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Alcoa Champions of Digital Technologies

Program Overview

AIM: To increase teacher competence to meaningfully integrate digital learning across all subject areas

This long-term digital learning program is modelled on the highly successful Alcoa Champions of Maths program.

Teachers enrol in a full year of professional development designed to increase their competency to meaningfully integrate digital learning across all subject areas, enhance student learning opportunities, and support other teachers in the school to do the same.

Teachers who have participated in the short-term program, Alcoa Real World Digital Technologies (ARWDT), are likely to be interested in further developing their confidence and competence through the long-term program, however previous participation in ARWDT is not essential.

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The expected program outcomes are to:

o Increase teacher competence to meaningfully integrate digital learning and problem-solving across all subject areas.
o Allow teachers to gain experience with planning and assessing the integration of digital technologies into long term cross curricular classroom projects.
o Allow teachers to gain a greater understanding of the digital technologies curriculum and improve their capacity to deliver it through current pedagogical best practises.
o Support teachers to deliver an outward facing community element (after school event) led by the participating teachers, to expose parents and the community to digital technologies in the classroom.
o Upskill participating teachers to become leaders in digital integration in their school.

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With thanks to Alcoa, the key elements of the program are:

o After school launch workshop
o After school midway workshop
o 5 coaching rounds, each consisting of:
  o Pre-coaching digital consultation (online)
  o Observation and debrief (in-school)
o 5 after school workshops
o 2 digital workshops (online)
o Graduation event

Participating teachers are also expected to lead a staff PL and a community event for your school

How can 'Alcoa Champions of Digital Technologies' help?

With thanks to Alcoa, in addition, we can provide your school with:

Digital Technology resources:

- 20 x micro:bits per participating school

Relief payments:

- 2 teachers x ½ day of relief, for each of the 5 x in-school coaching rounds

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Term foci:

Term 1: Micro:bits and Problem-Solving Pedagogy
Focus: Develop competency of coding robotics and the use of micro:bits in challenges that meet the digital technologies curriculum goals.

Term 2: Integrating curriculum with the Design Process
Focus: Developing an understanding of the 'Digital Technologies Design Process' and how to plan and implement integrated short units with a confined scope of solutions that would run for a minimum of 2-4 weeks.

Term 3: Fully integrated, student driven digital technologies
Focus: Further develop skills in implementing the 'Design Process' in longer, more in depth integrated units with a widened scope of student autonomy that would run for a minimum of 4-8 weeks.

Term 4: The transition from participant teacher to mentor
Focus: Developing the skills needed to be a Digital Technologies and integrated curriculum 'mentor' and or leader in school. The goal being of beginning to take the school or a selected group of teachers and leadership in the school through the years learning and shaping the teaching practices of the school for the future.

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Thank you very much for your time!

Please email me if you need anything!

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