

Collaborative Teaching Feedback for Cathy Costello

1. What topic was the focus of your team taught lesson? Were the resources and content relevant and suitable to student learning needs? How do you know? Please give some feedback about why/why not.

I have worked with Cathy on a number of occasions this year from a lesson on research skills with my Year 10 class, using the Oliver system to search for books and online resources with my Year 7 English class and also our collaboration between English, HSIE and PA as part of the Future Learning project with our Year 7 class. All resources provided by Cathy during these classes have been relevant and suitable to student learning needs because students are provided with the tools, information and resources that are available when they need to complete a research task or when they need to access the library.

2. Please describe the approach Cathy used to collaborate and consult with you. What was the process for communication and development of the lesson? Are there any suggestions to improve this process?

In collaborating with Cathy, I would first approach her with a request for what I would like to implement for a particular lesson, eg research skills, wide reading, etc. I will make sure I either email a request to Cathy, but most of the time I prefer face-to-face communication and consultation to confirm with Cathy what I have in mind in terms of objectives for a particular lesson and the resources required. We usually come to an agreement verbally and a booking is made accordingly. One way that Cathy can improve on this process is if she is able to present to Faculties on the support she is able to provide to teachers because her valuable support is often not advertised enough to teachers.

3. Please comment on Cathy's availability, approachability and understanding of the needs of your classroom.

Cathy is always approachable and available. As the librarian, she is also a classroom teacher who understands the needs of teachers delivering teaching and learning in the classroom. She is always willing to support every teacher.

4. How could we, as a school, better utilise Cathy as a resource for teachers and students?

As a school, we can better utilise Cathy by having her as a consultant during Faculty meetings or when Faculties are preparing programming of units. For example, suggestions for different texts to tailor units of work, teaching/learning activities, promotion of wide reading, etc.

As the writing competitions co-ordination in the faculty, I am happy to work with Cathy on developing writing competitions/workshops to develop students' passion for writing.

Additional ideas might be for Cathy to run a regular book club with students so a particular novel is chosen for the week. Students need to read the book and be ready to come along to the library and have a chat about their own reading of the book, what they learnt, etc. We also talked about a blind date with a book idea as well.