational videos, summarise the most recent literature on effective educational video production, use a real-world case study for participant brainstorming, and provide participants guidance in planning their next educational video in their online class.

Concurrent Session: 3.6A
Workshop Title: Interactivity, Student Accountability and Evidence Gathering
Presenter Name/s: Denise Abordi-James

Unpacking two programs (NearPod and Wordwall) that give real-time insights into student understanding through interactive lessons and assessments. These programs allow teachers to keep their students on task and accountable during online lessons as well as acting as a tool to gather evidence of student progress and achievement.

This workshop will demonstrate how these two programs can be used independently or in conjunction to enhance your LMS with practical examples, focusing on interactive elements that promote student engagement and accountability.

Concurrent Session: 3.1B
Workshop Title: Te Aka Taumatua - indigenising learning online and at distance in Aotearoa
Presenter Name/s: Whaimutu Marino and Puti Gardiner

Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu has undergone transformational growth towards embracing change and building connections with Māori. Hear the journey undertaken by staff in this organisation as Māori ways of being, doing and knowing are embedded in all areas of delivery. Explore how an organisation shifted from simple acknowledgements and greetings to establishing provision for bilingual and immersion education. Come along and unpack through discussions the small nudges that made for the greatest impact.

Te Aka Taumatua means the main vine system - this system nurtures aspirations and innovations, and inspires future generations to step into their uniqueness.

Concurrent Session: 3.2B
Workshop Title: Implementing Quality Assessment Rounds
Presenter Name/s: Trish Thompson

Quality Assessment build on the Quality Teaching Model's three dimensions of evidence-informed good teaching and assessment practice: Intellectual quality, Quality learning environment, and Significance. Through the use of Quality Assessment, teachers are able to structure planning, reflection and analysis to build capacity in the development of quality assessment practices.

The session will provide participants an opportunity to participate in a sample Quality Assessment Round. Using the QA guide participants will examine how each element of the Model can be used to analyse an assessment task(s).

Concurrent Session: 3.3B
Workshop Title: Setting high expectations through School Core Values
Presenter Name/s: Naomi White and Jenny Donovan

Our student context has changed over the last few years; our students have become more disengaged and socially isolated. We noticed that our students needed some positive modelling in digital etiquette and online relationships. The Core Values course looks at Respect, Responsibility and Communication. This course is interactive and delivered alongside our Induction Course, during the students first week of enrolment. At the end of this course, students sign off on a Learning Contract which supports their commitment and connection to learning via Distance Education.

The delivery of these two courses underpins our school wellbeing strategies and focus.

Concurrent Session: 3.4B
Workshop Title: Korimako Online - Building connections through interest-based learning
Presenter Name/s: Kim Lester

We know a sense of belonging is key for students to flourish in a learning environment. For us to foster a community of learners who share, collaborate, and lead in a safe space, we have developed a course of interest-based online classes for our Year 0-10 students, combining synchronous and asynchronous learning.

Student 'voice' and 'choice' are key elements with these optional classes being crafted and adjusted in response to the interests of students. Content and delivery is differentiated to allow students of all ages and abilities to work together, strengthening their sense of connection and belonging.

Concurrent Session: 3.5B
Workshop Title: Building Better Readers: A Community-wide Approach to Enhancing Fluency for All
Presenter Name/s: Rebecca Morley, Navneet Kaur

Of the Big 6 of reading, fluency is among the most challenging to address online. Unlike face-to-face schools, where reading can be monitored daily, our setting offers limited time with young readers. To address this challenge, SOTA staff have worked with OAC's speech pathologist to design an innovative whole-school Daily Oral Reading Fluency (DORF) program for distance education.

In our workshop, participants will experience the DORF cycle, before learning about the development process and how we have used our context's structure and learning environment to engage and develop students and the school community's commitment to reading.

Concurrent Session: 3.6B
Workshop Title: Connect Week Unveiled: A Case Study from Virtual School Victoria
Presenter Name/s: Adrienne Warner and Carly McDermott

Join us for an inspiring journey into the innovative approach of Virtual School Victoria's 'Connect Week'—a unique initiative designed to foster happy, active, and healthy kids, connected schools, and provide catch-up, extension, and enrichment opportunities. Adrienne Warner and Carly McDermott (Leading Teachers of VSV's Middle School Year 7-10) will share their findings of what does (and doesn't) work when it comes to fostering relationships with students in the virtual classroom, using the implementation of 'Connect Weeks' as a case study.