

## LEARNING TO BLOG OR BLOGGING TO LEARN?

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How can we empower gifted and talented students to form a personal value system that is reflective of the current issues in our society? How can we support them to express their beliefs and attitudes in a secure environment? How can we harness the intellectual ability of our gifted underachievers and find alternative avenues of presentation to those traditionally offered in our school system?

This workshop will explore practical strategies for incorporating cutting edge IT tools across the key components of the HSIE syllabus. With a major focus on using and creating [Blogs](#) and podcasts, a multi-aged, gifted group at Abbotsleigh has explored the concepts of democracy, sustainability and the influence of history on the future. The students involved worked in small groups and came from the two Challenge classes in Stage 3 - a Year 5 and a Year 6 class.

Our [Blog](#) site provided an ideal vehicle for this program and for other interschool and national programs that developed from it. This presentation will show you how to develop an on-line discussion forum that allows students to explore broad concepts, question their beliefs, form opinions and express their ideas to a broad audience using a multi-media approach.