

A study on the effectiveness of computerised training programs for teachers

Information for parents

What is this study about?	This study will investigate how teachers use computerised training to improve their teaching skills and if and how this training improves the way they teach in the classroom. It will also look at how this type of online teacher training impacts the experience of students.			
Who is conducting the study?	This study is being conducted by staff at the University of Wollongong. They are: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Dr Peter Johns School of Education 02 4376494373 pjohns@uow.edu.au</td> <td>Dr Garry Peters School of Education 02 653636357 gpeters@uow.edu.au</td> <td>Dr Ruth Hope Faculty of Social Sciences 02 4276367378 rhope@uow.edu.au</td> </tr> </table>	Dr Peter Johns School of Education 02 4376494373 pjohns@uow.edu.au	Dr Garry Peters School of Education 02 653636357 gpeters@uow.edu.au	Dr Ruth Hope Faculty of Social Sciences 02 4276367378 rhope@uow.edu.au
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Who will participate?	Five year 9 teachers and their students will be invited to participate in this study.			
What will participants be asked to do?	The students who chose to be involved will participate in a 30 minute group discussion with two other students about how technology is used in the classroom. This discussion will be audiotaped so that the researchers can listen and make notes later. No one else will hear the recordings. We would also like to copy some examples of the students' school work to show how they use technology.			
What types of questions will be asked?	The types of questions we will ask include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you remember the XXX activity you did in class that involved using computers? • What did you have to do? • What did you like or dislike about the activity? • What did you learn from the activity? • What other ways do you think technology could be used in this class? 			
Are there any risks?	Apart from the 30 minutes of the students' time to participate in the group discussion there are no risks involved.			
What happens with the results?	In the reporting of results the identity of individual participants will not be disclosed. A report will be written for the Department of Education and Communities and results will be used to improve the way training is provided to teachers. Results may also be published in academic journals or presented at conferences.			
Do students have to participate?	No. Involvement in this study is entirely voluntary and participants can choose to withdraw their participation at any time and without consequence. They can also withdraw the information they have provided up until six weeks after the discussion.			
How can students sign up for the study?	If you are happy for your child to participate in this study please sign the consent form attached and send it back to your child's classroom teacher.			

This study has been reviewed by the XX Human Research Ethics Committee at the University of Wollongong, Ref. 20XX/XXX. If you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this research please contact the Ethics Officer on +61 2 4239 2191 or email uow-humanethics@uow.edu.au.