THE INFORMATION COMMONS

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Information Commons Role

The Information Commons provides a technology-rich information and learning environment.
The Information Commons has:

• An information provision function, which utilises electronic, print and audio-visual resources to service the needs of the Institute.
The Information Commons has:

• A professional support function, which aims to ensure that students and staff have the necessary skills and support to utilise information effectively and appropriately within a learning environment
The physical environment

Chadstone Building 8 Information Commons

• is 2,400 square metres
  - The Computer-based Learning Environment occupies 750 square metres of this
  - 220 PCs
using the virtual tour

Welcome! Use the 3d map above to navigate. You can also explore via the images below - look for a shaded rollover area and click to move through. Keep an eye out for links in this textbox where you further explore and view 'how to' animations. Please give us your feedback about this tour.
The physical environment

- Moorabbin Information Commons:
  - is 800 square metres
    - The Computer-based Learning Environment occupies 300 square metres of this
    - 76 PCs
The physical environment

• Chadstone Building 5 Information Commons:
  • is square metres
    – The Computer-based Learning Environment occupies 300 square metres of this
    – 10 PCs
The physical environment

• Waverley Information Commons:
  • is approx 825 square metres
    – The Computer-based Learning Environment occupies approx 250 square metres of this
    – 50 PCs
Students can use this environment to:

- Search electronic databases (either Web-based or CD ROM)
- Book a computer using HITBook
- Scan a document
- Edit video, audio and create multimedia programs
- Search Webcat (our in-house catalogue) and other Library catalogues
Search the Catalogue for books and other items available at the Information Commons. Also place reservations and renew items on-line.

Search on-line in our Databases to find journal, magazine and newspaper articles, encyclopaedias and statistics, standards and dictionaries.

When you are on campus, learn how to use Information Commons resources with the "Know it all!" on-line information literacy package developed by staff at Holmesglen TAFE.

Now available in both on and off-campus modes: our online LiveChat reference service, where you can ask questions about finding and using Information Commons resources.

Check out our new Virtual Tour

Powered by LivePerson™

Read LiveHelp terms of use and privacy policy
Expertise in the Information Commons

- **Knowledge Managers** (Organising and managing access to information)
- **Duty Programmers**
Who does what?

• Knowledge Managers provide:
  - one-to-one assistance in information searching and retrieval
  - timetabled classes in Information Literacy
  - the Homepage
  - Liaison functions for service development
  - assistance with software packages
Who does what?  

• Duty Programmers provide:
  - Assistance in logging in
  - Assistance in printing and photocopying
  - Troubleshooting on PCs
  - Some assistance with specific software packages
Benefits to clients

• A one stop shop for Information and IT resources all in the one place

• Better support particularly for computer resources

• Better hours of access and availability of computer resources

• Coordinated development of Information and IT resources
What has changed

- More focus on IT
- Classes Timetabled
- Better student service support through resident expertise during all opening hours
- Greater involvement of other players
ISSUES FOR THE FUTURE

• Classroom teaching v’s On-line learning
  (What will the mix be, how do we support it)

• Printing and technology

• Remote access

• Autonomy v’s Partnerships (internal/external, Business, Other Educational Institutions, International) - consequences/responsibilities/reciprocity
ISSUES FOR THE FUTURE Cont..

• Changing role of Reference staff?

• More web based delivery of courses, services (anyplace, anywhere, anytime)

• Impact on staffing (Skills, hours of work, Development of electronic resources, How do we do it all?)
ISSUES FOR THE FUTURE Cont..

• Cooperative ventures Local international -
  (Sharing resources and effort advantages of different time zones)

• Impact of sponsorships on services
  (improved service opportunity but may lose flexibility through contractual obligations)

• Facility maintenance planning

• Decision making processes in a shared environment where we are one of the players
Thank you

Any Questions