

2017 Teach Tech Play Conference 3–4 April

Organisers of the first Teach Tech Play Conference, Eleni Kyritsis, Founder and Host, and Hosts Corey Alyen and Steve Brophy will present the 2017 event at Ivanhoe Grammar, Ridgeway Campus in Ivanhoe Melbourne on 3–4 April.

The Conference will repeat the successful 2016 format with short introductory sessions and simultaneous workshops over the two days.

Keynote speakers lined up for 2017 include Ewan Macintosh, Matt Miller and Jon Burgess.

Ewan Macintosh is founder and managing director of Notosh, He is a highly-regarded keynote speaker at events around the world, he's also the author of *How To Come Up With Great Ideas and Actually Make Them Happen* and regularly writes about learning on his blog edu.blogs.com.

Matt Miller is author of *Ditch that Textbook*, a book about revolutionising the classroom with innovative teaching, mindsets and curriculum. He has infused technology and innovative teaching methods in his classes for more than 10 years. He is a Google Certified Innovator, PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovator and two-time Learning! Awards nominee.

Jon Burgess is MD of Kwan, a management consultancy that builds organisational and individual capacity to cultivate people networks



and empower advocacy. He is recognised as one of the most innovative minds, renowned for his development of The Three Minds™ philosophy.

Twenty-four presenters have been lined up for sessions that will cover design thinking, Makerspace, STEAM, robotics, assessment, student centered learning, digital technologies

curriculum, coding, iPads, BYOD, STEM, Google Apps for Education and Genius Hour.

Cost for the two days is \$395.00 with bookings online at:

www.trybookings.com.au
<http://teachtechplay.com/conference>



\$180,000 Vic Government funding for Buddy Bags

The Victorian Government will contribute \$180,000 over the next three years to ensure more children in need receive an Alannah & Madeline Foundation Buddy Bag containing essentials.

Since 2007, the Foundation has provided more than 67,000 Buddy Bags to children who have been placed in emergency accommodation across the country, including almost 17,000 in Victoria. The program was developed in response to increasing requests from community agencies who provide emergency care to children.

Almost 60,000 Australian children will be in emergency accommodation this year. This can be one of the most traumatic experiences in a child's life with many left with only the clothes on their back. The bags include items such as a toothbrush,



Minister for Families and Children Jenny Mikakos, left, with Alannah & Madeline Foundation CEO Lesley Podesta. The Victorian Government will contribute \$180,000 to the Buddy Bag program.

toothpaste, hairbrush, pyjamas, socks, underwear, pillowcase, facewasher, a book, photo frame and a teddy bear and are broken down by age groups. They provide practical items while helping to restore a sense of safety and security.

Alannah & Madeline Foundation CEO Lesley Podesta said the \$180,000 would help provide all Victorian children in need with a Buddy Bag. In order to reach more children across the country, Ms Podesta called on all state and territory governments to match The Victorian contribution.

Announcing the contribution, Minister for Families and Children Jenny Mikakos said: "Every day, we get postcards from children who receive the Buddy Bags, we know how much it means to them."

amf.org.au