acara AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING AUTHORITY

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES IN FOCUS PROJECT PROPOSAL		
School name	St Mary's Primary School – Moruya	
School contact details	Queen Street, Moruya NSW 2537	
School team members	**Team member**	**Role**
	Principal Assistant Principal Teacher/Coordinator (Acting) Teacher/Welfare Officer	
School profile	Number of students Location Sector School type Year range Proportion of students who are Indigenous Proportion of students with disability Proportion of students who have EAL/D	**<600** Remote Catholic Co-educational F-6 13.8% 5.01% (only funded students indicated in this number) 1.15%
Year level(s) involved in project and reason for choice	K–6: A whole school approach to ensure upskilling of staff	
Number of students involved	Whole school	
Number of teachers involved	21	

INVESTIGATING AND DEFINING

Proposal details

What is your research question?

How can Digital Technologies and ICT capabilities be implemented across the whole school in an integrated manner to provide opportunities for authentic learning experiences that are student driven and celebrated/shared with real audiences?

What are your project aims?

Within a five-year timeframe we hope to:

1. seek out and facilitate professional development for staff in order to understand the digital curriculum and specifically understanding computational, systems and design thinking.
2. create opportunities for staff to unpack the syllabus document and develop a whole school scope and sequence for skills and knowledge.
3. provide ongoing opportunities for staff to learn practical skills in implementing digital technologies and ICT skills in the classroom.
4. offer opportunities for staff to explore the practical side of the Digital Technologies and ICT as it applies in the classroom across all KLAs through an integrated lens.
5. implement the above knowledge and skills into an integrated learning program in each classroom where students inquire into real-world problems or authentic learning experiences that are celebrated across the whole school; for example: http://incuriate.weebly.com/

How will your school investigate the research question? (Consider literature review, connecting with other schools, working with members of your school's professional learning ecosystem.

1. Current involvement with the HPC Project in conjunction with the Canberra Goulburn Diocese and Dr Jane Hunter during 2018. Trial in Year 6 classrooms.
2. Investment in resources for staff to 'tinker' with.
3. Connecting with local experts to support learning of staff and students.
4. Locating and attending professional development opportunities to support key learning of staff.
5. Time during staff meetings and development days to investigate the possibilities of plugged and unplugged learning as they apply to our school context.
6. Ask the students. Student voice is important.
7. Ask the parents. We are a learning community.
8. Ask the staff for continual feedback to ensure we can drive forward.

Please briefly describe your project. Include an explanation of how your project links to the Australian Curriculum: Digital Technologies and how it helps you achieve existing goals for your school. Include references to your school plan.

We are working on developing our capacity as teachers in understanding the curriculum and its specialised language in order to be able to create a whole school scope and sequence for Digital Technologies and ICT. From this we hope to improve the capacity and skills of staff which will increase their confidence in delivering authentic and student-centred lessons across KLAs which have Digital Technologies and ICT embedded into them. The big picture is to develop a whole school model/framework (e.g. inCURiATE) where all classes work on a project that has a point of connectivity to showcase to our community.

This helps our existing goal of embedding an inquiry pedagogical practice within our school across all KLAs. We also believe that this aligns with our wellbeing objective for our students, whereby we are preparing them to be responsible and capable citizens within modernity.

This links in with our school plan as it builds staff and student capacity in inquiry, whilst it relates to the Australian Curriculum as it seeks to expose students to skills and processes that will be required for a world that is becoming more digitised and automated. Through the exploration of real-life situations/problems/contexts we are considering the critical links between the wellbeing and sustainability of the economy and society. Our project seeks to develop inquiry learners who are able to solve problems, think creatively, interact and understand digital systems and develop solutions.

State your criteria for success.

When each teacher has created and delivered one term's worth of programming and teaching using an integrated inquiry learning approach with a view to use Digital Technologies & ICT in an authentic manner, culminating in a whole school celebration where students showcase their learning to the community.

GENERATING AND DESIGNING

How will your project be delivered? What actions are planned?

1. Professional development
2. Professional reading
3. Professional conversations
4. Learning opportunities ('tinker tables')
5. Staff meetings
6. Collaborating on the creation of the scope and sequence
7. Collaboration on the creation of a 'big picture' lens (e.g. inCURiATE: in = inquiry; CURATE = to put something together; i = i-learning)

Are you collecting data? How do you plan to do this?

1. Attitudinal surveys
2. Student data
3. Student work samples
4. Anecdotal notes

COLLABORATING AND MANAGING

Identify the resources you will need for the implementation of the project. (Include your key stakeholders / how ACARA can offer assistance / what will impact your capacity to deliver)

- access to professional development providers
- advice on best items to purchase to best meet a variety of learning needs
- access to program templates and scopes and sequences that may offer guidance

Identify the potential risks your project may face. (Include risks, such as lack of resources; lack of interest by teachers, students, community)

- lack of availability of professional development
- lack of staff interest
- lack of resources

Consider the deliverables and timelines for this project (progress reports, webinars, podcasts, final report). What are the milestones for your school's project?

Year 1 (Semester 2, 2018): seek out and facilitate professional development for staff in order to understand the Digital Technologies curriculum and specifically to understand computational, systems and design thinking. Continue with HPC action research to complement trial of inCURiATE.

Year 1 (Semester 2, 2018): create opportunities for staff to unpack the syllabus document and develop a whole school scope and sequence for skills and knowledge

Year 2 (year long): provide ongoing opportunities for staff to learn practical skills in implementing digital technologies and ICT skills in the classroom

Years 1 & 2 (year long): offer opportunities for staff to explore the practical side of the Digital Technologies and ICT as it applies in the classroom across all KLAs through an integrated lens

Years 3 & 4: implement the above knowledge and skills into integrated learning programs in each classroom where students inquire into real-world problems or authentic learning experiences that are celebrated across the whole school, e.g. http://incuriate.weebly.com/

Year 5: consolidation and continued embedded practice

PRODUCING AND IMPLEMENTING
Describe how Digital Technologies will be implemented in your school. Through an integrated approach across all classrooms and KLAs to ensure that students understand that digital literacies, technologies and ICT skills are applied across all domains.
EVALUATING
ACARA will be surveying teachers at the beginning and at the end of the project in terms of their ICT literacy and their confidence in teaching Digital Technologies knowledge, understanding and skills. **What additional evidence will you need to collect in relation to your school's specific action research question?** Student data (skills) Student data (attitudinal)

Thank you for your time and commitment to the Digital Technologies in focus project.