

VIRTUAL CAMPUS

Inc. Libraries Tasmania
Cooperation
Implementation Plan

TasTAFE Virtual Campus

Vision

The TasTAFE Virtual Campus (VC) will become key to the TasTAFE remote learning experience.

Learners will engage with the VC to support their remote learning journey with TasTAFE. The VC will integrate existing TasTAFE systems and services and be a single connection point for the remote learner. The VC will be available to all students, not just those from remote locations, this includes those who live where campuses are located. Student focused services and facilities will need to be designed to enable this to work seamlessly with on campus study.

Objectives

The campus will feature unique opportunities for predominately remote learners to engage and connect through an online learning community. It will support social interactions and connections from remote locations and enhance learning through industry practicals, engagement and events.

The VC will be characterised by a unique hybrid learning model that will underpin learning and teaching offered through the campus. The hybrid model comprises a blended approach to facilitated training, through group or individual engagement, practical experiences and 24-hour access to digital content and learning activities. Hybrid learning at the VC will be unique in its approach to developing core transferrable skills while ensuring learners connect with industry experts. Virtual classes will engage learners in multiple locations simultaneously, providing not only access to training opportunities for regional and remote learners, but access to delivery and support staff.

The VC will feature partnerships with key technology and education providers that will provision 21st Century skills and a workforce / labour market pool development in Tasmania. These partnerships will underpin new approaches to shorter bundles of learning including short courses and skill sets.

Consistency will be driven through a master product approach ensuring that the student learning experience is contemporary and consistent in quality. Underpinning the master product development sits the framework for the hybrid learning model.

TasTAFE will work closely with Libraries Tasmania to ensure students from identified remote locations can access the required digital and physical infrastructure to ensure access isn't impeded by lack of internet connection, device or physical learning space.

Implementation Plan

The VC implementation is planned over five stages commencing Q3, 2021 and targeting up to 75 products by 2025, with piloting of the first programs in 2022. Each of the four stages in the implementation plan is connected through a series of concurrent phases and deliverables.

Stage 1: Frame-up (Q3 - Q4 2021)

We will establish the Virtual Campus governance structure, including initiating the Steering and Advisory Committees. The structure and committees will include student, industry and community representatives at the appropriate level.

The Steering Committee will initiate a working group and provide oversight to the development of a Project Plan.

Stage 2: Systems Review and Development (Q3 2021 – Q1 2022)

Through recruitment of a Program Director and a Systems Analyst we will undertake a fit for purpose systems assessment and seek opportunities for integration.

Across this period we will undertake research and identifying industry areas for the initial five pilot products, build a prototype hybrid learning model including an appropriate payment gateway is developed.

Other activities will include:

- Develop an extensive Communication Strategy, including consideration of consultation and engagement of staff, students and key stakeholders;

- Develop a Marketing, Naming and Branding Strategy to support the rollout of the Virtual Campus;

- Progress the Libraries Tasmania Cooperation, including establishing a Sub-Committee with Libraries Tasmania and TasTAFE representatives who will direct a requirements analysis and scope for Libraries Tasmania access points.

Stage 3: Prototype Development (Q1 – Q3 2022)

A recruitment campaign for TasTAFE Virtual Campus Subject Matter Experts will be launched. Undertake Prototype Product Development and commence scope for a Virtual Learning Platform to support the Prototype.

Stage 4: Pilot (Q 3 – Q4 2022)

The pilot build of five products will be tested and reviewed, before launching. We will develop a Partnership Strategy to ensure the developed Virtual Learning Platform is supported by other digital infrastructure and systems used by TasTAFE.

A Professional Development Mode will be launched with an initial rollout to a pilot group of teachers.

Consultation with staff, key stakeholders, Industry Advisory Group and Student Focus Groups on the five identified products.

Stage 5: Roll out (Q1 2023 – onwards)

Further product development and roll-out will occur, with an online presence becoming available each year, with up to 75 products available by Q4 2025.

Continued development of the Virtual Learning Platform and Ecosystem, expanding the systems as the Virtual Campus grows.

A review the Virtual Learning Platform and Ecosystem (people, systems, processes and product) to ensure that systems are well established for Business as Usual.

TasTAFE Libraries Tasmania Cooperation

Purpose and Benefits

Through a \$4 million Government commitment we will offer access to TAFE training and equipment at rural and regional sites and increase access to education right across Tasmania.

TasTAFE and Libraries Tasmania have started work to identify priority locations to offer access to TAFE training and develop the first stage of an implementation plan for upgrades at rural and regional sites.

Through a Cooperation, TasTAFE and Libraries Tasmania are considering how sites, in areas of greatest need, can provide access to the new TasTAFE Virtual Campus (VC). Access to the VC through Libraries Tasmania will increase access to education right across Tasmania, helping to combat inequality faced by vulnerable Tasmanians and help service those with the greatest need.

In addition to combatting inequality, Tasmanian industry areas are calling for more skilled workers right across Tasmania. Increasing access to TasTAFE training will help ensure Tasmanians can be trained, ensuring jobs for their future, whilst meeting the needs of industry and business.

Libraries Tasmania has been identified as a key stakeholder for TasTAFE, due to their vital role they play in providing access to technology, information, teaching and learning in Tasmania. They provide a fundamental service accessible to all Tasmanians, including those in remote, rural and regional areas. Libraries Tasmania already provide a range of support services, making them well placed to support TasTAFE in the delivery of the VC and the expansion of learning opportunities available to all Tasmanians.

Implementation

TasTAFE and Libraries Tasmania have met to begin scoping of the work and to understand what is required to allow people in selected regional and remote communities to access the new TasTAFE Virtual Campus via Libraries Tasmania sites.

To ensure the successful roll-out of this initiative, the following steps will be progressed:

- Establish a joint Working Group to coordinate and manage the project
- Explore and identify areas of greatest need
- Working Group to ensure no duplication with current Study Hubs in Zeehan and Circular Head or DoE Trade Training Centres, while considering any potential opportunities.
- Libraries Tasmania to attend Virtual Campus Advisory Committee meetings as required to understand and inform the approach and technology/space requirements.
- Project Plan to be developed by across 2021 to identify locations, physical and technical requirements and detailed costings, subject to progress on the Virtual Campus project, including pilot locations and establishment timeframes being identified
- Rollout of new sites across 2022 and 2023, with all locations opened and operational by the end of 2024.

This work will run parallel to, but approximately 6 months behind, the TasTAFE Virtual Campus Project.



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