

Technology for Independence (TFI)

The Brisbane Boys' College Map Centre seeks to teach students how to take responsibility for engaging in their own learning. We want them to plan, create and publish their ideas in a real-world way and our Technology for Independence (TFI) program provides the catalyst for this.

Our TFI program aims to empower students to “show what they know”. Working with each boy, Map Centre staff explore various software applications with boys and then create an individualised toolkit.

Why?

- To maximise the amount of work completed independently, at school and home
- To allow students to demonstrate what they know
- To achieve academic potential
- To reduce the workload for students with a learning disability who are already working at maximum capacity
- To build student independence
- To further develop student editing skills
- In-class support facilitates the integration of these skills into mainstream classes
- Education and support for other students and class teachers regarding the software/hardware and how it works
- Use of speech-to-text software for applicable assessments

How?

- TFI licences track students' developing technology skills
- TFI mentors guide and develop rapport with students using technology to enhance their learning
- TFI study group sessions bring boys from Years 7 to 11 together in a peer learning context to enable trouble shooting, problem solving and the fine tuning of skills



TECHNOLOGY FOR INDEPENDENCE

Parent Feedback

"You have put a huge amount of original work into the TFI program and I would like to acknowledge the top job you have done. No mean feat progressing Assistive Technology this year in the student friendly manner you've achieved. Thank you very much indeed."

- Feedback from current Year 10 parent

"It's forward thinking and 'cool' for the boys that you take a broad view of Map Centre work supporting and driving teaching practice forward in this way. Thank you for the innovative uptake of Assistive Technology for BBC students."

- Feedback from current Year 10 parent

"I can write down my ideas on my own and it's a lot quicker"

- Feedback from current Year 7 student

"It's a lot quicker to write a story and I can spend more time editing my work"

- Feedback from current Year 8 student

"Dragon (Assistive Technology) is like an academic Red Bull, it gives you wings. I don't drink Red Bull but, it's a good analogy."

- Feedback from current Year 10 student and TFI Mentor

Brisbane Boys' College TFI Staff

The following experienced and highly qualified staff act as key contacts for our Technology for Independence program.

Nikke Carlyon

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Sandra Lummis - Head of Curriculum Enrichment

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