

All set for the new Australian Curriculum



Lara Hayes
Head of Department

Lara Hayes is the Head of Department for Science at Nerang State High School, with over 17 years of teaching experience.

We recently caught up with Lara to find out how Stile has helped improve student outcomes at her school and how she plans to use Stile to support their transition to the new Australian Curriculum.



Nerang State High School, Queensland

The best use of classroom technology

After hearing positive feedback from other local educators, Lara adopted Stile on behalf of Nerang SHS during the pandemic in 2020. Lara describes this time as a “huge pivotal change” that transformed student laptops from a typing device to a key learning platform. “We really noticed that our kids are changing, we now have access to laptops, how can we better utilise this technology?” said Lara.

Lara describes the way Stile directly supports their existing learning approaches. “Stile gives us the opportunity to authentically teach with technology in the classroom,

enhancing our pedagogy and increasing engagement in science.”

She also notes that students are more engaged and responsible with bringing their devices to school, ready to use them for a wide range of activities in the classroom.

Lara recently introduced Stile X – Stile’s cutting-edge revision workbook – alongside Stile and has found that “Stile X supports all the other hidden agendas like science-inquiry skills, literacy, numeracy and note-taking skills. All those skills are embedded in Stile X. That’s exciting.”

Improved educational performance

By providing a variety of pedagogical content, Lara comments that Stile takes the pressure off teachers to create new lesson resources, allowing them to focus on better supporting students.

“I want teachers to spend time knowing their kids. So if I can provide a resource so that they are not having to create lesson content, Stile and Stile X has got everything in there that we need.”

Lara says that the implementation of Stile and Stile X is corresponding to improvements in educational performance, and she is looking forward to seeing long-term data.

She is also enthusiastic about Stile’s easy-to-use customisation tools, which allow teachers to ensure lessons meet the specific needs of students. “I love it because of the flexibility it offers.”

Save time with curriculum planning resources

With Queensland schools required to implement Version 9.0 of the Australian Curriculum in science by 2026, Lara says her department feels they have a head start on implementation by having Stile as their core resource. Having sat down with her teaching staff and mapped the achievement standards to Stile’s Teaching Plans and recommended Scope and Sequence, they found the planning was “totally done. I couldn’t believe it”.

Lara recommends that other science leaders transitioning to the new curriculum with Stile immediately refer to Stile’s Teaching Plans, commenting on the level of detail and the potential to save teachers’ time.

“[Stile’s Teaching Plans] are set up so everything is listed: like where to start your lesson, what pre-planning to do beforehand, what resources you need, what’s needed for the practical.”

Using these planning materials and Stile as a core curriculum resource, Nerang SHS will roll out the new Australian Curriculum with Year 7 students in 2024.