Equity and Excellence in action

Digital innovation in teaching and learning

DELIVERING FOR QUEENSLAND

Queensland Government

Contact us

T: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

W: www.qed.qld.gov.au

P: PO Box 15033, City East, Queensland 4002

Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Education acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands, seas, skies and waterways from across Queensland.

We pay our respect to the Elders, past, present and emerging, for they hold the memories, traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across the state.

For more information, see our commitment statement.

Contents

*Embracing opportunities
to prepare every student to
realise their potential in the
digitally-enabled world*

Digital innovation in teaching and learning

We are committed to equity and excellence in everything we do. This means every student in every classroom and every school is connected to boundless learning opportunities no matter where they live in Queensland.

Informed by research and targeted consultation, *Equity and Excellence in action: digital innovation in teaching and learning* is our plan to embed future focused learning practices that safely connect students and teachers across Queensland to each other and the world.

This plan outlines how we are preparing every student, teacher and school for a digitally-enabled future by putting in place the essential foundations of connectivity and access. Our aim is empowering a capable and confident workforce and creating safe, ethical and responsible digital learning opportunities for all students.

We have all seen first-hand over the last few years that technology gives us the ability to adapt and meet challenges presented by our modern world. However we know that technology can also help us to harness opportunities.

We are investing in the future of young Queenslanders by improving access to digital infrastructure, connectivity and devices, so that every student can safely experience the educational benefits, regardless of location or background.

We are committed to providing our teaching staff and educational leaders with access to the contemporary digital tools and capability development that will support them to deliver whole-school approaches to teaching and learning, preparing every student for a successful future.

We will expand virtual learning opportunities so that students can access a more diverse range of curriculum. We are committed to focusing on the wellbeing and safety of every student as they engage in the digital world. We will support parents to become digital learning partners, providing them with the knowledge and skills they need to guide their child safely through these opportunities.

We want our students, teachers, schools and school communities to be digitally connected, digitally capable and digitally learning. Together we will continue to leverage the opportunities that technologies provide, to prepare all Queensland young people for a bright future.

Our Digital innovation in teaching and learning plan supports our vision of equity and excellence through a focus on:

Educational achievement

Wellbeing and engagement

Culture and inclusion

Our context

The pace of change

The pace of technological change and innovation is faster than ever. The learning needs and expectations of the 'digital generation' are different.

Technology is transforming teaching, learning and work. It presents opportunities to explore innovation, as we prepare every child and student for the future.

Digital agency

Digital competency, knowledge and skills are essential for how we learn, teach and work. For every student, being digitally competent includes being safe, ethical and responsible as they critically engage with technology.

Embedding digital competency into daily teaching and learning requires us to build the capability and confidence of our students, teachers and parents.

Equity of access

Access to technology should not be a barrier for students accessing the best education and participating in a digitally-enabled world.

Responding to the needs of our dispersed and diverse communities requires readily available access to digital learning, preparing students for a culturally diverse and digitally-enabled world.

Digital leadership

Equity and excellence can be achieved when the system and schools leverage innovative technologies. This relies on having thoughtful leadership and digital accountability practices.

Leadership and governance help create the conditions to guide teachers, students and school communities through change.

Technology is changing our world

Responding to disruption

The ability to leverage innovative digital tools, resources and environments to respond and adapt to change, better enables education systems to engage the digital generation and innovate teaching and learning.

Disruption presents us with unique conditions to create rapid, impactful change.

Our opportunities

Skills of the future

Education systems must prepare every student for life beyond school and the jobs of the future.

Core to the work of schools is developing creative and critical thinkers who are invested in their learning, can embrace change, work collaboratively to solve problems, and use tools, resources and environments safely, ethically and responsibly to create solutions and further their learning.

Re-imagining learning

Digital innovation in teaching and learning goes beyond the school gates. It opens doors for students across the state to access learning wherever they are, whenever they need.

We can give schools the flexibility to access world class teaching expertise to engage their students.

We are re-imagining our future

An innovative culture

Our workforce will be competent in using existing and emerging digital tools, resources and environments to allow new ways of teaching, learning and interacting.

We are re-imagining how we support our people to streamline processes and personalise learning experiences through broader emerging technologies.

Evidence-informed

Building the platforms to deliver data and insights to schools will change how we understand our impact and influence everyday teaching and learning, and change outcomes.

Collaboration and connectedness

Technology gives us new opportunities to collaborate and connect within and across schools, government, community, and families to design and deliver what works best for Queensland. Our collaboration partners are not limited by location, opening our school students up to the world.

Digital learning, transforming how we live, learn and work
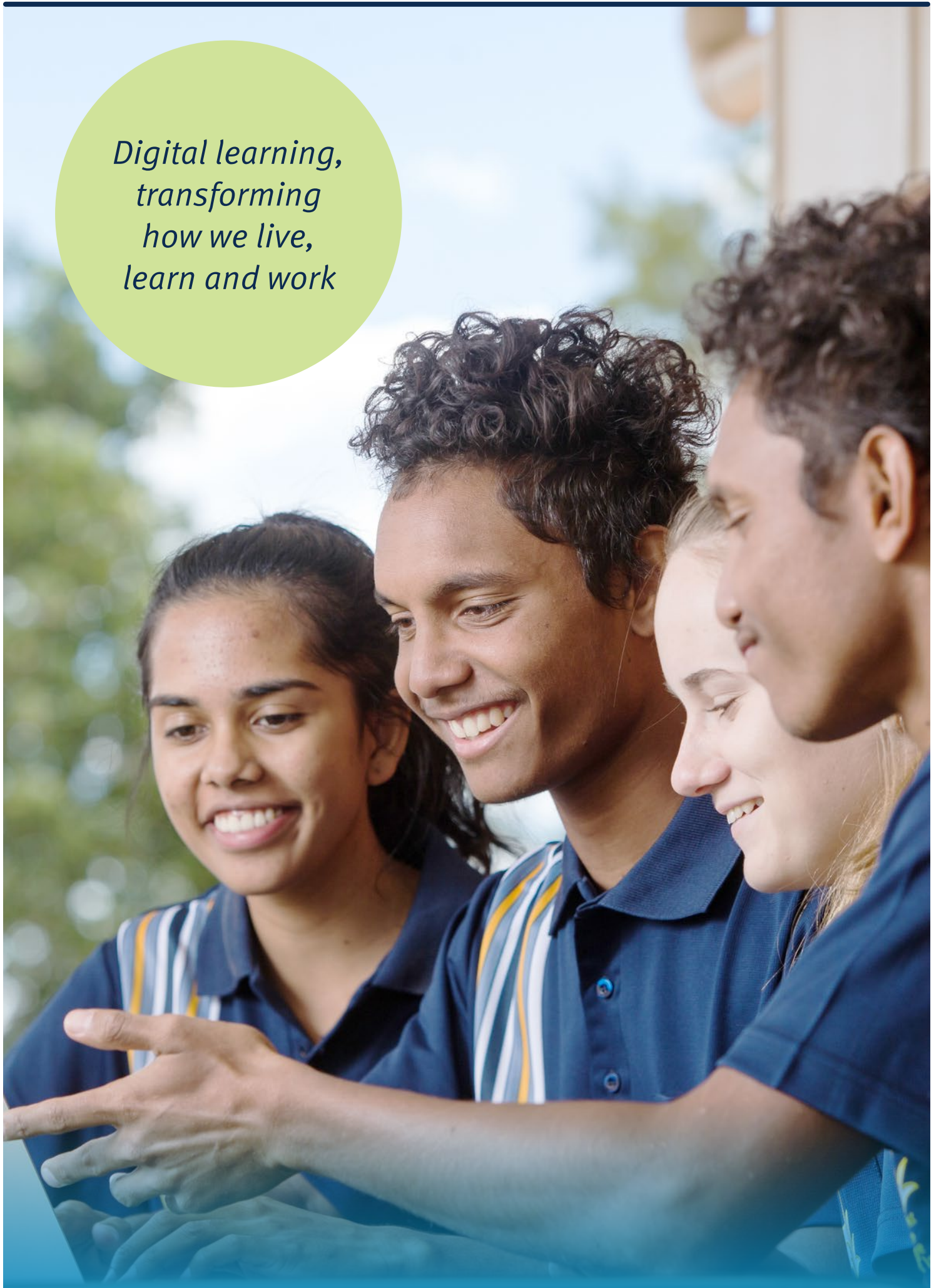
Our approach

Our schools are all unique and at different stages of their digital teaching and learning journey. A strategic, holistic approach empowers schools to work with parents and their school community to design their pathway towards greater digital learning.

Developing a whole-school approach to digital learning, connecting physical digital infrastructure with teaching and learning needs, provides a planned pathway to embedding digital tools, resources and environments to support and enhance teaching and learning practice. It provides the foundation for students to build the necessary knowledge and skills they need.

A whole-school approach to embracing digital learning

Strategic planning using data insights

Leadership and governance

Digital infrastructure

Community engagement

Platforms, services, tools, resources and environments

Teaching and learning

Curriculum

Digital competency

Parents, families and broader school communities are key partners in each school's digital learning journey.

Parents and families are their child's first teachers. Digitally competent and confident parents can support children as they embrace digital learning, helping them establish healthy habits and ensure they remain safe.

In developing their whole-school approach to digital learning, we recognise that all schools must collaborate with parents and the school community to establish a shared understanding of how embedding technology will benefit their children and enhance their learning experiences. Our parents and school communities must be ready, informed and equipped to support their children to embrace digital learning safely at a pace which aligns with their expectations and the local school context.

Our priorities

Digitally *connected*

Setting critical foundations through digital connectivity and access to devices for students.

Digitally *capable*

Empowering a digitally capable and confident workforce.

Digitally *learning*

Preparing every student for success in a digitally-enabled world by creating engaging, safe, ethical and responsible digital learning opportunities.

Imagine a future...

Every classroom and every school has the connectivity, tools and devices needed to create opportunities for every student no matter where they are. Investment in the technology that keeps us digitally connected is an investment in the future of every child and student.

where technology *connects* every student to unlimited learning possibilities
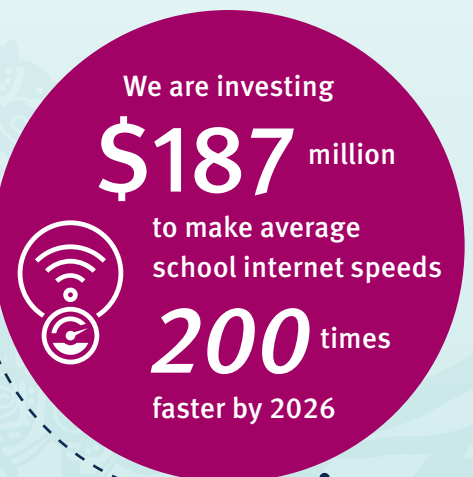
Digitally *connected*

Digital connection and access to tools, resources and environments is the critical first step for all schools and students to be successful in our digitally connected world.

Our schools need accessible, high-speed, reliable internet connectivity that supports them to explore the opportunities technology brings to teaching and learning. We want all schools to have opportunities to continually improve their approach.

Sustainable technology infrastructure and sound accountability provide the scaffolding for meaningful digital connection, teaching and learning. This supports our schools to effectively maintain and lift performance, share best practice, build on strengths and innovate.

Schools support their students to access suitable devices and internet services for their learning at school and at home. Schools, in partnership with their school communities, develop local solutions to meet the technology needs of their students.

To ensure equity of access we will invest in and prioritise solutions for our schools and students with the most need.

We are investing
$187 million
to make average school internet speeds
200 times
faster by 2026

Our priority actions

Our priority actions to ensure every student and every school is **digitally** *connected.*

Improving connectivity through bandwidth upgrades

We have already started improving the digital foundations for all schools by delivering a bandwidth enhancement program to improve connectivity across the state.

Average internet speeds are already 40 times faster than in 2022 and will be 200 times faster by the end of 2026. As a result of these upgrades, schools in even the most remote parts of Queensland will have access to quality, high-speed connectivity, and the learning opportunities it brings.

Connecting students to digital learning opportunities

To lift equity across our state schools, every student will have access to the technology and devices needed to support their learning at school and at home.

Schools will be empowered to work with their communities to identify how best to achieve this at their school.

Planning for digital maturity

We will provide tools and guidance to support schools on their digital learning journey. This will help schools better understand their digital profile so they can effectively plan a pathway for improving the digital maturity of their school as part of their strategic planning.

Imagine a future...

Schools and teachers are digitally capable to use innovation in digital tools, resources and environments to go well beyond the constructs of the traditional classroom.

Digitally capable teachers are using technology to connect with specialist expertise and changing their practice through readily accessible data, evidence and insights. Teachers are redesigning learning relationships and taking classrooms to new horizons.

where teachers are *capable* of using technology to personalise how, when and where they work and teach

Digitally *capable*

Empowering teachers to use tools, resources and environments to engage with students to meet their learning needs.

Our state school teachers' confidence and capabilities are instrumental in developing students' knowledge and skills, providing engaging and empowering learning experiences.

Teachers are already using technology in their classrooms. As new technology continues to emerge and evolve, teachers will need to consider the social and emotional aspects of learning virtually. They will need knowledge and skills to actively facilitate meaningful learning in a digitally-enabled world.

To support teachers and schools to create engaging, seamless learning experiences and future-focused teaching and learning practices, we will strengthen our efforts to build digital capability.

Re-imagining our learning through virtual teaching, supports schools to meet specialist teaching needs and retain expert teachers.

Digital capability extends to effectively harnessing the power that quality information and data insights bring. Readily accessible, high-quality evidence and insights foster collaboration and continual improvement. We know that data must be available at the school and classroom level to improve teachers' understanding of learners' needs and inform evidence-based responses.

We will also strengthen our guidance and support for teachers and schools, so they are able to safely, ethically and responsibly use emerging technologies as part of designing meaningful teaching and learning experiences.

We are embracing innovation in teaching and learning to prepare young people for a culturally diverse and digitally-enabled world

Our priority actions

Our priority actions to support every educator to be **digitally** *capable.*

Enhancing the capability and confidence of teachers

We recognise contemporary educational leadership and teaching expertise requires a shared understanding and use of digital tools, resources and environments to deliver high-quality teaching and learning. As part of our new approach to educational leadership and teaching expertise, digital teaching will be central to flagship programs offered by the Education Futures Institute.

The digital learning model will underpin digital teaching, supported by an updated K–12 Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework. A digital competency guide and self-assessment tool will be developed to support teachers to confidently embed and use digital tools, resources and environments throughout their teaching, encourage skill development and foster ongoing learning.

Implementing strategies to respond to advances in technology

Advances in technology are transforming teaching and learning in schools, offering opportunities for teachers to personalise learning and develop rich experiences.

We will explore new technologies as they emerge to support teachers and schools in harnessing the benefits and managing concerns.

We will develop guidance for Queensland schools in the use of emerging technologies.

Streamlining access to data insights and evidence

Our capacity to meet the unique learning needs of students and drive the improvement journey of each school is strengthened through evidence-based responses.

Evidence-informed responses are dependent on quality information, accessible through integrated data platforms. Harnessing the power of business intelligence will enable schools to see patterns, trends and impacts on outcomes.

We will mature our platforms to deliver systems, solutions and processes that connect information sets and provide readily accessible data insights for schools.

Imagine a future...

How we learn, work and communicate continues to evolve. Digital tools, resources and environments connect students and teachers with a global ecosystem. Students are supported to engage in personalised learning in a safe, ethical and responsible way.

*where digital technology unlocks the **learning** potential of every student*

Digitally *learning*

Making the most of opportunities digital learning brings to expand the horizons for all students.

Digital tools, resources and environments offer new ways of meaningful engagement, communication and collaboration between schools, teachers and students. They create opportunities and access to learning and specialist expertise.

The changing nature of our world means we must provide more individualised approaches to learning. Schools are tailoring teaching and learning by working with each student to plan and safely and positively use age-appropriate learning to chart a path to a successful future.

Digital learning makes it easier for students to connect to more diverse curriculum and expertise and provides opportunities for greater choice. It encourages students to build a sense of digital agency, giving them the capacity to safely, ethically and responsibly manage their own learning.

We expect every school to consider how best to use digital tools, resources and environments to safely and securely meet the learning needs of their students and to foster digital agency.

Lifting learning outcomes for every Queensland state school student, no matter their background, where they live, or their learning needs, requires collaboration with parents, teaching teams, schools and the state schooling system.

We are expanding access to statewide virtual learning opportunities with expert teachers

Our priority actions

Our priority actions to empower students through **digitally** *learning.*

Promoting digital wellbeing and safety

We are committed to focusing on the wellbeing and safety of every child and young person as they engage in the digital world.

We will support students to develop the age-appropriate skills to engage safely and positively with technologies to get the most from their experiences throughout the curriculum. This will be supported by contemporary resources, teacher professional development and expert advice.

Keeping students safe and well as they engage online is a shared responsibility. Schools will work together with families and school communities to enable supportive online experiences.

Building digital agency

By effectively incorporating digital tools, resources and environments across all learning areas, we will provide students with the opportunity to develop competency skills necessary to appropriately select and use devices or systems, and learn to make the most of the technologies available to them.

With the right knowledge and skills, greater choice and investment in their learning, students will grow their digital agency and ability for lifelong learning.

Maturing a virtual academy to enhance access

Virtual learning opportunities and experiences will drive personalisation of learning as they become accessible to every student in every school.

Through virtual teaching and learning, schools are better placed to provide diverse curriculum choices and increase access to subject expertise, particularly for those in regional Queensland.

A virtual academy, accessible to all Queensland state schools, supports greater curriculum choice and delivery options, enhancement and enrichment, enabling wider access to teacher expertise. Delivery is offered in high demand subjects, commencing with mathematics, science, technology and languages.

We are also working with the Schools of Distance Education to further define their role and function to ensure they deliver focused support for students who need it, particularly geographically isolated students, students with medical needs and students from itinerate families.

Supporting parents to become digital learning partners

Parents and families play a crucial role in supporting their child to become digitally competent and have a sense of digital agency.

We will work with parents to make sure they have the knowledge and skills to guide their child through safe digital learning experiences and develop healthy and safe digital behaviours and decisions.

Find out more

Equity and Excellence: realising the potential of every student

Queensland Virtual Academy (DoE employees only)

Digital Services Plan 2024–2028

Online safety in Queensland state schools

Pathways to a successful future (DoE employees only)

Schools of the future: STEM Strategy