

Provision of Year 7 and 8 Technology Greater Christchurch

'The Draft Plan'

October 2014

This paper contains details of the 'draft plan' for the provision of year 7 and 8 technology in greater Christchurch (Christchurch, Selwyn and Waimakariri). The Ministry of Education is seeking comments from the sector on this draft plan. **Comments are due at the Christchurch office of the Ministry of Education no later than 5pm, Friday 7 November.**



Introduction

The engagement the Ministry of Education has undertaken with the sector during 2013 and 2014 identified a variety of aspects that the sector has suggested could be improved. Some of these related to how year 7 and 8 technology education is provided while other comments related to the delivery of the curriculum. The latest round of engagement through workshops has confirmed relatively the same issues as the engagement in 2013. The October 2014 Report to the Sector on the provision of year 7 and 8 technology provision summarises the issues identified in the workshops. These are:

- Specialist staff (including the need for professional development and learning in the technology curriculum);
- Specialist facilities and equipment;
- Choice and competition;
- Integrated curriculum
- Better use of student time;
- Equity – in resourcing, teaching and facilities;
- Collaborations – between clusters and between schools;
- Connection to community; and
- Wider range of technologies.

The draft plan, as set out below, is intended to address these issues and provide more equitable, less competitive and more collaborative approaches to year 7 and 8 technology education. If implemented, it also has the potential to provide an enhanced teaching force delivering technology education in specialist facilities where connections are made to students' local context and learning and a wider range of technologies and curriculum areas are offered.

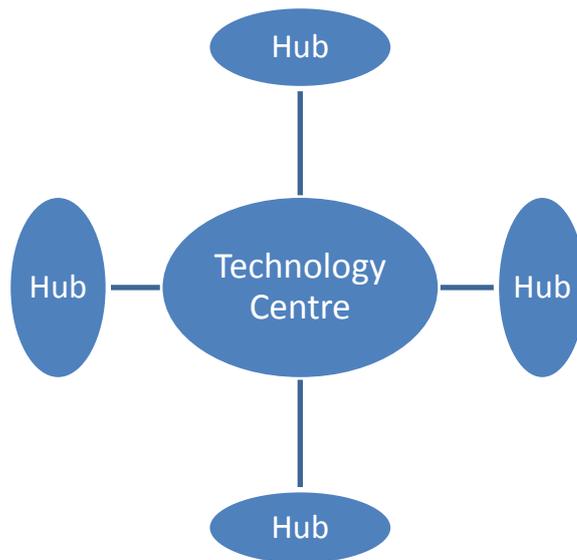
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Establish, by 2017, one technology centre provider with several hubs located strategically over greater Christchurch (Christchurch, Selwyn and Waimakariri). This facility would also offer outreach options supported by mobile units (staff and plant).

or

- Establish one technology centre provider for Christchurch with several hubs,
- Establish one technology centre provider for Selwyn with several hubs,
- Establish one technology centre provider for Waimakariri with several hubs.

These facilities would also offer outreach options and mobile units (staff and plant) as above.



The technology centre and client schools will negotiate how, where and when technology education for year 7 & 8 students will occur, that best meets the learning needs of students and their home schools. This could include outreach and/or mobile options.

Schools with year 7 and 8 students would retain the right to choose to deliver the curriculum for their year 7 and 8 students at their home schools, **or** contract with the technology provider.

Explanatory Notes

Technology Centre and hubs

In this draft plan, 'Technology Centre' means a large, well resourced space where a range of specialist equipment is provided for students from client schools. Students would go to the centre for teaching with specialist teachers as agreed between the technology Centre and the client school. It is possible that the Technology Centre could provide a wider range of technologies and equipment than currently on offer. There are centres like this elsewhere, for example Timaru and Ashburton.

The Technology Centre could be responsible for managing resources, employment of staff, making agreements with client schools, provision of professional learning and development in the technology curriculum and other day to day issues.

'Hubs' means smaller technology spaces and provision where client schools could access year 7 and 8 technology without travelling to the technology centre. Mobile and outreach provision could add to the range of technologies delivered at hubs. Hubs could be established at existing providers or elsewhere.

Outreach and mobile options

Outreach options would be provided by the Technology Centre and could include a specialist technology teacher travelling to a 'hub' to deliver aspects of the technology curriculum in the

students' home school. The teacher could take a mobile unit which contains some specialist equipment which is not available at the 'hub'.

The technology centre(s) could be governed and managed independently from existing schools, or be attached to one specific school. As staff would be under one employer, this could facilitate movement of staff between centres and hubs enabling wider access to specialist technology staff, equity of delivery to all schools, sharing of staff professional development, and the introduction of wider technology opportunities (including aspects of the Health and PE curriculum currently taught at technology centres). It is possible that the technology centre could also provide professional learning and development in technology for Year 0 – 6 teachers, and be involved in professional placements for teacher trainees.

Schools who choose to offer technology for year 7 and 8 students in their home schools

Schools who decide to deliver the curriculum at their own schools will be able to negotiate workshop time with the technology provider. They could also choose to partner with the Technology Centre for the delivery of the curriculum with aspects of it taught at the students' home school by the class teacher and other aspects taught by specialist staff at the centre.

Actions proposed to bring this draft plan to reality

Action 1

The Ministry of Education will establish a sector working group to investigate and decide upon the shape and status of a single provider (including governance and management) or the establishment of providers in Christchurch, Waimakariri and Selwyn districts, the placement of hubs, resourcing issues, the possibilities of mobile or outreach options, the shape of agreements between the provider and client schools and any other matters that are deemed necessary to address.

Comments received from the sector will be considered by the working group.

Action 2

The Ministry will engage with NZPPTA and NZEI. It should be noted that it is not intended that this draft plan would result in reduced full time equivalent technology teaching positions.

Action 3

The Ministry of Education will investigate resourcing options for those schools which choose to offer year 7 and 8 technology at their home schools.

Action 4

The Ministry of Education will work with the sector working group, client schools and the provider to ensure any agreements meet the learning needs of the student and the home school, as well as ensuring the continuing viability of the provider.