

The future of tutoring is here

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EDUCATION

Technology is a game-changer for the field of education, opening new possibilities in the classroom and beyond. Hayley Traub and Sharon Branicki, special education teachers from Caulfield, have harnessed new technology to create online one-on-one tutoring for students of all abilities.

Strive Online Education provides online one-on-one maths and English tuition to 5-15 year olds, and the business is growing rapidly.

"As teachers we understand the importance of frequency for learning and, as mothers of school-aged children, we understand the importance of offering tutoring that can slot into busy weekly routines," Traub says.

Qualified teachers conduct all lessons in real time via video call using premium digital resources aligned with the Australian curriculum.

"All our teachers are qualified and students have access to the best of Australia's educational digital resources both during and between lessons," Branicki says. "We believe in frequent one-on-one lessons delivered in short bursts, which enhance our students' understanding of concepts and long-term retention."

Strive's model is suited to students of all abilities, whether they require extra assistance or acceleration. Due to its online delivery, the founders say Strive is also suited to students with limited or no access to school, those who are home-schooled and child athletes or performers. It is also beneficial to travelling families, families living overseas or families looking to return to Australia wanting to ensure their children's learning is aligned with the Australian curriculum.

"We spent months researching and did not find a tutoring model that matched our vision," Branicki says. "To test our program we ran a pre-pilot on our own children (between us we have five children covering five years of primary school).

"It was so exciting to see our children engage, learn and improve in such a short space of time. We then ran a pilot program with more than 30 students over a two-week period. We were ready to officially launch at the start of this school year. It is affirming to note that 100 per cent of our term one students re-registered for term two."

According to Traub, Strive brings tutoring into the 21st century.

"Unlike traditional tutoring, digital learning is vivid, creative and gives students a variety of ways to learn and express themselves," she says. "Strive students are engaged in tailored interactive digital resources that directly target their needs. Parents are encouraged to observe lessons if they wish and engage in ongoing contact with the team.

"[We] deliver lessons directly to our students' homes, which enables families to carry on with their day-to-day activities without compromising on their children's education."

Actively scouting for tutor recruits, Strive employs only qualified teachers who are experts in their field.

"We look for teachers who are experienced and understand the value of one-on-one tuition," Traub says.

This story was found at: <http://www.theage.com.au/business/workplace-relations/the-future-of-tutoring-is-here-20160629-gptb0r.html>