

## **ICT Innovation Fund Project: Leading ICT in Learning**

### **Focus (What is this project?)**

The project will help principals lead their school communities in understanding the role and potential of information and communication technologies to extend and transform the school learning environment. Through a single sign-on portal they will be supported with expert advice and practical tools, as well as mentoring, facilitated networking and collegial learning that will enable principals and other school leaders to develop their own skills in: planning new learning environments; understanding the appropriate integration of ICT into learning; and developing high level management and communication processes.

### **Funding**

This project is funded under the *Digital Strategy for Teachers and School Leaders*, a national approach which helps teachers and school leaders to embrace information and communication technology (ICT) and encourages them to creatively and effectively integrate new technology into the classroom.

This project will receive funding of \$2.1 million (excl. GST).

To ensure projects funded under the *Digital Strategy* deliver quality outcomes and value for money the Government will make payments in instalments and on condition that rigorous key performance indicators are met. All projects will be overseen by a reference group of respected experts with experience delivering quality ICT education projects.

### **Who is involved in this project?**

The project will be led by Principals Australia, the national representative body for primary and secondary government, catholic and Independent principals' associations.

Other consortium members involved in delivering the project are: Education Services Australia, the Australian Primary Principals Association, the Association of Heads of Independent Schools in Australia, Catholic Principals Australia and the Australian Secondary Principals Association.

### **Impact (What will this project achieve?)**

- Principals at all 9,500 schools across Australia will be provided with more effective resources, networking and advice to help them lead whole of school transformation in the use of technology in learning and teaching.
- The project will provide a single sign-on Toolkit that can be customised by individual users. The range of online tools will allow principals to:
  - create an online professional profile and connect with other principals;
  - blog or run a web discussion or news forum about their work and professional learning;
  - create a shared web publishing space or wiki shared document with multiple authors and contributors;
  - create searchable databases of team resources and lesson or workflow sequences;
  - communicate with other members via instant messaging or video conferencing.
- The project will establish a sustainable national infrastructure to support networks of principals and aspiring school leaders to develop professionally through:
  - *Leaders in ICT Network* – an open community supported by a facilitator with access to the latest thinkers and practitioners in education and business from around the world.
  - *Leading Online* – an on-line mentoring service to enable new and aspirant leaders to access advice and support from experienced principals.
  - *Collaborative Networks for Professional Growth* – a series of online networks that principals can join to discuss key national policy initiatives such as: Governance and autonomy; Use of data and reporting; ICT strategic planning; Remote schools; Special education; Indigenous education