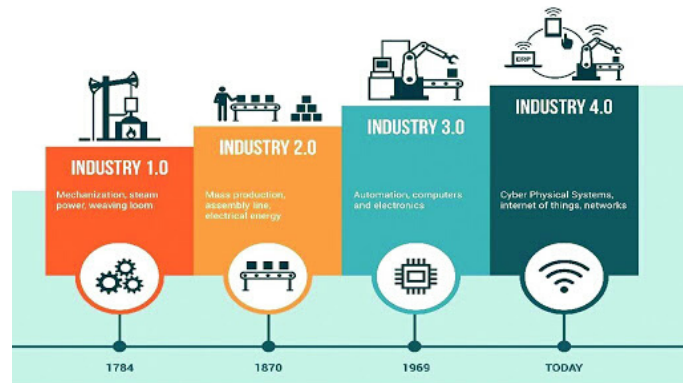**Teaching and learning has gone through many changes from the days of rote learning, to Bloom's Taxonomy promoting deeper levels of thinking and understanding and recently more of an emphasis on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.**

We understand that with evolving technology, the approaches to teaching need to be continually reassessed to include new tools and awareness of how technology shapes behaviour. Never has this been more apparent than in our current phase - the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). "It is characterized by a range of new technologies that are fusing the physical, digital and biological worlds, impacting all disciplines, economies and industries, and even challenging ideas about what it means to be human" (Schwab, 2016).

Without a doubt, our teaching strategies need to be mindful of technological advancements in order to provide students of today with the support they need to excel in the world they will move into. Ensuring we approach learning as a lifelong journey is essential to success.

EP's new Digital Fundamentals course is a powerful toolkit designed to provide teachers with a framework and understanding of how to best equip their students for the future. The platform provides an excellent means of being able to complete this work from anywhere.

The course is comprised of 4 modules that take between 2-3 hours to complete. The following modules can be completed in a group setting or individually:

1. Leadership in the Digital Economy
  This module develops understanding of the digital economy and how leading students and/or organisations will change within this era.
2. Building a Design Mindset
  Develops understanding of design thinking and user experience.
3. Technology Drivers of the Fourth Industrial Revolution
  Introduces the technological drivers of the fourth industrial revolution and how education will have to change to keep up with the dramatic transformation of the world.
4. Leading Digital Education
  Introduces the idea of innovation. The module covers the multiple levels of innovation and considerations required for effective change.

EP's powerful feedback and peer review tools can be utilised to provide a collaborative and engaging learning experience for participants. As always, EP's team of Teacher Consultants will provide guidance and support along the way, ensuring participants get the most out of this course.

On completion of the Digital Fundamentals course, teachers will gain effective strategies for 4IR teaching, a deeper understanding of the world their students will be stepping into, along with an EP-accredited certificate and digital badge.

Wesley College, Victoria

A group of teachers from Wesley College, a progressive, multi-campus school in Victoria, has recently worked through EP's Digital Fundamentals course. Having completed the course both in person and online, they were in a great position to be able to evaluate not only the content of the course, but also the mode of delivery.

"The Digital Fundamentals course is a fabulous starting point for educators to improve their knowledge and understanding regarding the impact the digital economy is creating for our students. It provides many practical ideas that will help teachers embed 21st century skills and thinking."

The teachers were supported by the Head of Digital Learning and Practice at Wesley College, Dean Pearman. After an initial briefing call with our EP team, Dean facilitated the Digital Fundamentals course at the college.

"After becoming familiar with the interface it was very straight forward to push work and set due dates for assignments/learning tasks. You can track the progress of teachers and offer support when needed."

The teachers at Wesley College found the course informative and interesting, and especially enjoyed the sections on Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing and Cyber Security, and Designing Digital Experiences.

"Essentially the world of work that our students enter will be driven by technological skills and advancements. For educators it is of critical importance that we consider how this world informs the learning experiences we design for our students. The digital imperative is here. As educators we need to embrace and innovate our teaching, learning and curriculum to empower students to use technologies in ways that support creation of ideas with a human centric approach. Engaging with the digital fundamentals course helps educators to deepen their understanding of the digital economy and the ways students will work and learn into the future. It sparks thinking and provides ways to incorporate technology ideas into learning programs. Understanding the impact of the industrial revolution 4 is a starting point." Dean Pearman (Head of Digital Learning and Practice, Wesley College, Victoria)

Where to from here?

The Digital Fundamentals course is one of many Professional Learning courses EP has to offer.

The 8-10 hour Digital Fundamentals course costs $299 per person. These hours can count towards teacher-identified PD hours. On completion of the course, participants will receive a certificate and digital badge for their PD record.

To take part in this course, please register here. To view our other courses, click here.

The Digital Fundamentals course is a collaboration between Fourth Rev and Education Perfect.