






The 2017 **Better Education Conference** is spread over two days and features five streams, each focusing on a different area of learning. Delegates are welcome to attend workshops from many different streams, but be sure to register quickly as places in some workshops are limited.

Sessions

STREAMS [Christian Education](#) [Change and Innovation](#) [Inclusive Education](#) [Subject Specialists](#) [Subject Specialists](#)
[Early Learning](#)

Day 1 **Day 2**
 THU, 01 JUN 2017 FRI, 02 JUN 2017

| TIME | SESSION | DURATION |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 7:30 AM | Registration | 30 mins |
| 8:30 AM | Praise & Worship | 20 mins |
| 9:00 AM | Acknowledgement of Country / Welcome | 30 mins |
| 9:30 AM | <p>Opening Keynote - What Does Change Look Like? </p> <p>Change. It gets talked about all the time. So much so that a lot of school teams seem to have a case of change fatigue. In this session Aaron and Dave, drawing on their own inspiring stories of leading change in challenging education settings, will teach the audience what change looks like, tools to identify the problems that really need solving and then give the inspiration and ideas that they need to create the change that is needed.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">  <p>Dave Faulkner As one of Australia's most awarded educators, Dave has vast experience leading change at... More</p> </div> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">  <p>Aaron Tait Aaron is the co-founder and Director of Innovation of Education Changemakers, and brings the... More</p> </div> </div> | 1 hour |
| 10:30 AM | Morning Tea | 30 mins |
| 11:00 AM | <p>Workshop: The Development of Speech and Language </p> <p>In recent years, I have had the pleasure of numerous opportunities to work alongside teachers in a variety of school contexts. I have a great respect for the role that teachers play in child development and have spent extended time collaborating with teachers to assess, develop and delivering education plans.</p> <p>I see the role of speech pathologists and teachers as closely aligned. Working closely with teachers has led to rich mutual exchange of information and, through answering questions asked by teachers, I have gained insight into the areas related to speech and language development where teachers are hungry to know more.</p> <p>The session will cover the core fundamentals that every teacher should know with regards to the development of speech and language. This will include speech sound development and the difference between 'normal' and delayed development, the building blocks of language (expression and comprehension) with guidelines given for identifying 'red flags' in development, as well as practical strategies for the classroom for aiding children with their speech and language development.</p> <p>The session would ideally suit those working with children aged between 3 - 10 years old (Kindy - Year 3).</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">  <p>Sarah Pillar Sarah Pillar holds a Bachelor of Speech Pathology with first class honours and since... More</p> </div> </div> | 1.5 hours |
| | <p>Workshop: Engaging the Disengaged</p> <p>Most classrooms have both highly engaged students, as well as some who are more easily distracted and less likely to respond well to the carefully thought out strategies and efforts of a teacher. This workshop provides an injection of ideas and support for teachers and Education who are eager to find ways to engage this second type of students.</p> | 1.5 hours |

Following a stock take of all the ways that participants are currently trying to engage students, participants then move into case studies of education changemakers around the world who are working with young people in powerful and compelling ways. Equipped with these insights and with the support of facilitators and their peers, participants begin to ideate new approaches and build practical strategies to trial in their unique education settings.



Dave Faulkner

As one of Australia's most awarded educators, Dave has vast experience leading change at...
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Aaron Tait

Aaron is the co-founder and Director of Innovation of Education Changemakers, and brings the...
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Workshop: Classroom Critical Thinking, Hospitality and Spaces for Learning

1.5 hours

What do critical thinking, a biblical understanding of hospitality, and creation of 'spaces' for learning have in common? And what are they to do with transformational Christian teaching and learning? This workshop engages with such questions and invites you, as a Primary or Secondary teacher, to investigate hospitable teaching ideas for your classroom. Teaching hospitably allows for a particular kind of learning space that intellectually, emotionally and spiritually nurtures students. Shaw (2002, p.19) observes that 'Through...an hospitable context for education, [Christian] believing teachers are able to reflect God's own character and hence work out a truly Christian approach to teaching and learning.'

Shaw, P. (2002). Education as Hospitality: A Christian approach to teaching and learning. Theological Review, XXIII (2), 95-124.



Tracey Price

Tracey Price loved her many years of teaching in Independent Secondary Schools and considers...
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Workshop: Programming and Assessment in English P-10

1.5 hours

This modified workshop will take participants through a backward design planning process that begins with goal setting utilising the achievement standards. The planning will include incorporating assessment as well as literacy practices throughout the unit of work. This process enables teachers to collect useful data about progress and achievement as well as ensuring students can access the curriculum with appropriate literacy support. The context will be English and literacy but the workshop outcome of improved programming skills will be applicable to any learning area planning.



Di Edwards

Diane Edwards joined AISWA in 2007 after teaching for 20 years in secondary schools as an...
More



Chris Witt

Christopher Witt joined AISWA in 2009. After teaching for 25 years, Chris worked in various...
More

Workshop: Taking Action - Students as Global Citizens

1.5 hours

Human rights and social justice are the key themes explored in this workshop, as we examine several examples of integrated units, as told by the teachers and students who participated in this action learning project. History, Geography, English and Civics Education links drove each inquiry, as the students, from Year 5 to Year 9, argued an evidenced-based perspective on a global issue. This workshop will outline how to successfully implement Project-Based Learning (PBL) to enable your students to demonstrate their Critical thinking, Literacy, Ethical and Intercultural Understanding through an authentic task, by exploring the AISWA online resource, Taking Action: students as global citizens.

It is recommended that participants bring a laptop or iPad for this session, but not essential.



Maree Whiteley

Maree Whiteley has been a Humanities consultant with the Association of Independent Schools of...
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Workshop: From Frustrating to Flourishing - Supporting Students with ADHD

1.5 hours

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a common condition affecting 5-7% of school-aged children. Whilst much information about ADHD centres on the core symptoms of Inattention, Hyperactivity and Impulsivity, it is also helpful to focus on the Executive Function (EF) impairments typical of the disorder. EF dysfunction has serious implications in the classroom for students with ADHD, as well as their teachers, who can find themselves frustrated by behaviours typical of these students. In addition, most students with ADHD will have at least one co-existing condition that further complicates their ability to learn. This workshop will:

1. Provide a summary of EF dysfunctions and their impact on students' learning.

2. Describe the everyday manifestations of ADHD:
 - a. Students with ADHD have chaotic minds – often associated with creativity and brainstorming, entrepreneurial risk-taking and innovation.
 - b. However, this creative chaos causes extreme challenges with time management, organisation, prioritisation and motivation.
 - c. This second level of performance - associated with unfinished projects, missed deadlines and social clumsiness undermines the success of students with ADHD.
3. Briefly describe co-existing conditions typically associated with ADHD, and their impact on learning.
4. Provide teachers with practical strategies for engaging students with ADHD and providing the scaffolding required for them to flourish at school.



Dr Michele Toner

Dr Michele Toner works in private practice as a specialist ADHD coach. Originally trained as a...
More

12:30 PM

Lunch

1 hour

1:30 PM

Workshop: Writing Effective IEP's

1.5 hours

Documented Plans are mentioned in federal legislation as important documents for schools to:
a) Demonstrate evidence of making adjustments, and
b) Effectively cater for students with disability.

Documented Plans are known by many titles including Individual Education Plans (IEP), Curriculum Adjustment Plans (CAP), Individual Behaviour Plans, Risk Management Plans, Student Health Care Plans, Individual Safety Plans and many more. This presentation will assist schools to better understand how to write effective individual goals for students and how to better manage the overall process of writing, implementing, monitoring and reporting Documented Plans for individual students with disability. It will also directly assist schools, teachers and school leaders to better meet their obligations under the Disability Standards for Education (2005).

This is not just for learning support staff, but for every classroom practitioner who wants to better support students with special learning needs.



Rebecca Delaney

Rebecca Delaney is an Inclusive Education Consultant for AISWA. Her expertise in Special and...
More

Workshop: Building An Epic Team Culture

1.5 hours

This session enables participants to focus on the most powerful strategies for engaging all people in their team, including a range of tools and tactics to engage difficult people. During this workshop we will dive into the tangible actions that can enable an epic team culture by building ownership, motivation and expertise. Participants will reflect on their role in creating a happy and productive culture in the classroom, staff room or office and walk away with tangible strategies they can implement straight away.



Dave Faulkner

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Aaron Tait

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Workshop: Teaching Justly for Student Wellbeing

1.5 hours

Christian philosopher, Nicholas Wolterstorff contends that education based on a Christian worldview requires teachers to teach justly for just learning outcomes. In a spiritual context, a conceptual understanding of justice reveals the character of God, the heart of God, and every aspect of good purpose in human relationships. Justice is a spiritual concern. In knowing God we understand that doing 'good' is a requirement of an authentic reflection of the nature of God, who is good. One outcome of doing 'good' is to assist one another to flourish (Price, 2016, p.138-139). This workshop invites teachers to delve into conceptual understandings of justice, and to plan for ways in which they may teach justly to enable their students to flourish.

Price, Tracey. 'Conceptual Understandings of Justice: Enhancing the Human Flourishing Work of Youth Work Practitioners.' In Phil Daughtry & Stuart Devenish (Eds.) (2016). Spirituality for Youth-Work: New vocabulary, Concepts and Practices. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. Ch. 8, pp. 137-167



Tracey Price

Tracey Price loved her many years of teaching in Independent Secondary Schools and considers...
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Workshop: Tackling Technology - What is there not to love?

1.5 hours

The two Technologies subjects – Digital and Design - give teachers a wonderful opportunity to develop and integrate problem-solving, critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and project management skills as well as ICT capabilities, literacy, numeracy ...and just about anything! What is there not to love about that? This session will

help you understand what is required for covering the WA curriculum content of the Technologies subjects and including their concepts in your daily teaching. You may be surprised to find that you already know a lot more about teaching Technologies than you might think!



Jan Clarke

Jan Clarke has been with AISWA since 2008. She has teaching experience in both primary and...
More

Workshop: STEM Ideas for 7-9

1.5 hours

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineers and Mathematics) has been defined as ‘a combination of the ability to produce scientific knowledge, supported by mathematical skill in order to design and build (engineer) technological and scientific products or services’ (Siekmann and Korbel, 2016). STEM is also thought of as a set of skills that are essential for working in an ever-changing technological culture. These include critical and creative thinking, problem solving, system analysis and evaluation, persistence and communication skills. This workshop will provide opportunities for teachers to explore STEM ideas that can be used in the classroom that will promote these skills as well as cover the curriculum. Be prepared to be active learners and to use your communication skills.

Siekmann, G & Korbel, P 2016, Defining ‘STEM’ skills: review and synthesis of the literature — support document 2, NCVET, Adelaide



Glenda Leslie

Glenda is the AISWA Curriculum Consultant for Science, assisting teachers implementing the...
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Workshop: Understanding literacy learning difficulties

1.5 hours

In this workshop Mandy will explore some of the common literacy learning difficulties to help us understand why some students constantly struggle. She will address the defining features of disorders like dyslexia and dysgraphia to help teachers and education assistants identify them in the classroom and then explore effective evidence-based remediation and accommodation strategies that can help classroom practitioners support student learning optimally.



Mandy Nayton

Mandy Nayton is the CEO of DSF Literacy and Clinical Services and President of AUSPELD (the...
More

3:00 PM

Reinventing Education: What Do Students Think? ^

45 mins

Education is designed for children, but too often they don’t have a real say in how we shape education. We often listen to students, but do we really hear them? We consult them, but do we empower them to reshape things? If students could reinvent education, what would they say? In this session we will get the opportunity to hear directly from primary and secondary aged students from a range of schools on how they would reimagine education and schooling. Are you ready to hear them?

3:45 PM

Afternoon Tea ^

30 mins

6:30 PM

Conference Dinner ^

5 hours

Practicing Public Christianity

When it comes to public Christianity, I suspect teachers have more experience than most (including myself!) of audiences that are hostile to the Christian faith—especially when it comes to students whose jeers and dismissals willfully disregard the rules of polite engagement. Even though the whole endeavour can, at times, feel futile and demoralising, I will explore several reasons why it’s worth persisting with public Christianity in the classroom - including: the increasingly religious profile of the world, the need to practice civil discourse in an uncivil public square, the endeavour to understand the religious other, and because nothing else can match Christianity’s portrait of the human as made in the image of God.

The Conference Dinner will be held at the White Barn Function Room at the Rose and Crown Hotel, 105 Swan Street, Guildford.



Dr Justine Toh

Justine Toh is Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Public Christianity. She worked at...
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| TIME | SESSION | DURATION |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 7:30 AM | Registration | 1 hour |
| 9:00 AM | Welcome | 30 mins |
| 9:30 AM | Opening Keynote - How Do I Make Change Happen? In education we all hear a great deal about WHAT needs to change and WHY. The Education Changemakers (EC) team focuses on the HOW to make change. We know that the best ideas to improve the education we are giving to our children almost always come from the people in our schools. Aaron and Dave will present practical concepts from their 2016 book 'Edupreneur', and the audience will walk away from this keynote with a smile, a set of powerful innovation tools, and real ideas that they can take back to their unique education contexts. | 1 hour |
| | Dave Faulkner As one of Australia's most awarded educators, Dave has vast experience leading change at... More | |
| | Aaron Tait Aaron is the co-founder and Director of Innovation of Education Changemakers, and brings the... More | |
| 10:30 AM | Morning Tea | 30 mins |
| 11:00 AM | Workshop: Design Thinking for Educators - Embedding Innovation (Part 1) In this session we introduce practical EC innovation and design thinking rules; low cost, highly effective tools built on sound principles that all audience participants can apply no matter their role or context. This session is fast paced, energetic and a huge amount of fun, and will see participants rapidly innovating solutions to challenges that are both distant to the current reality and relevant to current demands. | 1.5 hours |
| | Dave Faulkner As one of Australia's most awarded educators, Dave has vast experience leading change at... More | |
| | Aaron Tait Aaron is the co-founder and Director of Innovation of Education Changemakers, and brings the... More | |
| | Workshop: Christian understandings of entrenched ways of life We examine three hallmarks of life in the modern West and how they shape, for better or worse, the lives of us and our students - neoliberalism, an exclusively materialist worldview, and the sacred/secular divide - and think through how a Christian understanding of the world might reshape how we approach them. We adopt this approach because it models the sorts of questions and issues we need to think through when considering how to teach from a Christian worldview, and because it is broadly applicable despite the teacher's specific discipline. | 1.5 hours |
| | Dr Justine Toh Justine Toh is Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Public Christianity. She worked at... More | |

Workshop: Planning a unit of Work in the General English Course 1.5 hours
 This workshop will explore the syllabus requirements of the General English Course, how to plan for a unit of work and prepare for the EST. Participants are required to bring some examples of their programmes, assessment tasks and marking rubrics to share. Samples of work will be used to determine prospective grades.



Di Edwards

Diane Edwards joined AISWA in 2007 after teaching for 20 years in secondary schools as an...
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Workshop: Using Drama To Enhance Literacy 1.5 hours
 Drama is not only a subject, but can also be a powerful pedagogical tool to support student learning. There is a wealth of research, which shows the benefits of an arts rich schooling environment. This workshop will provide a brief overview of that research, before exploring a children's text using process drama strategies. Participants will experience the strategies as students; they will then have the opportunity to reflect on how they can take the strategies back to their own context.



Karen Le Raye

Karen LeRaye started her role at AISWA in 2016. She has taught Drama, Dance, and English at...
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Workshop: Setting up an engaging and intentional learning environment 1.5 hours
 The learning environment is critical to enabling inquiry learning in the Early Years. This workshop will be a practical session on how to set up rich and engaging learning environments indoors that include provocations for learning through investigation. Lots of photos and videos support this session that will also include how to intentionally plan for intentional play based learning.



Dr Shona Bass

Shona is the Managing Director of Early Life Foundations an organisation that provides...
 More

12:30 PM

Lunch ▲ 1 hour

1:30 PM

Workshop: Design Thinking for Educators - Innovation in Action (Part 2) ▲ 1.5 hours
 A reality for many educators is that while they would like to innovate, they feel busy and overwhelmed by existing change management challenges. The techniques we bring into this session give all participants the skills to quickly and cheaply action strategies in their everyday work. Participants will walk out having built their capacity to innovative, not only through an increased understanding and skills, but also with an idea that they can practically test it back in their schools the following week.



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Workshop: Challenging the doing / being link 1.5 hours
 'What do you do?' is often the first question we pose to someone after we are introduced—just one of the many ways we are habituated to link our value with our achievements and contribution. In a school environment awash with measuring performance, we need students to know that their real worth is immeasurable.... This seminar gets teachers to reflect on how their current practice might entrench this link between self-worth and achievement, how the gospel challenges such a link and how accordingly, we might reframe and revive our practice.



Dr Justine Toh

Justine Toh is Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Public Christianity. She worked at...
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Workshop: Quality Assessment in HPE 1.5 hours
 This session will outline core assessment principles and tools for teachers to support the development of quality assessment programs in HPE.



Kristine Stafford

Kris joined AISWA at the start of 2017 and is the Curriculum Consultant for Health and...
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Workshop: Numeracy and Mathematics 1.5 hours

Numeracy is being described as the single greatest skill for society in the 21st Century (i.e. the Century of Numeracy). Most people know that numeracy and mathematics are related, but very few can define it. Why is numeracy (and literacy) used to judge the standard and quality of student learning across Australia? Clearly it is important, but how can we attend to the numerate needs of our students if we don't know exactly what it is? Does being good at maths make you numerate? How can we best teach numeracy? Come along and find out exactly what it is and the role of teachers and schools in ensuring that every student is numerate on leaving schooling.



Dr Thelma Perso

Dr Thelma Perso is a national expert in Numeracy. She was a panel member (one of 5), which...
More

Workshop: Personalising Learning in Primary Education

1.5 hours

How can we personalise learning to ensure student engagement? This session is an introductory presentation of the key elements of Walker Learning in the middle/ upper primary years, including setting up the learning environment, planning and documentation, linking to curriculum areas and framework outcomes, class meetings, clinic groups, communication boards, education research projects and implementation strategies for teams and schools. This session also includes example video footage and photos of key elements of the pedagogy in Years 3-8 from classrooms across Australia.



Dr Shona Bass

Shona is the Managing Director of Early Life Foundations an organisation that provides...
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3:00 PM

Plenary and Closing Comments ^

45 mins

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