

Immersive learning lab coming to Port Lincoln High...

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Immersive learning lab coming to Port Lincoln High School

PORT Lincoln High School (PLHS) students will soon benefit from a smart classroom, using immersive technologies aimed at improving learning outcomes.

The school has partnered with Lumination, a South Australian-based immersive technology company, to build a Lumination Learning Lab - an automated, multi-purpose and smart classroom.

Using technologies such as virtual and augmented reality (VR and AR), the lab can create real-world scenarios that bring the curriculum to life.

Used alongside traditional methods of education, immersive learning creates a dynamic learning environment - keeping student curiosity alive and setting them up for success in the real world of work.

Deputy principal Lesley Warren expressed excitement for the school to be on the front foot.

"In rural towns, we are often playing catch up, particularly with technology, so it's great that we can be a leader in this area," she said.

The labs offer virtual reality content directly linked to the curriculum, from STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) to HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences) and across all subjects, increasing engagement and collaboration.

Encompassing Lumination's bespoke LeadMe Labs classroom management software, the space is



easy to navigate for teachers.

Within seconds the room transforms into an immersive hub, so the focus remains on learning.

Immersive learning enables students to develop the skills needed to engage creatively and critically in the current and future workforce.

It also inspires them to think about how they can positively impact and create the change they want to see in the world.

Lumination learning designer Jolanta Stephens has been working with the school and its Lab Champions - experienced educators keen to adopt emerging technologies in the

classroom - to implement the project.

"While we were in Port Lincoln it was clear that the school's Lab Champions were enthusiastic about being at the forefront of implementing this new technology in the classroom," she said.

"In regional and rural schools like PLHS, this technology can break down barriers like distance, enabling their students to visit new places and experience the subject matter in ways not always accessible, which is exciting."

Recently getting a chance to use the lab, students were full of excitement, saying it allowed them

to be immersed within their learning.

With this new technology the students can step into their subject matter and tap into new ways of understanding information.

The lab can also be transformed into a variety of learning environments, beneficial for students with a disability or impairment.

Thanks to connections between PLHS and the Port Lincoln Special School, neurodiverse students will also gain access to the lab.

"I enjoyed using the VR goggles, it was pretty cool because I could see the video all around me. It's like you are in the real world," Room 23

student Jesse Wellman said.

Improving creativity in the classroom, the lab encourages active learning.

Students now have the chance to create 3D models to showcase their ideas, experiencing and visualising the information alongside their peers.

For example, students can use VR headsets to explore sustainable cities around the world.

They can then work together to create and step into their own sustainable developments using 3D creation, coding and virtual reality tools available in the space.

Along with the lab's virtual and augmented reality technology, the Port Lincoln schools will also have access to resources, lesson plans and ongoing support from Lumination's education and IT teams.

Building these innovative spaces in schools across Australia, Lumination aims to increase student engagement, retention, creativity and collaboration in the classroom.

The company's goal is to reshape and transform the way teachers teach and students consume curriculum material, improving learning outcomes.

The official opening will take place later in the year, with teachers and students continuing to work with Lumination to incorporate the technology into their day-to-day learning.