

# Preparing students for the future with Stile at Collingwood College



Michelle Fyfe  
Head of Maths  
and Science

Michelle teaches Years 7-10 Science and VCE Biology at Collingwood College, Victoria. Stile has been used to support the teaching of science at the school for the past seven years, and they were amongst the first schools in Australia to adopt Stile X.

We sat down with Michelle to learn more about how Stile's resources help build her students' skills and engage them in science.



Collingwood  
College,  
Victoria

## Developing every student's literacy and numeracy skills

Stile reinforces core literacy and numeracy skills. Michelle identified that "[Stile] has just been so integral to support students with low literacy or with additional needs around literacy...Using Stile might be some of the only times that they can read large amounts of text independently". She has found Stile to be an "amazing resource" to empower each student to learn at their own pace, highlighting literacy tools and scaffolding within Stile. Similarly, Stile builds students' numeracy skills through both explicit and integrated

opportunities. Michelle appreciates that "there's always a little bit of numeracy embedded in a really authentic way...It's such a natural progression in the lesson that they don't even question that they're doing numeracy."

## Engaging all students in science

When discussing Stile's lessons, Michelle exclaimed that "all the lessons are engaging and so well thought out". Michelle identified that the contexts of each lesson are really relevant and help engage students in the scientific concept. For example, Michelle was happy to see that vaping was included in the respiration lesson because "it's so relevant right now".

Using Stile's easy-to-use customisation tools, Michelle can also tweak lessons to make them her own and suit the needs of her students. For example, Michelle has "changed the language to make it a bit more EAL friendly".

## Preparing for senior science with Stile X

Note-taking and studying are invaluable, lifelong skills and Michelle sees first-hand the importance of developing these prior to senior science. "By the time you get them in Year 12, it's too late to start building up those skills. We need those skills all the way from Year 7 and building

confidence in those skills all the way up through to Year 10."

Collingwood College was amongst the early adopters of Stile X, Stile's printed resources that scaffolds note-taking and study strategies. Michelle highlighted the positive experience they've had rolling out Stile X alongside their digital Stile subscription. Michelle says that her students "engage really well" with it and that the activities are "pitched at the perfect level for them...So even if you have kids who struggle with the concept in class, Stile X is scaffolded for every student".

## Seven years with Stile

Stile is always evolving. We're constantly re-examining our resources to ensure they empower teachers to deliver the best education possible. Stile X is just one example of this evolution.

Collingwood College has used Stile for the past seven years and, over that time, Michelle has noticed that it keeps getting "even better". When asked if she'd recommend Stile to other teachers, Michelle said "I would 100% tell them to give it a go."

“ My favourite thing about Stile is that I can pick it up at any point and trust it. That's why I love it and will keep using it forever.”