INTEGRATING INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) ACROSS THE CURRICULUM IN MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

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BACKGROUND

In the past few decades, digital technology has spanned the globe especially in education. At this time, digital literacy is one of the 21st century skills which requires students to start learning ICT from an early stages. To develop these skills, integration of ICT with different curriculum areas is essential so that students can design, create, manage and evaluate sustainable and innovative digital solutions. In the Australian Curriculum, ICT is developed through investigating, creating and communicating with ICT.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- ☐ Integrating ICT in classroom can increase students level of engagement and enhance disciplinary learning.
- ☐ E-learning and quick search for the information inside the classroom can be done by many digital libraries.
- ☐ Can be time saving for teachers to collate results.
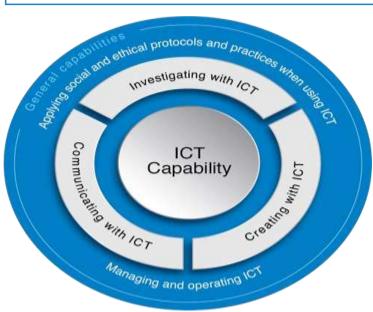- ☐ Develop students digital literacies and competencies.

Figure 1. ACARA, 2013

Figure 2. Joann, 2015

KEY IDEAS

- ▪ Provide increased opportunities for student engagement and motivation.
- ▪ Develop teachers skills in using a variety of different digital software to enhance learning.
- ▪ Develop a supportive and fun digital technologies learning environment.
- ▪ All students have access to technology.

ACTIONS

- o Developing teachers' own skills in using ICT confidently so that then can successfully implement it in their own classrooms.
- o Organize Computer Clubs (e.g. 4 hours weekly) for students and teachers to build basic competencies and accelerate skills. This will also support engagement and develop a fun learning culture and knowledge sharing.
- o Professional development in ICT skills in higher order thinking skills (HOTS) e.g. synthesizing, evaluating and analysing. (Edwards, 2016).
- o Apply for the Ministry of Education to supply updated devices for students and also explore policies and options for students to BYOD (Bring Your Own Device).

EXAMPLES

- ❖ Websites and apps to evaluate, test students online such as include Kahoot and Quizlet.
- ❖ Google Drive, Docs and other products help collaboration.

OUTCOMES

- ➤ Increase teacher knowledge skills and understanding of how to integrate ICT.
- ➤ Build students capacity to use ICT which can make them more productive and creative.
- ➤ Promote critical and creative thinking skills through the use of ICT.

KEY RESOURCES/REFERENCES

* K. Ratheeswari (2018). Information Communication Technology in Education.

* Joaan, V. (2015 Curricular Integration Of ICTs. TEACHING RESOURCES. Available at: https://joanhveraf.wordpress.com/2015/04/03/curricular-integration-of-icts/

* ACARA, 2013 Australian curriculum website https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/

* Edwards, L. (2016). EDUCATION, TECHNOLOGY AND HIGHER ORDER THINKING SKILLS. In: AARE Conference. Melbourne, p.1.