MEDIA RELEASE

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QELi and Optus explore the classrooms of tomorrow

With technology set to play an increased role in the classrooms of tomorrow, the Queensland Education Leadership Institute (QELi) and Optus have joined forces to help schools accelerate their plans to digitalise education.

Under a recently-signed Memorandum of Understanding, the two organisations will co-create education technology solutions, and promote thought leadership in the field. As part of the MOU, QELi will use Optus’ ThinkSpace business solution centre in Sydney to help it develop the next phase of program delivery, strongly informed by the latest directions in technology.

ThinkSpace is a purpose-built centre located at Optus’ Macquarie Park campus which facilitates a collaborative approach to developing business strategy and innovation. Businesses use ThinkSpace workshops to have engaging discussions using research content, market trends and insights from thought leaders and subject matter experts.

QELi CEO Dr Stephen Brown said the MOU recognised the importance technology would play in future education delivery.

“By combining QELi’s insights into education leadership and Optus’ innovative technology systems and partners, we want to identify ways to truly transform education delivery,” he said.

“Education and technology are an integral partnership in a twenty-first century classroom. In essence, school leaders are preparing students for jobs and careers that do not yet exist and we therefore need to equip schools with the fundamental skills to help them navigate and adapt to the changing environment. With best-practice education leaders deploying leading-edge ICT, there is enormous potential to improve student outcomes.”

Optus Director of Industry Development Allan Burdekin said high quality technology solutions were crucial for today’s students.
“This agreement with QELi is part of our strategy to engage Australian industry leaders who are committed to providing education technology that will support students as they prepare for employment in a digital economy,” Mr Burdekin said.

“We have also developed tools and consultancy advice for ICT-enabled business transformation. There are many lessons that can be shared with schools as they undergoing technology-led reformation and innovation.”

More information on ThinkSpace is available here: http://www.optus.com.au/business/industry-insights/thinkspace

Established as a not-for-profit organisation in June 2010, QELi helps education leaders from across Australia and the world develop their full potential. The institute is jointly owned by the Queensland Department of Education and Training, Queensland Catholic Education Commission and Independent Schools Queensland.

Optus is Australia’s leading provider of high-value ICT solutions, including mobile, telephony, business networks services, internet and satellite services and subscription television. It is owned by Singtel, Asia’s leading communications group.

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