BROADBAND-ENABLED EDUCATION AND SKILLS SERVICES PROGRAMME

The Broadband-Enabled Education and Skills Services Programme is funding trials to show how students, teachers and parents can benefit from improved online access to education, training and skills services made possible by broadband communications technology.

The Australian Government is providing funding of $24.6 million (GST excl) to 13 projects that are trialling the delivery of innovative education and training practices.

Monash University

Project Title: Virtual School of Emerging Sciences

Project Description: The project is delivering virtual classes to lift student participation rates in science.

The projects will include interactive classes supported by videoconferencing and collaborative tools.

Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include:

- access to learning from the home for students and teachers;
- access to remote laboratory and research instruments;
- multi-point video-conferencing for up to 50 students connecting from individual sites with the teacher or research experts;
- peer-to-peer collaborative learning in a virtual class;
- multi-student and multi-teacher synchronous collaboration, including the sharing of digital media such as video, audio files, presentations and blogs; and
- access to digital resources including rich multimedia models and HD quality video.

Education Sector: Secondary Schools
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Sydney Opera House

**Project Title:** From Bennelong Point to the Nation

**Project Description:**

The project is delivering virtual classes to lift student participation rates in the arts and will advance required vocational education training foundations skills.

The project will include real-time interactive classes in drama, dance and music to students living in remote and regional areas across Australia. Students and teachers will have access to and learn from the nation’s major performing arts companies. The project will provide professional development for teachers in arts education and the use of connected classrooms technology for vocational learning outcomes.

Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include:

- access from the home to drama workshops Opera House tours and streamed performances being delivered by existing fibre;
- a live educator led interactive forum;
- interactive discussion with professional arts practitioners including live interactive drama workshop; and
- interactive teacher professional development on developing creative arts skills.

**Education Sector:** Primary, Secondary and Special Education, VET, Workplace Education
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**Australian Youth Orchestra**

**Project Title:** AYO Digital Connection Trial

**Project Description:** Australian Youth Orchestra using is delivering high quality video conferencing to provide real-time interactive musical talent identification programmes and music classes to students living in regional areas across Australia.

The project allows primary, secondary and tertiary level students to participate in real-time auditioning and interviews, have access to two way interactive workshops and rehearsals.

The project will also provide professional development for teachers in arts education and the use of connected classrooms technology for vocational learning outcomes.

**Education Sector:** Primary, Secondary, Higher Education, VET
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**Association of Independent Schools of New South Wales**

**Project Title:** Independent Schools in Australia – Transforming the Education Digital Supply Chain

**Project Description:** The project is enhancing students’ learning (including home tutoring) by providing access to interactive virtual classes and virtual tours. It will improve VET pathways and is particularly strong in its delivery of teacher professional development and teacher standards targeting ICT. The project aligns independent schools to the National Curricula.

Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include:

- on-line home tutoring service to assist students with homework in a virtual environment from the home;
- live streaming ‘virtual classrooms’ attended in real-time, including virtual tours of external organisations;
- access to real-time collaboration between schools, including in a virtual environment;
- video conferencing and web conferences; and
- online access to national curriculum-related materials and professional development content.

**Education Sector:** Secondary, Primary, Special Education
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University of New South Wales

Project Title: Education 2020: enabling learning in science, engineering and mathematics

Project Description: The project is providing school students with remote access to equipment for conducting experiments supplemented by telepresence video conferencing with practitioners in the fields of science, engineering and mathematics.

The project aims to lift student participation rates in science and mathematics, particularly through the school years and will support the National Curriculum for Science.

Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include:

- from a home or school location, real-time remote access to two earth-based Mars rovers;
- telepresence video conferencing with practitioners in the fields of science, engineering and mathematics; and
- interactive teacher professional development in the application of new technologies in education supported by a virtual space in which up to 30 participants in different locations can interact and collaborate.

Education Sector: Secondary Education and Adult/Community Education
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**Gordon Institute of TAFE**

**Project Title:** Remote delivery of school based traineeships to regional and rural students in Victoria

**Project Description:** The project is delivering virtual classes and high quality video conferencing to assist students in regional areas access media training. The project addresses Australian School Based Apprenticeships, improves VET pathways and supports the Melbourne Declaration of Education Goals for Younger Australians.

Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include:

- live interactive virtual class in Certificate III in Media for students in regional Victorian areas, including access from the home;
- a virtual environment where remote learners can join on-campus peers via a fully interactive video link; and
- real-time online assistance allowing trainers to individually demonstrate or assist remote learners.

**Education Sector:** TAFE and Secondary Education
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University of New South Wales

Project Title: The BEST Network – A Network for Biomedical Education, Skills and Training

Project Description: The project is delivering biomedical content and virtual classes to a broad cross-section of student and professional groups. The project targets quality in higher education in medical training and high priority areas of science education.

Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include:

- access to interactive online laboratory and clinic simulators, including from the home, where students can learn laboratory and patient handling techniques and make consequence-free technical mistakes and learn from them;
- an interactive hub which includes a national medical image bank;
- an interactive online dissecting simulator; and
- diagnostic case book to guide students and practitioners through realistic cases

Education Sector: Higher and Secondary Education, TAFE and Workplace Education
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**University of Wollongong**

**Project Title:** The University of Wollongong Graduate School of Medicine Telehealth Skills Training and Implementation Project

**Project Description:** The project is using existing university infrastructure to deliver telehealth skills training and virtual classes to graduate students training to become medical practitioners in regional, rural and remote Australia. The project targets quality in higher education in medical skills training for health professionals in regional areas.

Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include:

- virtual classes in mental health, aged care, dermatology and ultrasound telehealth consultations;
- use of real-time consultations in the areas of psychiatry, geriatrics and dermatology supported by high definition video conferencing and online collaboration tools;
- online tools to increase collaboration and communication between medical students and teachers; and
- training in the use of hand-held in-office ultrasound in the diagnosis of medical conditions and real-time transmission of images for telehealth consulting.

**Education Sector:** Higher Education
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Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE

Project Title: Diabetes Health and Wellness Programme

Project Description: The project is building an interactive multi-media learning platform and develop and trial professional development content for TAFE and University health care students on the self-care and management of diabetes. The project supports the scale up of the Townsville Diabetes Trial and Health Service Delivery Agreement by increasing the number of health care workers with skills in diabetes management. The project targets quality in training and skills development in the health sector.

- Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include virtual diabetes health management classes;
- full HD live and animated video, 3D and still imagery, text, graphics and recorded audio, and real-time online interaction between teachers and student; and
- online curriculum-related materials and professional development content.

Education Sector: VET and TAFE
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**TAFE NSW Hunter Institute Newcastle Campus**

**Project Title:** eLinks: enabling TAFE training

**Project Description:** The project is developing a virtual college to deliver training for residential aged care services, child care services, tourism and hospitality, and small business enterprises. The project targets quality in training and skills development in the health sector.

Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include:

- virtual classes in high definition able to be accessed from home;
- interactive visual communication and collaboration tools; and
- video conferencing and web conferences.

**Education Sector:** VET, TAFE, Workplace Education, Adult/Community Education
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**Bendigo Senior Secondary College**

**Project Title:** Victorian Virtual Learning Network

**Project Description:** The project is assisting senior secondary students in regional and metropolitan areas, as well as students with hearing issues access courses otherwise unavailable to them such as languages, commerce, mathematics and science, through high quality, interactive digital content.

Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include:

- self-paced interactive online learning, supported by an online teacher, in secondary school curriculum subjects not available in their local area;
- online tools for collaborative between students and between teachers.

**Education Sector:** Secondary Education
BROADBAND-ENABLED EDUCATION AND SKILLS SERVICES PROGRAMME

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University of New England

Project Title: Asia ConneXions utilising HD videoconferencing

Project Description: The project is delivering high definition video conferencing between students participating in Asian languages and studies in Australian schools and students in Asian countries. Through the project, students in regional and rural areas will be able to interact and undertake cultural exchanges with overseas students in real time. The project supports the scale up opportunities for EduONE and contributes to the Australian Government’s policy on National Asian Languages Education.

Some of the innovative concepts to be trialled include:

- real-time visual communication and collaboration on school projects supported by high definition video conferencing; and
- access to educational resources by students from the home.

Education Sector: Primary and Secondary Education
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University of South Australia

Project Title: Digital Enterprise: Pathways to Education and Employment for Young People with Disabilities

Project Description: The project will provide a nationally coordinated suite of collaborative, technology-based skills activities for young people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) complex communication needs, acquired brain injuries or mobility impairments. The project will create high-tech spaces in four locations, within which a number of distinct, but mutually reinforcing sets of collaborative technology-based activities will operate.

The project will provide access to:

- 11-14 year olds to on-line activities to support their transition from primary school to secondary school;
- 15 year olds and older to on-line activities to support their transition from secondary school to post school;
- parents and carers of the young people with face to face and on-line support networks;
- virtual 3D environments, on-line lessons, media creation/distribution; and
- Peer to peer collaborative learning within and between groups.

Education Sector: Primary, Secondary and Special Education and VET