ICT Project Nomination Form 2011 – Ivan Webb

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**Improving Support – SP 2.0**

**Client retains Intellectual Property:** Yes

**Confidentiality Agreement required:** Yes – relates to client data and discussions with clients

**Project Description:**

**The Task**

The task is to redevelop the existing, well-proven Support Planner that is currently used to plan, manage and monitor support for students in some 60+ Tasmanian and NSW schools. It needs to become an online system-wide device.

**Redevelopment will mean**

- working directly with the original developer and current users of the SP to retain and improve the present SP functionality
- converting the SP from its present form (a stand-alone school-based MS Access database) to an online device in which student data is attached to the student rather than the school, as at present
- incorporating improvements that transform the SP from a traditional in-school database to a contemporary Web2.0 tool that functions much more like a combination of Twitter (for most data entry) and Facebook or similar for most presentation of data
- the final product will be a tool that can be used by
  - an individual school (or other support service)
  - a system of schools and/or
  - incorporated as a module within an existing administrative information system.

**Background**

The existing Support Planner has been under continuous development for some 14 years. Its development so far has been a highly collaborative project between the developer and local users.

The Support Planner is not simply a record keeping device. It is best understood as

- an index of key things there are to be known about students
- a device for planning, managing and monitoring support for all students
- a dynamic communication system between those sharing responsibility for supporting the student across locations and time

The existing SP enables staff, students & their families and external support services/agencies to contribute to the monitoring, analysis, planning and management of academic, physical, social and emotional support for students. In addition it facilitates the management of associated documents and files.

There have been several attempts by the Tasmanian Department of Education to develop a Support Module largely based on the current Support Planner but these have been disrupted/delayed by restructuring and budgetary constraints.

Based on experience to date, this project could result in a product that has wide application and will make a profound contribution to the success and well-being of staff and students of those schools that adopt it.

There is strong support for such a development from amongst users of the current Support Planner. Early contact with present users will be encouraged and facilitated for the project team.
Project Technical Information:
No initial constraints.

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