

PRIMARY SCHOOL CASE STUDY

NAME OF SCHOOL

Middle Harbour Public School, NSW, Australia

WHAT TYPES OF INNOVATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS DOES YOUR SCHOOL HAVE?

Traditional classroom environments

HOW WERE THESE ENVIRONMENTS DEVELOPED?

- Redevelopment of existing school buildings and/or interiors,
- Redevelopment of playground areas to create outdoor learning spaces,
- Through the entire school community engaging in the process of design thinking and developing short, mid and long term goals

WHAT HAS BEEN THE FEEDBACK FROM TEACHERS' ABOUT USING ILES?

Incredibly positive. They have not waited for funding or resources. They have used their creativity and existing resources to transform the learning environment. They are on fire!

WHAT HAS THE FEEDBACK BEEN FROM STUDENTS?

Student voice is a central part of leading change. They are the catalysts for change and equal partners in creating flexible and engaging learning spaces that enhance student learning.

HOW DOES TEACHING DIFFER IN ILES FROM TRADITIONAL CLASSROOMS?

In a word - PURPOSE. Teachers are constantly questioning the purpose of what they are teaching and encouraging students to make responsible decisions about the most appropriate learning environment for the task at hand. From Kinder to year 6 students are encouraged and supported to consider how best to learn and to be an effective learner.

DO THE ILES HAVE AN IMPACT ON STUDENTS' LEARNING/ENGAGEMENT/BEHAVIOUR?

Absolutely. The process of design thinking is used again and again to generate ideas, problem solve and action new ways of thinking and doing. Students feel they have a real voice and choice in their learning. The students have responded very positively to the changes in classroom learning environments. Many students that previously struggled to sit still focus intently when using standing desks.

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